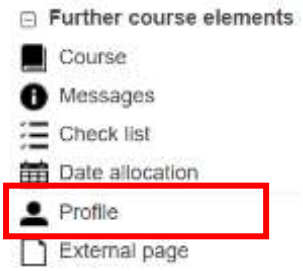
OLAT / PROFILE

1. Overview

The **profile** course element allows course participants and supervisors to introduce themselves to other course participants with additional information about themselves.

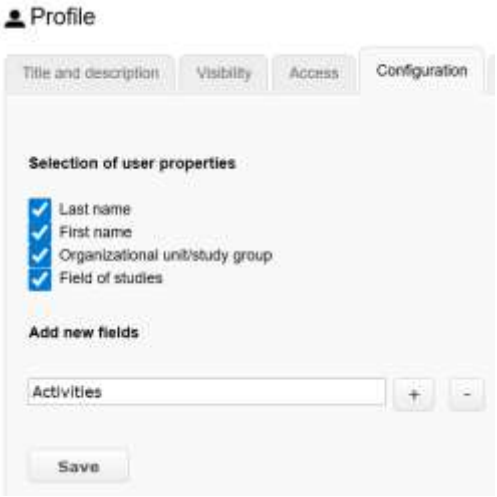
2. Setting up the course element

The profile course element can be found in the editor view under **Further course elements**.



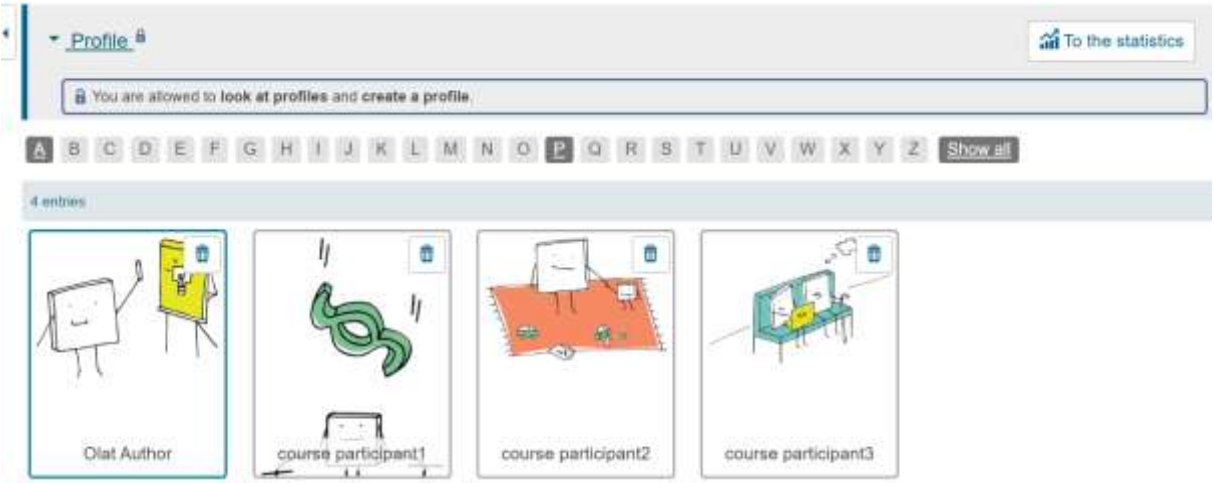
Like any other element, the element is added to the course menu.

- If necessary, give the profile element a **title** and possibly a **description**.
- If this element is not subordinate to other elements, set a group-dependent filter in the **Visibility** OR **Access** tab.
- In the **Access** tab, you can also specify who is allowed to write a profile. In the default setting, this is also possible for course participants.
- In the **Configuration** tab, several fields are already predefined, which you can add to the list of description categories. You can also define any additional fields you wish. The predefined options also include the upload of a profile picture. This is one of the options where data protection regulations (see section 4) must be kept in mind.

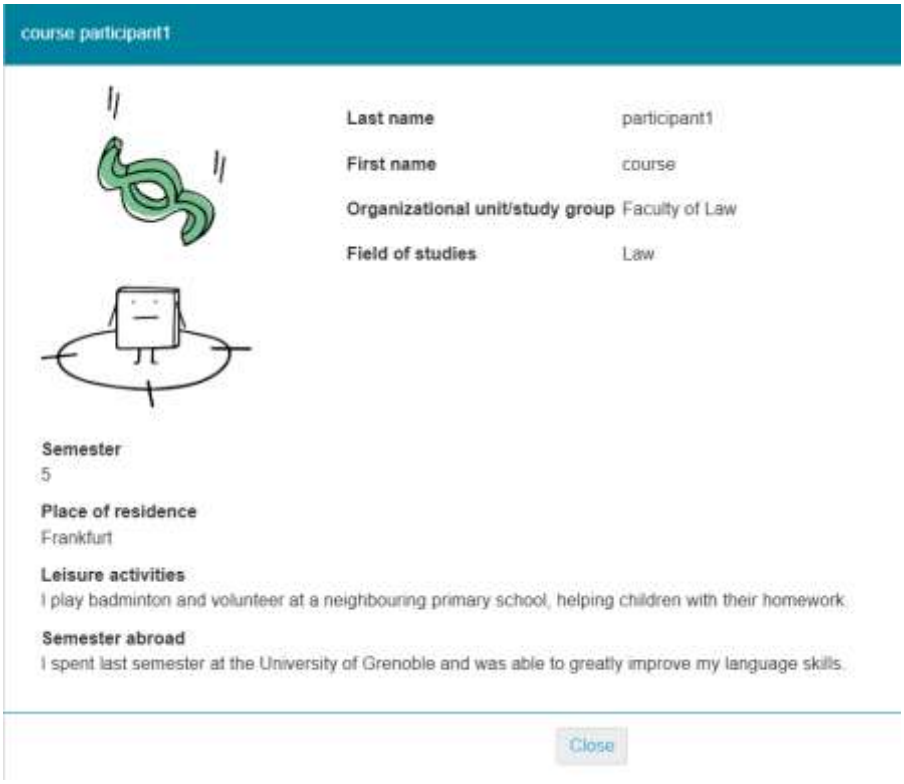


3. Profile in the course view

Calling up the element in the course displays an overview of the existing profiles sorted by surname (and allows you to **create** your own profile).



An individual profile can look like this, for example:

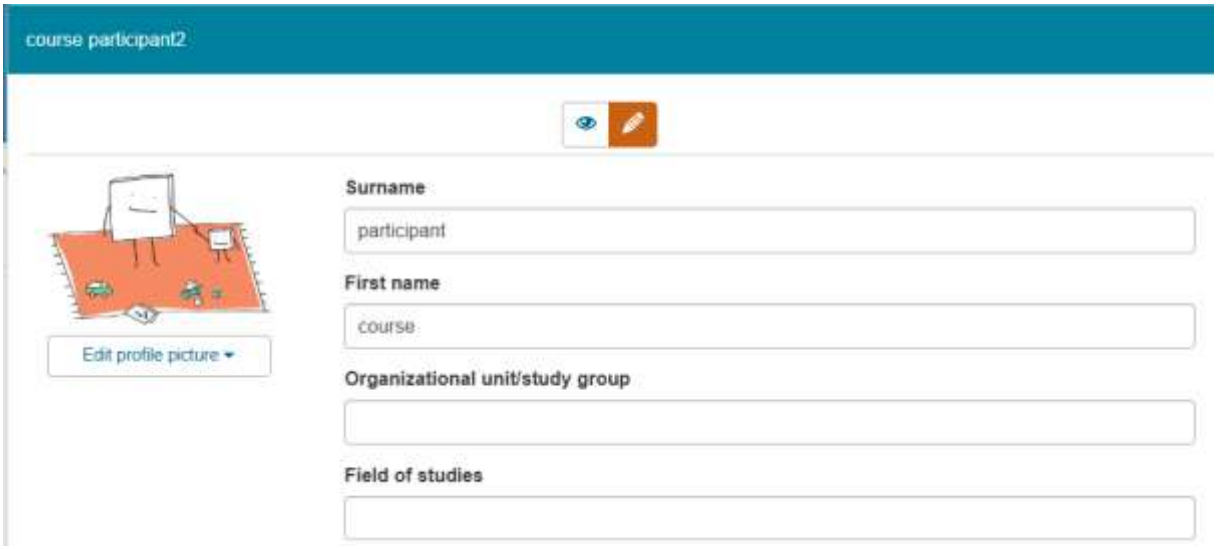




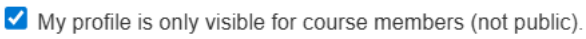
Bildnachweis Foto rechts: rostichep auf Pixabay (https://pixabay.com/de/photos/seilbahn-grenoble-stadt-is%C3%A8re-3415315/). Letzter Aufruf: 16:45 Uhr 10.11.2026.

In this example, semester, place of residence, leisure activities and semester abroad were added as additional fields. In the input mask, these are free text fields with some design options.

PLEASE NOTE: Although the user's name is entered as a suggestion in the input mask, it can be changed by the person.



At the bottom of the input mask, you will find the (already selected) option: *My profile is only visible for course members (not public)*. This is an additional safeguard in case the course owners fail to make this element accessible only to the course learning group by means of an group filter in the Visibility OR Access tab.



4. Compliance with data protection regulations

This tool enables course participants to make additional information about themselves publicly available within the course. This can certainly promote cooperation within the course, including, for example, the relationship with tutors, if they introduce themselves in their own profiles.

However, it should be borne in mind that the disclosure of personal data is a sensitive issue and should be discussed with course participants and tutors in advance. In any case, data protection regulations must be observed.

If the information provided in this tool is *voluntary* and the use of this tool is left to the discretion of each individual, it is advisable to explicitly state in the description of the element that the information is voluntary. Care should be taken to ensure that no implicit pressure is exerted.

The situation is different if the disclosure of additional personal information is made *mandatory* by the course instructor.

In this case the *Satzung zum Schutz personenbezogener Daten in E-Learning-Verfahren* applies (in German only: https://www.uni-frankfurt.de/65951607/20170329_E_Learning_Satzung_UniReport.pdf).

Excerpt:

§4 Grundsätze

(1) Der / Die Verantwortliche darf beim Einsatz von E-Learning-Verfahren personenbezogene Daten der Nutzer und Nutzerinnen verarbeiten, soweit diese Satzung oder eine andere Rechtsvorschrift dies ausdrücklich erlaubt. Personenbezogene Daten dieser Personen dürfen nur dann der Öffentlichkeit, den Mitgliedern der Hochschule, den Teilnehmern/ Teilnehmerinnen einer Lehrveranstaltung oder dem/ der Verantwortlichen für das E-Learning-Verfahren zugänglich gemacht werden, wenn dies für die Zweckerreichung des konkreten E-Learning-Verfahrens erforderlich ist.

The key factor here is the achievement of the purpose (*Zweckerreichung*). If use is mandatory, possibly even with self-defined additional fields in the profile, there must always be a reason why the purpose of the course requires all participants to disclose this information publicly. Otherwise, this procedure is not permissible.