

Builders Evaluation Gate

Universal pre-ship checklist for any GROW course. A course declares its artifact count in its course manifest (the cluster overview's contents table) — the baseline is seven (one per lesson), and a course may declare more when it adds a consumer artifact (S2 ships eight, having added s2-eval-test-seed-matrix). A course is not allowed to advance past status: reviewed until every box below is checked yes with linked evidence. The gate is self-referential: it gates itself, and it gates every cluster course (Courses 1–10 across systems, execution, trust, coordination). Run it as a single pass per course; a single no blocks ship.

For each item, record: [yes | no], evidence pointer (path or URL), reviewer initials, date.

(a) Existence

- [] All artifact files declared in the course manifest present under /grow/<cluster>/<course-id>/ (baseline seven; more if the manifest declares them).
- [] Each file's name matches naming-convention.md (kebab-case slug, .md extension, flat directory).
- [] Each file opens with a YAML frontmatter block.
- [] Every required field in shared-artifact-schema.md is present and non-empty (lists may be []).
- [] id field equals filename slug equals expected slug in the course manifest.
- [] artifact_type is drawn from the enumerated list.
- [] cluster directory placement agrees with the cluster frontmatter field.

(b) Versioning

- [] version is valid semver and $\geq 0.1.0$.
- [] owner is populated with a named human or role (not a placeholder).
- [] status is one of draft, reviewed, shipped and reflects current state.
- [] last_reviewed is an ISO date within the last 90 days.
- [] evaluation_gate_ref resolves to an existing gate artifact.
- [] Version bumps since last gate run follow the MAJOR/MINOR/PATCH rules in interface-contracts.md.

(c) Interface Conformance

- [] upstream_deps is populated for every artifact that reads from another; [] only when truly independent.
- [] downstream_consumers is populated reciprocally; every declared dep has a matching consumer pointer on the other side.
- [] Producing artifacts emit the exact payload schema specified by their contract in interface-contracts.md (C1–C12 as applicable; C5–C12 wire Execution/Trust/Coordination into Systems).

- [] Consuming artifacts read only the fields the contract publishes; no covert dependencies on producer internals.
- [] Enum values (severity, decision_origin, confidence_band) used in this course's artifacts match the locked enums in glossary.md.
- [] No artifact introduces a new term in conflict with the glossary; new terms added to glossary first, with version bump.

(d) Standalone Usability

- [] Each artifact opens with a one-paragraph purpose statement comprehensible to a reader who has not opened any of the other six.
- [] Every cross-reference inside the artifact uses the canonical id (not a prose paraphrase).
- [] Examples are concrete and self-contained — no "see appendix" or "as discussed elsewhere".
- [] A subject-matter reviewer outside the course team can use the artifact correctly after a single read.

(e) Integration

- [] The course composes with sibling Systems modules via the reference run defined for the cluster (S1 emits failure modes → S2 seeds tests → S2 logs runs to S3 → S3 returns source confidence to S2; S1 events land in S3 per C2).
- [] A dry-run trace exists showing one failure mode flowing end-to-end across all four contracts with provenance records produced and rubric scoring applied.
- [] Reciprocal dep links resolve across module boundaries without dangling pointers.
- [] No contract violation logged during the reference run.
- [] Course owner sign-off recorded; cluster lead sign-off recorded.

Result

- [] All sections (a)–(e) pass.
- [] Course advances to status: shipped; artifact versions are tagged in the registry.

A single failed item returns the course to status: draft with a remediation list pinned to the failing checkbox(es).

Change log

- 0.2.0 — 2026-05-29. Generalized the Existence "all seven files" rule to a course-manifest-declared count (baseline seven; S2 declares eight). Clarified the gate covers Courses 1–10 across all four clusters. Section (c) enum check now references the extended decision_origin superset (glossary v0.2.0) and contracts C1–C12.
- 0.1.0 — 2026-05-28. Initial self-referential gate.