

# Introduction to Live Studio in Canvas

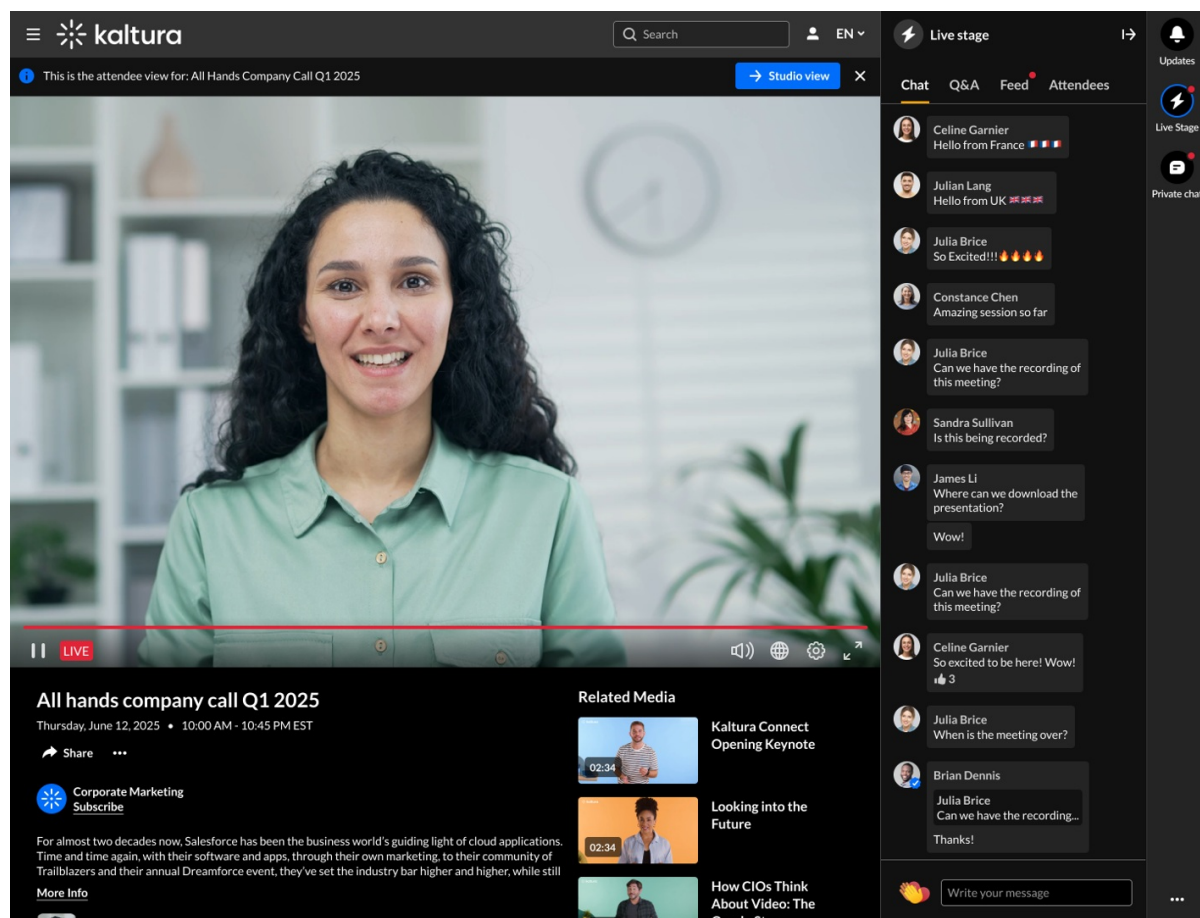
Content updated: 09/17/2026

 This article is designated for all users.

## About

Kaltura's **Live Studio** lets you create and broadcast live sessions in Content Hubs and LMS Extensions. It uses one session link for everyone and, based on each participant's role, automatically directs them to Studio view or Attendee view.

 Live Studio sessions always open in the [Theming](#) layout even if the Theming module isn't enabled. You only need to enable the [Theming module](#) if you want to customize the header.



## Key features

- **Single session link** – One link for everyone, with no separate URLs to manage

- **Role-aware access** – Live Studio automatically opens the correct view (Studio or Attendee) based on permissions
- **Flexible speaker and moderator roles** – Live Studio supports speakers, room moderators, chat moderators, and attendees, so session teams can share responsibilities without exposing full session controls.
- **Attendee-controlled layouts** – Attendees can switch between layouts (for example, side-by-side or focused views), depending on the session type.
- **Reliable streaming and monitoring** – Studio view includes preview mode, real-time stream health indicators, and monitoring tools.
- **Audience engagement tools** – Chat, Q&A, polls, and related media
- **Recording availability** – Recordings can be watched as VOD after the session unless the owner removes the recording

## Session types in Live Studio

Live Studio supports two session types. The options you see depend on what your administrator has enabled. You may see only one option if your administrator has limited the available session types.

| Session type                    | Best for                                                                      | Session team experience                                                                    | Attendee experience                                                |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Virtual studio broadcast</b> | Multi-speaker sessions such as town halls, all-hands, or panel discussions    | Full Kaltura Room experience with green room, storyboard, chat, and collaboration          | Session page with live player, chat, Q&A, polls, and related media |
| <b>External broadcast</b>       | Single-speaker sessions or sessions streamed using an external encoder (RTMP) | Simplified studio page for monitoring the encoder stream and engaging through chat and Q&A | Session page with live player, chat, Q&A, polls, and related media |

## Session flow: what participants see

Live Studio uses a single session page before, during, and after the session. The experience changes automatically as the session goes live.

### Before the session (Lobby)

When attendees open the session link, they land on the lobby page. Depending on what the owner has enabled, the lobby may show:

- Session title, description, and schedule

- Speaker panel
- Chat, Q&A, and related media
- A message stating that the session hasn't started yet

### During the session (Live broadcast)

When the session goes live, the page switches to the live player automatically. Attendees can:

- Watch the live stream
- Use engagement tools such as chat, Q&A, polls, and interactions
- View speaker details and related media
- Choose between available layout options, such as focused or side-by-side views

### After the session (Recording)

When the session ends, the same page becomes the VOD recording page. If the recording is removed by the owner, the page returns to the lobby view.



See [Create and manage a Live Studio session](#) for more information.