

WolfWare Themes, SOP.WW-WolfWare.008

Authority

Vice Provost for Digital Education and Learning Technology Applications (DELTA)

History

- First issued February 11, 2010
- Revised January 9, 2019
- Revised March 11, 2020

Contact Information

DELTA, wolfware_governance@ncsu.edu

1. Introduction

The use of open source academic technologies (AT) provides the university flexibility in implementation. One area of flexibility is in the look and feel of the course.

For the purposes of this document and the WolfWare user interface, we use the term “theme” to denote the set of Cascading Style Sheets, banners, and other presentational elements that control the look and feel of the course. Philosophically, we wish to make the use of themes available to programs and individuals, but recognize the requirement to consider university branding standards, the user experience, and the potential volume of themes as issues.

2. NC State University Themes

A manageable number of generic NC State themes, created by DELTA, will be available. There are two types of NC State themes. The first is a set of designs that represent the university with university colors and/or imagery. The second is a set of designs that allow for a custom banner to be inserted. These themes:

- a. Adhere to the [NC State branding standards](#).
- b. Meet current [NC State web accessibility regulations](#)
- c. Allow for the Registration and Records course information (if applicable) and/or name as part of the identification of the course.

All new courses will receive the NC State default theme (NC State Red Standard), which can then be changed in WolfWare course settings.

DELTA will be responsible for the creation, maintenance, and versioning of the NC State themes during regularly scheduled [LMS maintenance windows](#). Feedback regarding themes can be sent directly to the LMS Steering Committee chair at wolfware_governance@ncsu.edu.

3. Custom Themes (Moodle only)

There are three Custom Themes that grant the ability, in Moodle only, to display a custom banner at the top of the page. This can be done in Moodle Course Settings in the Appearance section by uploading a banner file in the “header image” setting. This will allow colleges, departments, units, and programs to

WolfWare Standard Operating Practices/Procedures (SOPs)

North Carolina State University

brand their courses with their own unique stamp yet provide a flexible framework for individual classes to use.

4. Program Themes

We strongly encourage groups that want a customized presentation to consider using one of the NC State themes that allow custom banners to be used in Moodle; however, a 'program' theme may be needed in some cases, especially if groups want it to show up in WolfWare WordPress. Creation of program themes requires the following:

- a. Obtain permission from the respective division, college, department, program and/or unit for the creation and use of a program theme (e.g. program directors, communications director, academic dean, etc.).
- b. Obtain permission from the WolfWare Steering Committee (email wolfware_governance@ncsu.edu to get on the agenda).
- c. Develop the theme according to appropriate technical specifications outlined by the WolfWare Technical Committee.
- d. Develop the theme according to NC State branding standards, if the theme is attached to NC State courses and/or falls under the branding standards, per the [brand website](#).
- e. Request review by the WolfWare Coordinator (wolfware_governance@ncsu.edu).
- f. Make any changes required by the WolfWare Coordinator.
- g. Designate a theme owner and a secondary contact who are responsible for testing and repairing the program theme when WolfWare tools are upgraded. If a theme loses its owner, for whatever reason (owner leaves university, changes job roles, etc.), then the theme must be assigned a new owner to remain in use.
- h. If the theme owner is unable to maintain version compliance, all WolfWare tools using the theme in question will be reverted to the default NC State theme, with the unsupported theme taken off of the production servers.

Once a program theme has been created and approved, DELTA will add it to the list of available themes in WolfWare. DELTA takes no responsibility for enforcing the use of the theme within a program, college, etc.