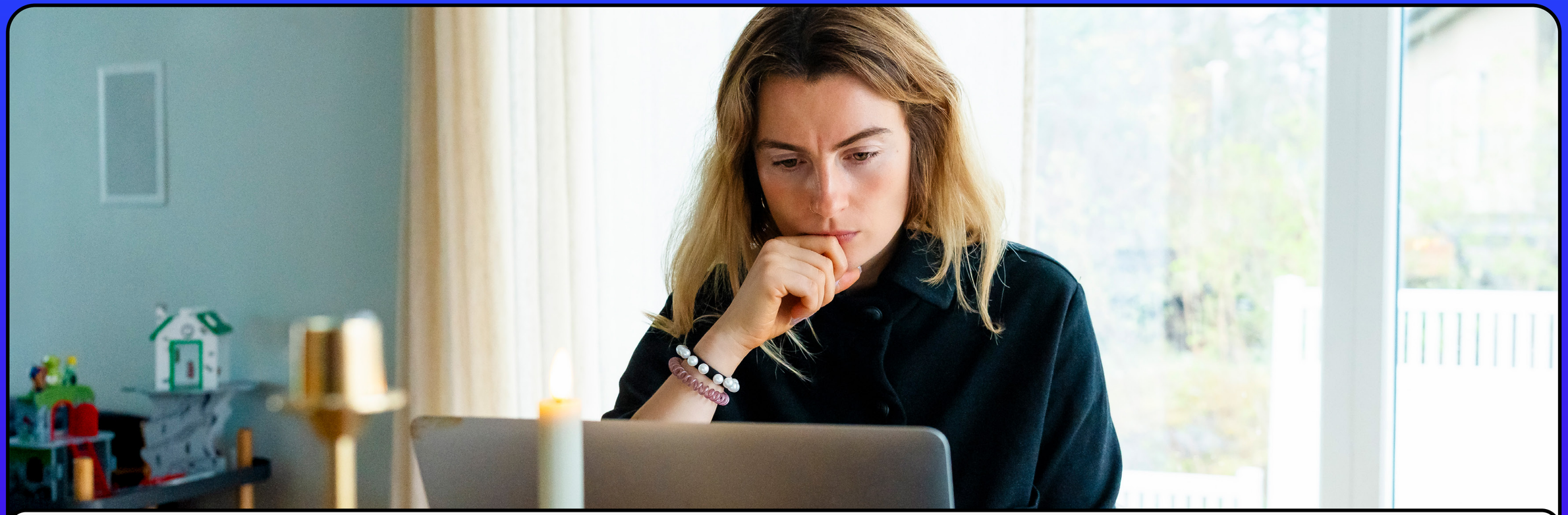


Course Creator AI Assistant

For FutureLearn short courses

FutureLearn

Overview

Course Creator AI Assistant is an interactive, multi-platform tool that helps users design, develop, and manage educational courses. It checks the source material, plans the weeks, activities and steps, writes every step, builds the course on the platform and tests the result.

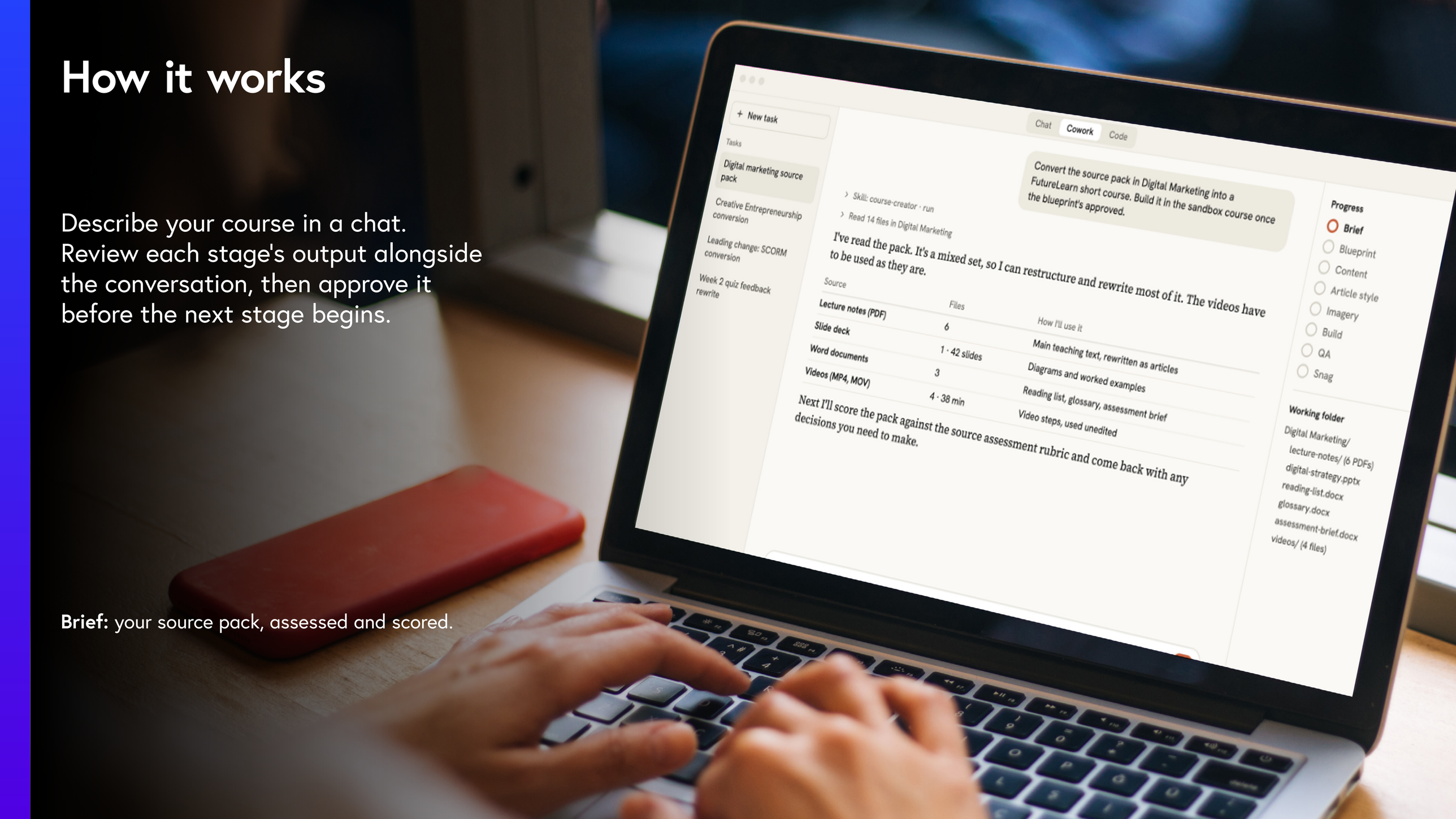
Every course is designed to FutureLearn's pedagogical framework for asynchronous, step-based learning, and passes eight quality gates. A human signs off at every milestone, and the process stops until every open question has been answered by a human.

The goal: your next course, without compromising quality.

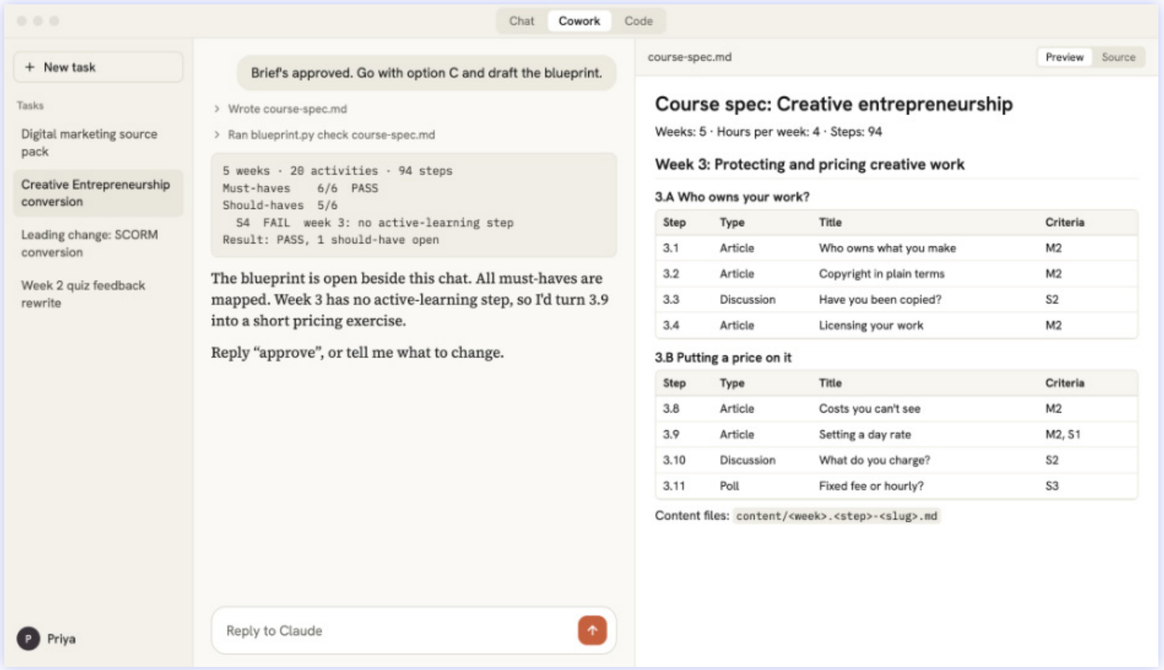
How it works

Describe your course in a chat. Review each stage's output alongside the conversation, then approve it before the next stage begins.

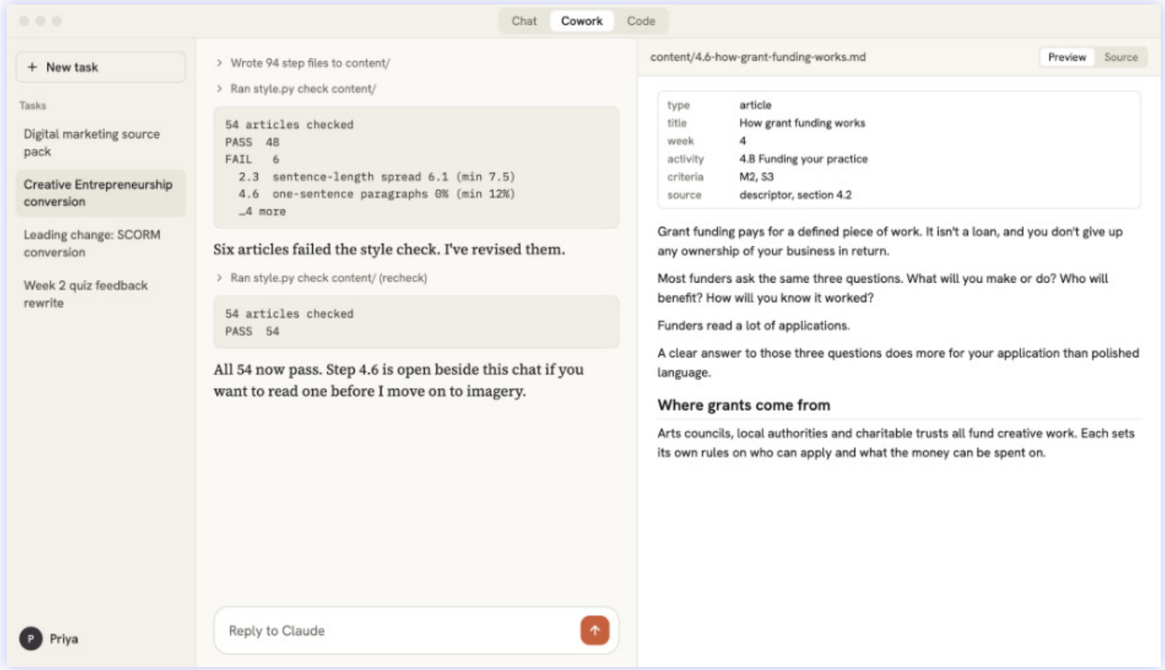
Brief: your source pack, assessed and scored.



How it works

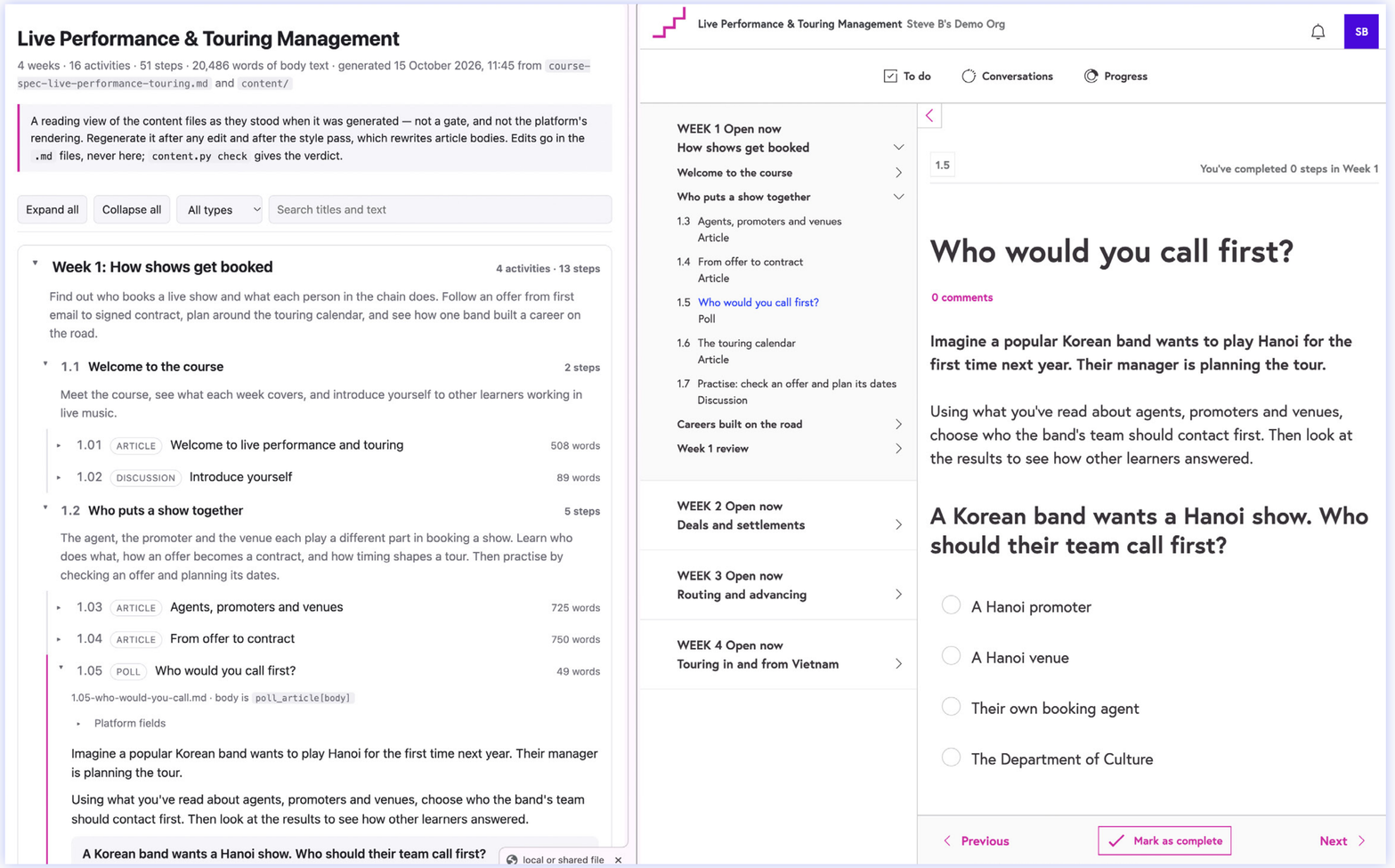


Blueprint: weeks, activities and steps, with every essential topic mapped to a step.



Content: checked and ready for your review.

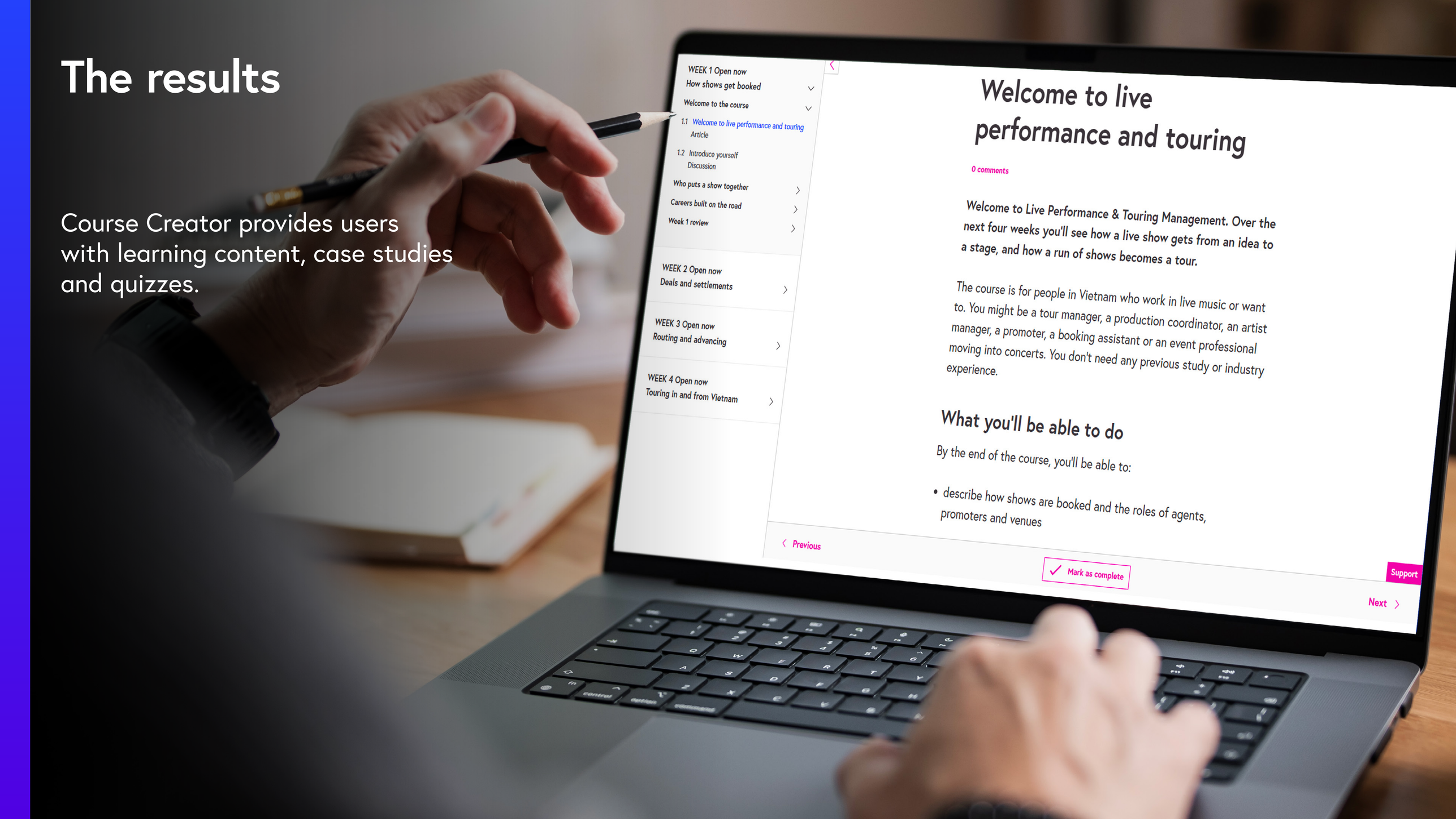
How it works



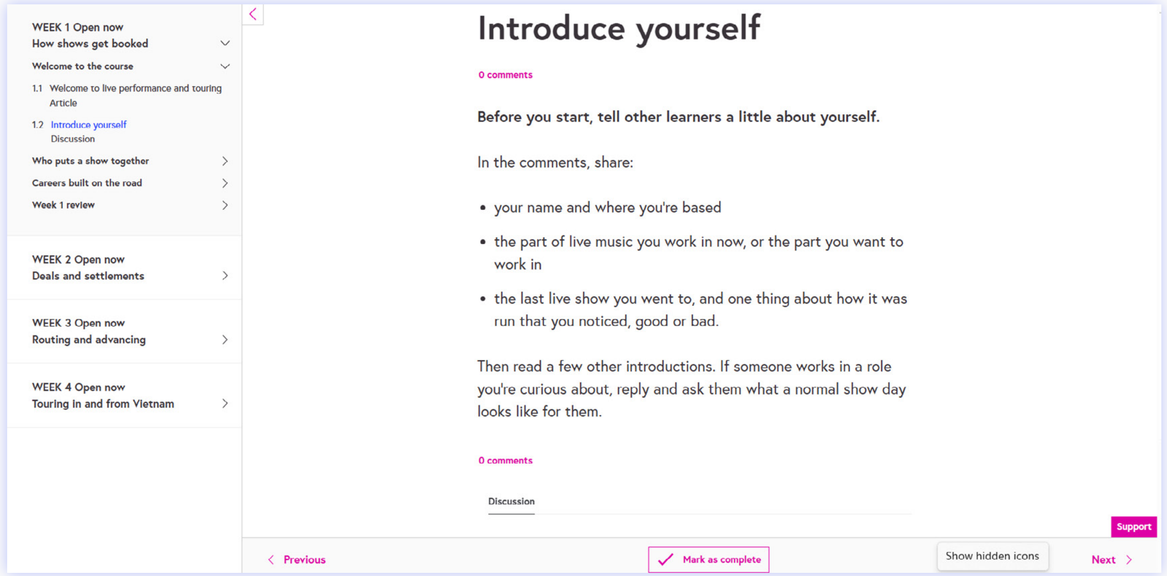
Course Creator AI Assistant and Course Creator: the first output

The results

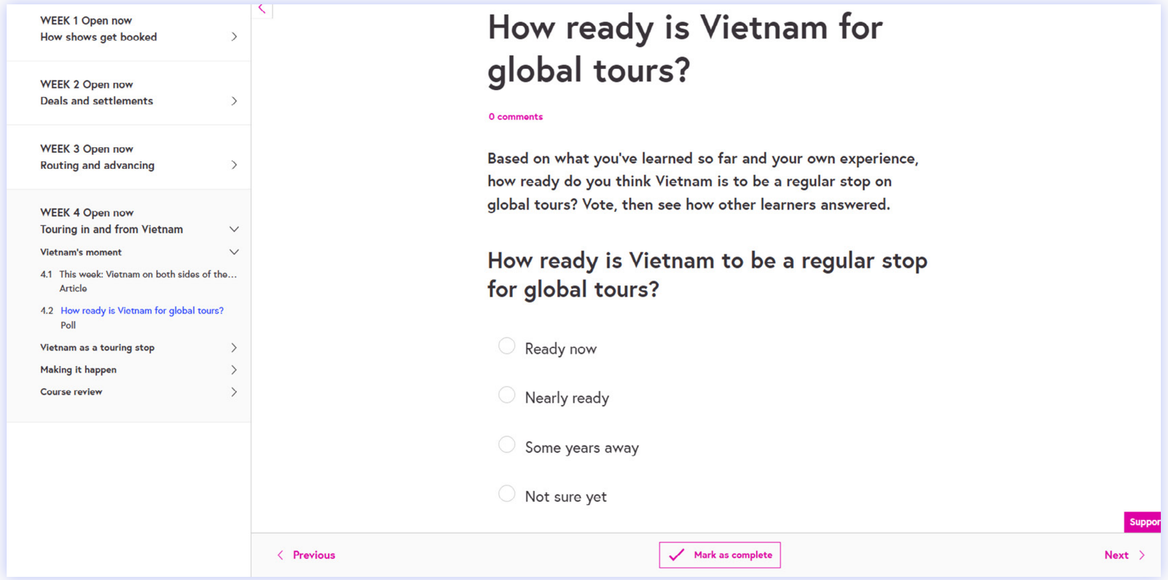
Course Creator provides users with learning content, case studies and quizzes.



The results



The final output offers social learning opportunities.



Users can also create weekly quizzes to test learner knowledge.

Eight stages, one pipeline

Stage 1: Brief

What it does: checks the source material and decides the course's size.

Stage 2: Blueprint

What it does: plans the structure of weeks, activities and steps.

Stage 3: Content

What it does: writes the text for every step.

Stage 4: Style

What it does: refines articles for a natural, engaging reading experience.

Stage 5: Imagery (optional)

What it does: creates course diagrams and illustrations.

Stage 6: Build

What it does: creates the course on FutureLearn by controlling your browser.

Stage 7: QA

What it does: reviews the finished course in a fresh session.

Stage 8: Snag

What it does: resolves QA findings, then checks each fix again.

Course Creator drives the whole pipeline

It asks questions up front, pauses for approval after each stage and reports the estimated cost.

Key features and benefits



Pedagogy built in

Every course follows FutureLearn's four-tier pedagogical framework: micro-learning steps, retrieval practice, conversation and automated mastery quizzes.



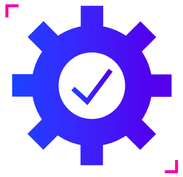
Quality gates at every stage

Eight stages, each with a check. A course only moves on once the check is passed, and every pass or fail is backed by evidence.



Human sign-off at every milestone

Eight sign-off points. The process stops until every open question has been answered by a human, who also judges what automated checks can't.



Independent QA and repair

QA runs in a fresh session with no build context. Every finding gets a disposition, fixes carry proof, and a second review confirms each repair.



Any source, one route in

Start from a descriptor, a SCORM package, a Course Studio export, existing materials or web resources. The brief checks the source and sets the course size.

Pedagogy built in

FutureLearn's four-tier framework for asynchronous, step-based learning, drawing on theories and frameworks from Sweller, Mayer, Laurillard, Gagné, Bruner, Roediger & Karpicke, Bloom, Deci & Ryan and UDL.

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
Foundational readiness *Barrier-free, low-load steps* • Clean navigation and no decorative media • Captions, transcripts, screen reader support • Unlimited quiz attempts, kind feedback	**Scaffolding and retrieval** *Practice after every acquisition step* • Real-world example, then visual, then abstract • Low-stakes quizzes after learning steps • Discussion prompts inside steps	**Applied mastery** *Scenario-based active learning* • Decision tree scenarios with real edge cases • Explanatory feedback on every option • Peer discussion in step comments	**Evaluation and mastery** *Automated verification* • End-of-module quiz from a randomised bank • Score breakdown pointing to steps to review • Digital statement of attainment

Assessment

In-learning practice quizzes	In-learning scenario quizzes	End-of-module summative quiz
0% · formative Unlimited attempts, immediate feedback	**0% · formative checkpoint** Explanatory feedback for every option	**100% · summative** Randomised bank, threshold to complete

Eight quality gates

Every stage has a quality check. The course only moves forward when it passes, with human judgement wherever automated checks cannot decide.

Stage 1: Brief

What is checked: audience, coverage and length are clear; testing matches the promise; open questions have an owner and date.

Sign-off: a complete plan

Stage 2: Blueprint

What is checked: outline matches the plan; sensible steps per week and activity mix; every must-have topic is in a named step.

Sign-off: an approved outline

Stage 3: Content

What is checked: headings, numbering, quizzes and polls set up properly; images are described; nothing from the plan is missing.

Sign-off: approved content

Stage 4: Style

What is checked: articles compared with real FutureLearn articles; a before-and-after list of every change.

Sign-off: checked articles

Stage 5: Imagery (optional)

What is checked: image placements match the plan; outdated, blank or incorrectly sized images are rejected.

Sign-off: approved images

Stage 6: Build

What is checked: structure, counts and image placements are correct; a record confirms every change was saved.

Sign-off: a built course

Stage 7: QA

What is checked: fresh reviewer; every pass or fail is backed by evidence; the builder's own claims are checked.

Sign-off: a reviewed report

Stage 8: Snag

What is checked: every issue is addressed with evidence; resolved items return for another review.

Sign-off: a verified fix record

Review → fix → review again.

Problems go back to the stage that caused them. If a check fails or a question is unanswered, the course does not move forward.


Future
Learn