

Classroom Salon (and now known as CS) FAQ

1. Can I still use the platform I used prior to Spring 2017 semester?
 - a. Yes, it is now hosted at <http://classroomsalon.net>
2. Do I still have access to all my old Salons at classroomsalon.net?
 - a. Yes, you will have all the salons available to you
3. What (if any) is the problem of continuing to use old classroom salon?
 - a. You can continue to use. But there will be NO technical support available. We will not maintain this platform going forward
4. If I switch to the new platform now hosted at <http://classroomsalon.com> what are the advantages?
 - a. Modern user interface
 - b. Comprehensive support of PDF
 - c. Better video player for YouTube based videos
 - d. More user analytics including access times
 - e. Data feed based on networks
 - f. Moderator capability
5. Can I annotate *any* PDF file?
 - a. If the pdf is a scanned page, it is generally stored as an image. It is not possible to select text to annotate specific parts of the text
 - b. However, there is a + button (lower right corner) that allows you to make a general comment. The comment will be automatically tagged with the page number
 - c. We are in the process of developing a more robust image annotation system for scanned PDF's. Stay tuned for updates.
6. I want to switch to new platform. Can I import some of my old salons?
 - a. Yes, we will do this for up to 2 old salons.
 - b. Send email to classroom-salon@andrew.cmu.edu with the following information
 - i. your old Salon ID, your email under it was used
 - ii. your new salon URL, your email (perhaps the same as last one)
7. Is there a way for me to learn how best to use CS in my classes?
 - a. Yes, we will have number of webinars coming up.
 - b. Send email to classroom-salon@andrew.cmu.edu for times and dates

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UNDERSTANDING NEW SALON

Q1. Why is Salon different from existing LMS's?

A1: A Learning Management System (LMS) is built from top-down to manage a "course". Salon is built to manage "learning". A learning is around content and salon is content-centric. Salon can be used as your course content delivery system.

Q2. What is the best way to use salon in my course?

A2: Make your course documents and videos more “engaging”. That is, upload them to salon, start a conversation or markup some content. Direct students to pay attention to what you have highlighted or questions you have raised. Appoint a student or two to be a moderator of the salon for a short period. Encourage students to form small networks, so they can communicate more effectively with other salon members.

Q3. How do I use analytics?

A3: Analytics are key part of salon. Find out how much time students are spending with your content and what questions they have. By allowing students to engage directly with content, you obtain valuable analytics that can be used to drive your class. More importantly, annotated content becomes extremely useful for reducing preparation time for future courses.