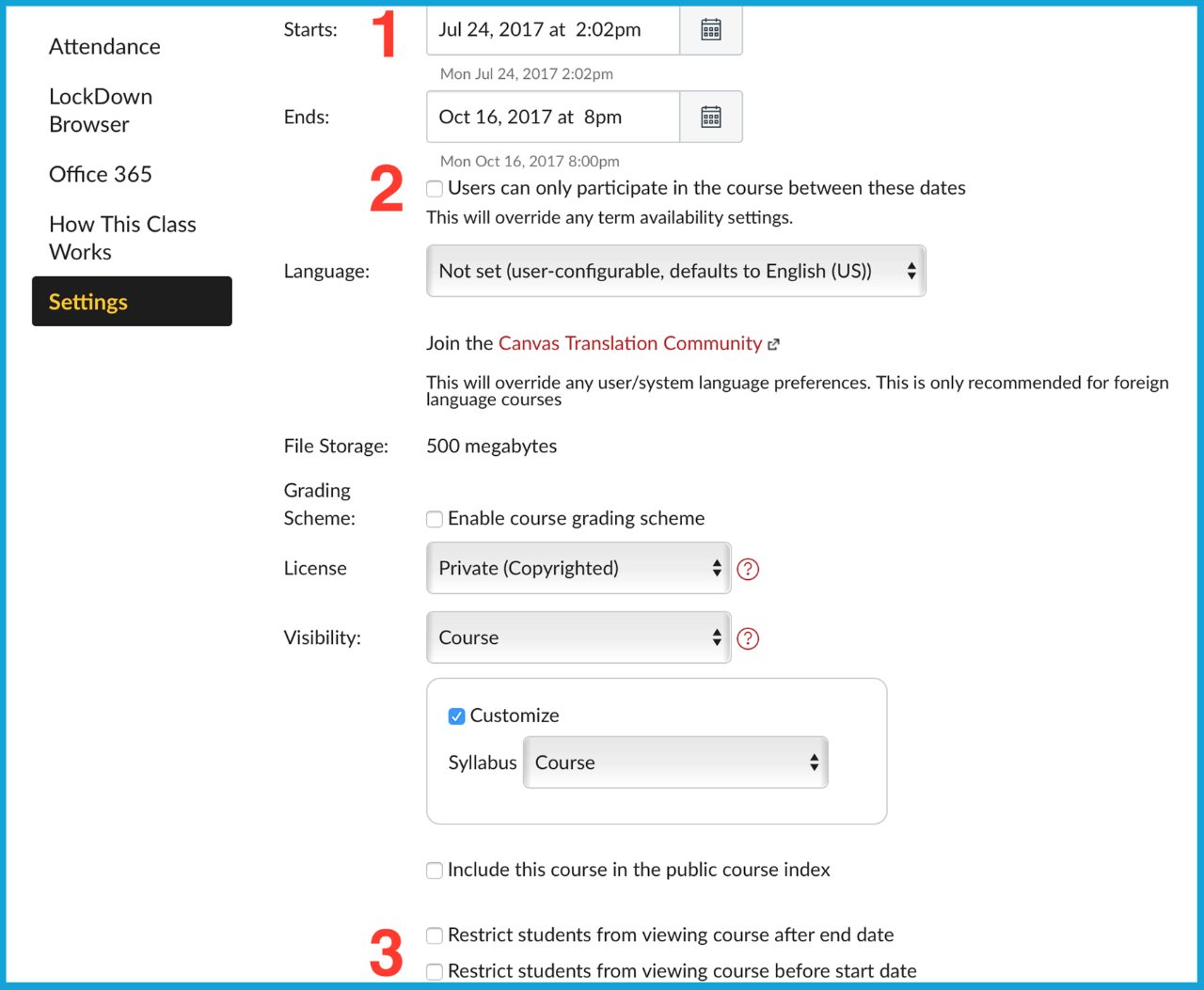
Setting Levels of Availability in your Course

Canvas gives you the flexibility to determine how available or unavailable you wish to make your course.  For example, you may wish to [email your students before your course is published](https://cmsserv4.nku.edu:8433/content/inside/cite/citenew/technologyresources/canvas/contactinstudentsunpublished.html).

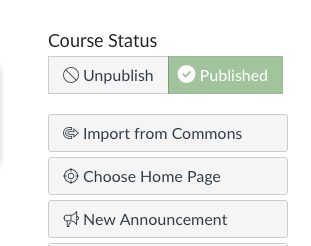
Four settings determine availability:



1.  **Starts and Ends Date**: This setting can determine when content is available to students.  **Note**: Setting these dates without making any other changes does not change your student’s ability to participate in your course.

2. **Users can only participate in the course between these dates**: If you place a checkmark in this checkbox, students can only participate (ie. take a quiz) between the **Starts**date and **Ends** date.  Students can still view content in your course before and after these dates, but they cannot actively participate in your course.

3. **Restrict students from viewing course after end date**and**before start date**: If you place a checkmark in this checkbox, students will only be able to view and actively participate in your course between the **Starts** date and **Ends** date.  **Note**: They cannot view any content before or after these dates.



4.  **Published or Unpublished (course level)**:  This setting determines the student’s ability to enter or not enter the course.  When you click on Publish, students can actively participate in your course (i.e. take a quiz).  If specific areas of your course are unpublished (such as a Discussion), they are not available to students.

For example, the most “controlled” scenario (while still publishing your course) would be to only make content available between a start date and end date. To do this:

1.  Enter dates next to **Starts** date and **Ends**date.

2.  Place a checkmark in the checkbox next to **Users can only participate in the course between these dates**.

3.  Place checkmarks in the checkboxes next to **Restrict students from viewing course after end date** and **Restrict students from viewing course before start date**.

4.  Click **Update Course Details**.