

Open eClass 2.3 - Asynchronous eLearning Platform

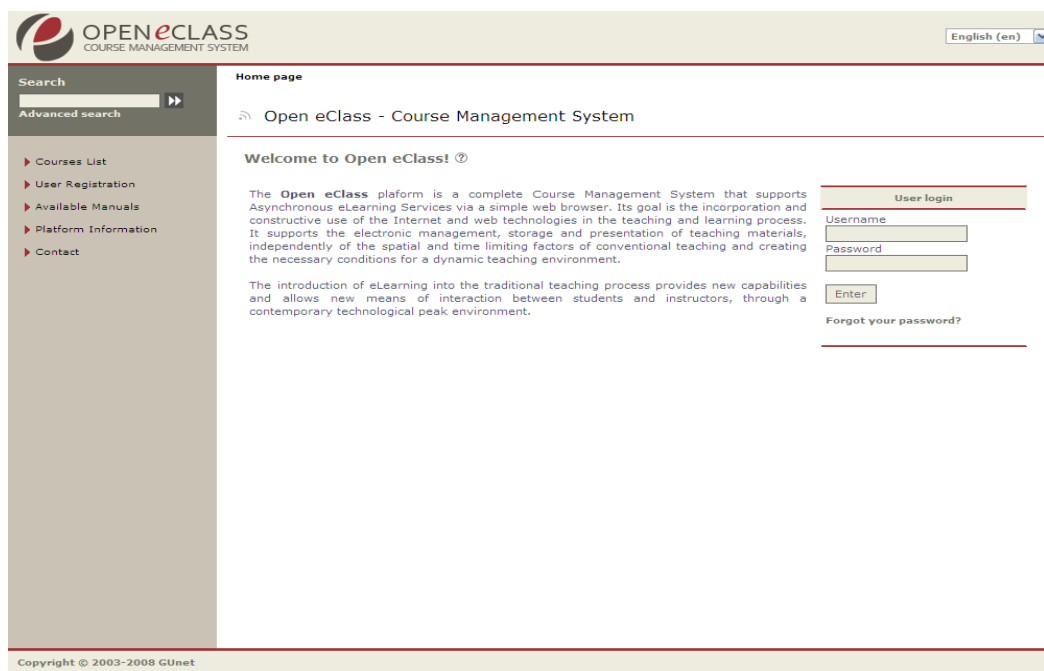
Upgrade Instructions

Authors: Tsibanis Constantinos, Exintaridis Yannis

Athens, March 29th 2010

Introduction

The **Open eClass** platform is a complete Course Management System. It is the solution offered by the Greek Academic Network GUnet to support Asynchronous eLearning Services. It is mainly designed, developed and supported by the GUnet Asynchronous eLearning Group and is distributed for free as open-source software.



The Upgrade Process

The new Open eClass version 2.3 retains backward compatibility (with previous versions). For that reason, you can upgrade an already installed platform from prior versions (1.7, 2.0, 2.1) to the current 2.3 easily and quickly, following the upgrade

instructions provided below. Keeping a safety record of the course contents and the database before beginning to upgrade is recommended.

Notice!!!

- Please ensure that during the platform's upgrade process there is no access to eCourses by the platform's users and the platform's database is not accessible by anyone
- Also check the platform's version that is already installed in your server, by following the link "Platform's Information" in the home page. In order to the upgrade process to be possible the already installed platform should be either version 1.7 or 2.0 or 2.1 or 2.0 beta For previous versions (1.5, 1.6) you need to upgrade first in 1.7 following the instructions at the last section of this manual "Upgrade to Open eClass 2.3 from older versions 1.5, 1.6".
- Before the upgrade procedure please backup both the eCourses files and the platform's Database.
- Then, follow the steps below.

1st Step

- For Unix / Linux computers
- For Ms Windows computers

2nd Step

- Database upgrade

3rd Step

- Successful Upgrade Check

Optional further configuration

- Optional further configuration

Upgrading previous versions (1.5, 1.6)

- For Unix / Linux computers
- For Ms Windows computers



1st Step: Upgrading in Unix / Linux Computers

All operations presuppose you have the administrator's rights (root) on your computer.

The following example presumes that the eClass platform is already installed on directory `/var/www/html`

Due to some changes included by the new Open eClass version 2.3 you will have to delete the old and install the new one. We consider that you have downloaded `openeclass-2.3.tar.gz` on the directory `/tmp`

- Go to the directory you have installed in eClass. e.g.

```
cd /var/www/html
```

- Move the configuration file (`eclass/config/config.php`) in another temporary directory (e.g. to directory `/tmp`) e.g.

```
mv /var/www/html/eclass/config/config.php /tmp
```

- If you have courses in which you have used subsystem 'Chat' then move the appropriate chat files as well. These are found in directory `eclass/modules/chat/` with the form `course_code.chat.txt` e.g.

```
mv /var/www/html/eclass/modules/chat/*.txt /tmp
```

- Delete all the directories except courses and config e.g.

```
cd /var/www/html/eclass/  
rm -rf images/ include/ info/ install/ manuals/ template/  
modules/
```

- Untar **openeclass-2.3.tar.gz** in a temporary directory (`/tmp`) e.g.

```
tar xzvf /tmp/openeclass-2.3.tar.gz
```

- Then copy from the temporary directory `/tmp/openeclass23` all of its contents in the installation directory e.g.

```
cp -a /tmp/openeclass23/* /var/www/html/eclass/
```

So with the above steps you have replaced directory `eclass`, with the new one.

- Then move file `config.php` to directory `/config` . e.g.



```
mv /tmp/config.php /var/www/html/eclass/config/
```

- Move to the original place the chat files. e.g.

```
mv /tmp/*.txt /var/www/html/eclass/modules/chat/
```

- Correct (if necessary) the files and sub-directories permissions: (supposing that the apache is running as www-data)

```
cd /var/www/html/eclass
chown -R www-data *
find ./ -type f -exec chmod 664 {} \;
find ./ -type d -exec chmod 775 {} \;
```

Having completed the previous steps, you will have installed the new eClass version (eClass 2.2) files successfully. Then, move on to the second step in order to upgrade the platform databases.

1st Step: Upgrading in Ms Windows Computers

The following example presupposes that eClass has already been installed to the `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\` directory

Due to several changes included by the new (2.3) Open eClass version you will have to delete the old and install the new one downloaded **openeclass-2.3.zip**.

- Move to the eClass installed folder e.g.

```
C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs
```

- Move the configuration file (`C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\include\config.php`) in another temporary folder in your desktop (e.g. from `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\include\` to folder `C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\`)
- If you have courses in which you have used subsystem 'Chat' then move the appropriate chat files as well. These are found in folder `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\modules\chat\` with the form `course_code.chat.txt`
- Go to eclass folder (e.g. `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\`) and delete all the folders except courses and config.
- Unzip **openeclass-2.3.zip** to a temporary folder on the desktop. e.g.

C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\openeclass23.

After that rename the temporary folder *eclass23* to *eclass* and copy it along with its contents (files and documents). Then, open the file that includes eClass installation, e.g.

C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\

and paste it. In that way, the open eclass files is replaced by the new ones. Then delete the desktop temporary folder

As soon as the above have been completed, you will have installed the new eClass version files (eClass 2.3) successfully. Then, follow the second step so as to upgrade the platform database.

2nd Step: Database Upgrade

Before running the database upgrade script, make sure that MySQL is not operating in strict mode. In order to establish that, check if the parameter

```
--sql-mode
```

which is included either in *my.cnf* or *my.ini* (UNIX / Windows correspondingly) has been set.

If it set (e.g. `--sql-mode=STRICT_TRANS_TABLES` ή `--sql-mode=STRICT_ALL_TABLES`) then you need to modify it to null (`--sql-mode=""`).

For Unix/Linux systems only: The process of platform database upgrade includes changes on the *config.php* . As a result, you will temporarily need to change your access rights on the *config.php* file and the */config* directory into read-write (chmod 664).

Then keystroke the following URL on your browser:

`http://(eclass url)/upgrade/`

You will be prompted for the username and password of the platform administrator. After providing your personal details, you will be asked to change/correct contact details, as well as students' registration mode on the platform (free or applied registration)

The database upgrade will begin afterwards. You will see several messages concerning your working progress. Probably you will not see any false messages. Note that depending on the number and content of courses, it is possible that the process will last for a long time.

In the opposite case (namely if error messages occur), then it is possible for a course not to be operating properly. Such error messages may occur if you have altered the structure of an eclass database table. Note (if possible) the accurate error message you saw.

If you face any problems with any course after the upgrade, contact us (admin@openeclass.org).

3rd Step: Successful Upgrade Control

In order to make sure that the platform has been upgraded, login as administrator and click on the "**Open eClass Version**". Version 2.3 has to be indicated. You can alternatively click on the "**Platform Information**" link on the homepage. Among all, version 2.3 of the platform will be indicated.

You are ready! The upgrade process has been completed successfully.

If you want to see the characteristics of the new version, turn to the *CHANGES.txt* text file. Read forward for further additional regulations (HTTPS, Latex etc).

Optional Further Configurations

- In the *config.php* file, the *close_user_registration* variable, which is *FALSE* by definition, will be defined. Changing the value to *TRUE*, registration of users with "student" rights will not be free anymore. Users will have to follow a process similar to the teacher account creation process, namely filling in a student account application form, in order to obtain a platform account. The application will be examined by the administrator who either approves of it and opens an account, or rejects it.
- In the *config.php* file the *have_latex* variable, which is *FALSE* by definition is defined. If you change the value to *TRUE*, mathematic symbols will be supported only in some eClass subsystems. However, this presupposes the existence of a latex system on the eClass subsystem. For more about the configuration you will need to do, read to *README_latex.txt*. If you do not want to have a latex support, leave it as it is (that is, in *FALSE* value).
- You can add a text (e.g. informative) on the left and right of the platform homepage. For that reason, keystroke the text you prefer (in HTML form) on the *eclass_home_extras_left.html* and *eclass_home_extras_right.html* scripts correspondingly, which can be found on eClass parent directory.
- You can modify the names of the basic roles of the users of the platform by modifying the message files
(eClass_path)/modules/lang/greek/common.inc.php
(eClass_path)/modules/lang/english/common.inc.php
- If you want to use the platform with a Web server which has the SSL support activated (e.g. <https://eclass.gunet.gr>), you can do it by defining the *urlSecure* variable on *config.php*. e.g.

```
$urlSecure = "https://eclass.gunet.gr".
```

You will find more and further information for these actions in the Administrator's manual (included in the management tool).



Upgrading from Older Versions (1.5, 1.6)

For upgrading from older versions 1.5, 1.6 you have to do some changes manually. Starting from the course directories is now stored in a new directory named "courses". Also the configurations file location (config.php) has changed, and is now included in a new directory named config. So, in order not to lose your previous configuration and all your eCourses files, please follow the instructions below.

A. For Unix / Linux Computers

- Go to the directory you have installed in eClass. (e.g. `cd /var/www/html/`)
- Move the configuration file (`eclass/claroline/include/config.php`) to another, temporary directory. For example to `/tmp` directory.

```
mv /var/www/html/eclass/claroline/include/config.php /tmp
```

- If you have courses in which you have used subsystem 'Chat' then move the appropriate chat files as well. These are found in directory `eclass/claroline/chat/` with the form `course_code.chat.txt`

```
mv /var/www/html/eclass/claroline/chat/*.txt /tmp
```

- Delete the directory `claroline` with all its subdirectories. e.g.

```
cd /var/www/html/eclass/  
rm -rf claroline/
```

- Unzip `eclass-2.2.tar.gz` into a temporary directory (`/tmp`) e.g.

```
tar xzvf /tmp/eclass-2.3.tar.gz
```

Then from the directory `/tmp/openeclass23` copy all of its contents to the installation directory e.g.,

```
cp -a /tmp/openeclass23/* /var/www/html/eclass/
```

That way, the `eclass` directory is substituted by the new version.

- Go the installation directory of eClass and make the following directories e.g.



```
cd /var/www/html/eclass
mkdir config
mkdir courses
```

- Move *config.php* file to the *config* directory e.g.

```
mv /tmp/config.php /var/www/html/eclass/config/
```

- Move the course directories in directory (e.g. in case there are courses with codes TMA100, TMA101)

```
cd /var/www/html/eclass
mv TMA* ./courses/
```

- Restore the chat files to their initial position. e.g.

```
mv /tmp/*.txt /var/www/html/eclass/modules/chat/
```

B. For Ms Windows Computers

- Move configuration file `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\claroline\include\config.php` to another temporary folder in your desktop e.g.

from folder `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\claroline\include\` to
folder `C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\`

If you have courses in which you have used subsystem 'Chat' then move the appropriate chat files as well. These can be found on the `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\claroline\chat\` catalogue and have the following form *course_code.chat.txt*.

- Go to folder of eclass

```
C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\
```

And delete folder *claroline* with all of its subfolders.

- Unzip `openecclass-2.3.zip` to a temporary folder in your desktop. e.g. `C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\openecclass23`. Then rename temporary folder `openecclass23` to `eclass` and copy with all of its subdirectories. Then go to folder of eclass , e.g. `C:\ProgramFiles\Apache\htdocs\` and paste them. With that way, eclass folder is replaced with the new version.



- Go to eclass folder and create two new folders: *config* and *courses*.
- Move config.php file, in newly created folder *config*

C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\config\

- Move courses folders to newly created folder *courses*

C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\courses\

- Restore previous chat files in its initial folder

C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\eclass\modules\chat\

Finally delete from your desktop the temporary created folder.