

Navigating Canvas for Students

SPEAKER: This video will provide a general overview of a Canvas course and its navigation. Each course will be unique to the instructor in the course. So, you may or may not see all the components discussed in this video.

On the left-hand side, you'll see a global navigation where you can access all of your courses, your account information, your inbox, your calendar for all of your Canvas course spaces and a global help menu.

When you land in your course space you'll land on your home page, some instructors have an actual home page with buttons and some information for the course and maybe even some technology and next steps. Some may jump straight into the modules.

On the right-hand side, you're going to see a to-do, which shows you upcoming assignments and things that you need to turn in. You can utilize the view course screen to see active things in the course space. You can see the course notifications. And you can also see that calendar.

Navigating back to the home page. You might see an announcement on the top of your home page, so you can see them here or you can select announcements on your menu. This will show you all of the announcements for the class. You may or may not also receive an email.

The syllabus and the course schedule are great places to start. This will show you the expectations for your semester. It may be typed into the course space directly as it is here or it may be an attachment such as a pdf.

Modules is an important item, as this is will be the main place for you to access all of your content. It will organize it by topic such as like a week or a lesson or however your instructor has chosen to do so.

Assignments, discussions, and quizzes can also take you directly to those assignments, discussions and quizzes, modules will just give you the context for the learning for that week or that topic.

I'm going to open the first item and then I'll show you how to navigate through these, like pages. Once I select the first item, this one happens to be a page on the bottom, right. You'll see next. It'll take me to the next item in that that module, which is a discussion click next. It'll take me to the next discussion. When I select next, it will take me to the assignment that was due.

So, navigating back to modules, selecting next on the bottom right took me to each of these items. Within each of those I can read where I can turn things in and engage with the course in that way.

If you select assignments, discussions, or quizzes directly, you can also access the things that you need to turn in directly there and it'll be the same way. Canvas just offers multiple ways to access the same material.

Assignments is slightly unique because it shows all items that need to be turned in. Right now, it's organized by date. It'll show me upcoming assignments, an undated assignment, and some past assignments. You can also organize it by type, these categories your instructor has chosen. It usually

matches the grading table in your syllabus. You also have the ability to search for assignments, so you don't have to scroll through everything. When you select on the assignments, it will give you all the information you need and allow you to turn it in, see a rubric if it exists, and if you have the ability to turn in more than once, you can even resubmit an already submitted assignment.

Very importantly, we all want to know how to check grades, selecting grades in the left will organized by default by due date, although you can organize it in other ways. It will show you the assignment, when it is due, the status if there is one, the score, and the total possible points.

At the bottom of the page, it will also show you by category what your score is and your total score for the class. By default, it calculates only based on your graded assignments. If you uncheck this, your grade will change pretending like you would not turn in any more assignments that entire semester.

You also have the ability to test grades. So, if you want to know how well you need to do on a future exam, you can type in here and see how it would change your final grade. You can see the note; It is not your official score, but you can revert back to that.

Now, let's see how we get the feedback in the grades for each assignment. You can select on the assignment, you can see the score and then you can see feedback this way. We're going to show three different ways to look at the feedback. One way you can look at the comment here. Another way is if your instructor chooses to use a rubric, you'll see this symbol. You can see your grade for each criteria and where you need to improve and where you did really well. Instructors may even put comments within the rubric. Lastly, and a place you can see all of these, you can select on the name of the assignment. It will open up a page similar to what it looked like when you turned it in, your grade is on the top right. Any comments that are left are here and you can also type a comment or record a comment as well.

But importantly, your instructor might be annotating directly on the assignment you can select "view feedback", it'll open this window and you can see any annotations and notes that your instructor left directly on the document.

Clicking on quizzes, you can see here that these are the three exams, notice that these are not available right now. In Canvas you have the ability to see that something exists but you may not be able to access it until the instructor allows you to. Those dates should be posted.

On the left-hand side, you also have the people tab you'll see who is enrolled in your course but more importantly, if you're enrolled in any teams or groups. If there are multiple teams or groups, then there will just be more tabs across the top. This student is enrolled as team one.

And that is your general overview of a possible Canvas course space. Again, please use the resources available to you through your instructor and your syllabus or the global help menu.

Have a great semester.