What is LumiNUS?

LumiNUS is the evolution of IVLE, NUS’ learning management system (LMS). IVLE has existed since 1999, almost 20 years.

In that time, NUS has grown and technologies have advanced. CIT needs to make sure that our LMS is able to cope with ever larger loads and keep up with changes in technology. So, our team has developed the new LMS from the ground up.

When visiting LumiNUS, you will notice that it looks very different from IVLE.

But the changes are more than skin-deep. The entire underlying architecture and database have been changed.

These changes are significant enough to warrant a new name. Hence, LumiNUS.
What does LumiNUS mean?

LumiNUS alludes to luminous, which is defined as giving off light, or bright and shining. We hope that we can work with academic staff to light students' educational path in NUS.

When does LumiNUS launch?

LumiNUS launches in alpha in January 2018.

We expect LumiNUS to launch in beta in July 2018. The beta period will last at least until July 2019.

The tentative schedule is shown below.

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<tr>
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<th>AY17/18 S2</th>
<th>AY18/19</th>
<th>AY19/20</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LumiNUS</td>
<td>Alpha</td>
<td>Beta</td>
<td>Fully operational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IVLE</td>
<td>Fully operational</td>
<td>Fully operational</td>
<td>Read-only</td>
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What does alpha mean?

LumiNUS alpha is a preview of what to expect when LumiNUS launches.

1. You should not use LumiNUS alpha for your official modules. A number of known and unknown bugs are likely to surface.
2. LumiNUS alpha does not have the full feature set planned for launch.
3. Some features in LumiNUS alpha may not be in beta and final launch.
4. Content created in LumiNUS alpha will stay in beta and final launch. The records will not be purged unless the entire feature is removed.

IVLE will run as per normal during LumiNUS alpha. You should continue using IVLE for your modules.

Who can access LumiNUS alpha?

You are encouraged to sign up for alpha try-out: https://tinyurl.com/yd2tcfrd.

Once you have signed up, you will receive an email soon about how to access LumiNUS.

CIT is considering an Alpha phase 2, open to all NUS users in April.

Where can I access LumiNUS?

Signed-up alpha users (see above) can access LumiNUS at https://luminus.nus.edu.sg/.

What does beta mean?

LumiNUS beta means that you can start using LumiNUS for your modules/classes.

Some features may still be unavailable, but LumiNUS should be stable enough for actual use.

Despite that, we ask for your patience and understanding if things do go wrong.

LumiNUS and IVLE

What happens to IVLE?
IVLE will run concurrently with LumiNUS during the LumiNUS beta period. However, development of IVLE will cease. IVLE development will be limited to critical security and bug fixes. Once LumiNUS beta period is over, IVLE will go into read-only mode. Eventually, it will be shut down.

**Are IVLE and LumiNUS connected?**

No, IVLE and LumiNUS are not connected.

If you create a module and content in IVLE, they only exist in IVLE.

If you create a module and content in LumiNUS, they only exist in LumiNUS.

This is because they do not share a common database nor a common database structure.

**Can I export my module and content from IVLE to LumiNUS?**

Unfortunately, no.

This is because IVLE and LumiNUS do not share a common database nor a common database structure.

Also, there are many legacy items which users have created in IVLE that have not been used for very long time or have never been used at all.

Thus, we hope to start fresh with LumiNUS.

**Why have IVLE and LumiNUS run concurrently, if they are not connected?**

We want to ease academic staff into LumiNUS, so we are running both concurrently to give you time to adapt to LumiNUS.

The comfort level for a beta product will differ from person to person, so we have decided that both should be available while we polish LumiNUS up for actual launch.

Running both concurrently also allows LumiNUS to gradually deal with actual-use load.

**Are there any major tools in LumiNUS that will not be available in IVLE?**

Yes, one major tool - Web Lectures (or webcasts) - will not be in IVLE, starting in AY18/19. **Web Lectures will only be available in LumiNUS.**

This is because we are moving to a new Web Lecture system, which has been integrated into LumiNUS but not IVLE.

Academic staff who want to use Web Lectures should use LumiNUS for their modules.

For those use Web Lectures who are not ready to move to LumiNUS, you will need to:

1. Create a module in LumiNUS and IVLE.
2. Set up your module in IVLE as per normal.
3. Set up your module in LumiNUS, hiding all the tools except Web Lecture.
4. Apply for Web Lecture as per normal.
5. In IVLE, create weblink(s) to your module's Web Lectures in LumiNUS.

That said, we encourage Web Lecture users to stick to using one platform - LumiNUS.

**I want to use LumiNUS during beta, but some of the features are not available. What should I do?**

We advise you to continue using IVLE until the feature is available in LumiNUS.

We discourage you from setting up your module in both IVLE and LumiNUS.

Nevertheless, we acknowledge that there will be circumstances (e.g. availability of certain features) that a module may have a presence on both LumiNUS and IVLE. It is imperative that the module coordinator(s) inform the students about this.
I co-teach a module with other lecturers. How should we choose between IVLE and LumiNUS?

We encourage one module to be on one platform only. Initially, your choice might be limited to IVLE, if you need a particular feature which is not yet available in LumiNUS. However, if all the co-teachers agree, you can set up your module on LumiNUS instead. We discourage setting up the module on both LumiNUS and IVLE.

How will students know if a module is on IVLE or LumiNUS?

Academic staff will have to inform students whether your module is on IVLE or LumiNUS.

This will only affect AY18/19 as IVLE is scheduled to go into read-only mode in AY19/20.

Choosing between LumiNUS or IVLE?

We encourage you to choose either LumiNUS or IVLE for each module.

1. If you record new Web Lectures (webcasts), you must use LumiNUS as the new Web Lecture system is only in LumiNUS.
2. How comfortable are you (and your students) with new technology?
3. Is your tolerance of bugs low or high?
4. Are you co-teaching the module? Have a discussion with your co-teachers about this.
5. What is your class size?

LumiNUS Features

What is new in LumiNUS?

You can read about LumiNUS’ features here.

Where can I get help with LumiNUS?

You can report a bug, ask a question or make suggestions at LumiNUS Help Desk (NUSNET login required)

Staff

Staff Guide (to be developed)

Students

Student Guide (to be developed)

Training

Training workshops may be organised once the beta is launched. More information will be released later.

Staff and students may also email itcare@nus.edu.sg.
From April 2018 onwards, we will begin fortnightly webinars to introduce LumiNUS to the NUS community.

The sessions for May will be held on:

- Friday 11 May 2018 at 12 noon (register here)
- Friday 25 May 2018 at 12 noon (register here)

The sessions for April will be held on:

- Tuesday 10 April 2018 at 12 noon (register here)
- Wednesday 25 April 2018 at 12 noon (register here)

During the information sessions, you will find out our plans for LumiNUS and IVLE and learn more about the new and improved features in LumiNUS. You may post your questions during the live online session.

More online sessions will be scheduled in subsequent months. The dates will be released later.