NEO

vs

Edmodo
Table of contents

Introduction ................................................................................................................3
User interface ............................................................................................................4
Ease of use ................................................................................................................6
Features ......................................................................................................................7
Cost ...........................................................................................................................14
Summary ...................................................................................................................15
Introduction

This is a detailed comparison between NEO and Edmodo, taking into consideration the features, functionality, and cost of each platform.

**NEO** is a world-class, award-winning learning management system (LMS) for schools and universities. NEO helps schools manage all classroom activities, such as creating and delivering educational content, assessing students, tracking their results, and promoting communication and collaboration between students and teachers/faculty. NEO is a product of CYPHER LEARNING, a company that specializes in providing learning platforms for organizations around the world.

**Edmodo** is a cloud-hosted “social learning platform” designed for K-12 audiences, owned by NetDragon.
User interface

The NEO interface has a very intuitive and responsive design that adjusts based on the type of device. It provides attractive tile-based dashboards for students, teachers and administrators, a graphical class catalog, as well as simple pop-out navigation. NEO also has a unique “activity display” feature that indicates the level of activity within classes and groups using a pulsing indicator on their tiles together with real-time widgets that scroll through the latest activities.

The Edmodo interface is based on the idea that a learning platform should closely resemble a social media site. Edmodo emulates Facebook’s interface, offering a landing page with a news feed, but no graphical dashboards, and no graphical catalog for classes, resources or users. The user interface may also seem outdated compared to the design of most modern LMS systems.

NEO makes it easy for all users to quickly perform tasks such as adding new courses and groups. For example, the simple pop-out navigation gives users access to all areas of a site. Elements such as shortcuts, dropdown menus and the drag and drop options enable users to seamlessly navigate the platform and work with class content.
Edmodo’s navigation is simple, but could use some improvement since there are some inconsistencies to it. For example, the notifications icon in the top bar has a dropdown option, while in order to read messages, you have to load another page. The classes menu in the left bar cannot be collapsed, meaning that if you have more than a few classes, it will be hard to quickly find the one you need.

NEO provides an attractive class layout, through which teachers can easily organize lessons, relevant resources, and more. Each lesson in a class shows the number of sections, the badges and points awarded, and certificates associated with the lesson. Students can also easily see their progress for each class and lesson.

The Edmodo course layout allows teachers to post “notes” about the class, assignments, quizzes and polls. They can also add links and files to different folders that are not graphical. In a sense, the course layout is a modified version of a Facebook group and less of an LMS course layout.

NEO is available in more than 40 languages and many features can be enabled or disabled to suit young children through college students. NEO offers native mobile apps for iOS and Android, as well as the option to have a branded app.

Edmodo is available in 20 languages. The platform offers apps for iOS, Android and Windows, but not the option to have a branded app.
Ease of use

NEO is very intuitive and easy to use. In addition, it includes an online help center with videos, getting started guides, and searchable help content. NEO also has a rapid response support forum where staff members typically respond to questions within 15-30 minutes during business hours 24/5.

Edmodo offers a help center, tutorials and a support forum.
Features

Creating content

**NEO** has a built-in authoring tool that allows teachers to create beautiful classes for their students, no technical skills needed. Our platform is SCORM compliant and teachers can add instructor-led, blended, self-paced classes, as well as micro courses. NEO also provides learning paths, in which educators can add classes, certificates and other learning paths as goals that students must complete one by one. Users can organize resources and share files via a resources catalog.

**Edmodo** does not have a built-in authoring tool, which makes creating classes very hard for teachers. Teachers can only upload files or add quizzes for a class and the platform is not SCORM compliant.

Edmodo has the option to create instructor-led, blended and self-paced classes, without the possibility of adding learning paths. Edmodo has a resource library, but no catalog with categories and subcategories for quick organization of resources.
Student assessment

**NEO** provides 15 types of assignments such as quizzes, essays, debates, team, Dropbox, Turnitin, discussion and survey. The NEO gradebook offers a centralized view of all grades and you can quickly add results or make changes.

**Edmodo** has very few options: assignments, quiz and poll, most notably missing the essay, debate, offline and SCORM assignment types. Edmodo has a rudimentary gradebook that does not have the option to mark assignments as missing, incomplete, absent or excused as NEO does. The platform does not have support for grading scales.

Tracking progress

**NEO** provides support for competency-based learning that allows teachers to track how well students are understanding the taught concepts based on their mastery of skills. Teachers can get instant insights on their students' progress using extensive analytics, built-in reports, and custom reports.

The **Edmodo** premium plan offers school or district level analytics to measure activity and engagement, but no custom reports. The reporting and analytics options are only available to administrators. In addition, Edmodo does not support competencies so there is no way to track mastery.
Communication and collaboration

NEO helps users connect through news feeds, messages, chat, groups, social networking, blogs, web conferencing and more.

Edmodo provides messaging, groups, social networking and activity feeds. The lack of a chat tool might be the biggest inconvenience for teachers and students that need a quick way to connect.

Personalization and engagement

The NEO automation feature helps teachers save time by setting up actions that are performed when students complete certain tasks. The rules can be added in many areas of the platform such as classes, learning paths, groups, accounts, e-commerce, and mastery. The NEO gamification feature, which is based on automation, helps educators make their classes more engaging through class, learning path and even site-wide games. Students automatically earn points and badges as they advance through the top of a leaderboard, and there is also the option of competing as part of a team. In NEO, teachers can use the powerful adaptive learning feature to dynamically personalize a class based on previous actions of a student.

Edmodo does not have an automation option.
In addition, teachers can manually assign badges to students and there is no adaptive learning feature.
Customization

In NEO, schools can customize many aspects of the platform including the color scheme, fonts and terminology. They can also create a visitor portal with their own logo, portal images, panels, carousel, custom HTML, and more.

Edmodo does not offer advanced customization options in a similar way in which Facebook does not allow to change the layout, logo or add a visitor portal to a profile.

Privacy and security

NEO ensures the protection of all users and their resources through features such as walled communities, authenticated resource access, secure profiles, secure messaging, communications monitoring, secure e-commerce, secure storage, secure servers, policy documents, and more.

Edmodo has weaker privacy and security mechanisms and at the same time runs advertisements, including for students, which are not always age appropriate. Edmodo’s hack in 2017 demonstrates that institutions should be careful when using or purchasing an Edmodo account.
Here is a list of key features included in NEO that Edmodo does not support:

**User Interface**
- Graphical class catalog
- Graphical dashboards
- Customizable portal
- Graphical resources catalog
- Customizable terminology
- Support for more than 40 languages
- Branded mobile apps
- Automatic language translation of messages and forum posts
- Activity display

**Content**
- Built-in content authoring
- Competency-based learning
- Adaptive learning
- Gamification
- Drip content
- Learning paths
- Seating charts
- Micro learning
- Compliance
- Automation
- Waitlists
- Prerequisite certificates
- Class ratings and reviews
- Certificates of completion
- Offline mode
- Tagging

**Assignments**
- Assignment types such as debates, surveys, team assignments, and more
- Built-in reports, custom reports, and scheduled reports
- Powerful gradebook
- SCORM and LTI assignments
- Report widgets
- Peer reviewed assignments
- Personalized assignments
Collaboration

- Public profiles
- Organizations
- Forums
- Teams
- Blogs
- Wikis
- Chat

Integrations

- Integration with your own email server
- Integration with 1,500+ apps via Zapier
- MS Immersive Reader
- Safe Exam Browser
- LTI, CCF, and QTI
- CometChat
- MailChimp
- Panopto
- SCORM
- Udemy
- Unicheck
- Kimono
- Turnitin
- H5P
- Go1
Payment gateways
- Authorize.net
- PayU Latam
- PagSeguro
- PayUbiz
- Flywire
- PayPal
- Stripe

Web conferencing
- GoToMeeting
- GoToTraining
- Google Meet
- MS Teams
- Kaltura
- WebEx
- Zoom

Other
- Teaching assistant and monitor account types
- Trash can for restoring deleted content
- Terms and conditions
- E-commerce functionality
- Student help desk
- Purchase orders
- SEO features
Cost

NEO has a Free plan with a comprehensive set of essential LMS features and a Premium plan for schools that need more powerful functionality. There are no setup fees, cancellation fees, storage fees, bandwidth fees, support fees, or other hidden costs.

The NEO Premium plan contains a great amount of functionality that is not provided by Edmodo. For example, a larger school would normally require features such as a full-featured gradebook, a wide selection of assignment types, rubrics, built-in content authoring, SCORM integration, advanced reporting, and analytics, etc. and would most likely also need to purchase an LMS.

Edmodo has a free plan and charges around $2,500 per year for schools as part of their Premium plan. There is an additional charge for items such as Edmodo Sync or Edmodo Training. Note that Edmodo was acquired by NetDragon, a Chinese company that develops video games and it is unclear in what direction the company will go next. At the same time, Edmodo runs ads to sustain its freemium model.
Summary

This was a comparison of the most important feature differences between NEO and Edmodo.

NEO is an all-in-one integrated solution, offering many more features than Edmodo LMS, without having to make compromises such as running ads.

If you require additional information on NEO, please contact us at sales@cypherlearning.com.

www.neolms.com

This comparison was written in August 2020 based on publicly available documentation on both vendors’ sites. It was prepared as a guide and is not intended to be exhaustive. The comparison information does not constitute any contractual representation, warranty or obligation on our part. Liability for errors, omissions or consequential loss is expressly disclaimed. If you find any information in this comparison guide to be inaccurate, please contact us and we will correct the information.