This self-help guide takes you through the basic process of building a Canvas course site from the ground up, starting with creating and linking content, building assessments, and choosing final course settings.

Add Content

Add Files

Working with Files

What are Files?

Files Overview (video, 3:38)
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Video-Guide/Files-Overview/ta-p/384392

Upload a File to a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-upload-a-file-to-a...

Bulk Upload Files to a Course

Move and Organize My Files as an Instructor

Create a Folder in Files as an Instructor
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-create-a-folder-in...

Use the Rich Content Editor (RCE)
Format Items with the Rich Content Editor (RCE)

See the RCE (video; 4:41)
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Video-Guide/New-Rich-Content-Editor/ta-p/383...
What is the RCE?
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-is-the-New-Rich-Con...
Add and Modify Text in the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-add-and-modify-tex...
Upload and Embed a New Image in the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-upload-and-embed-a...
Embed Images from Your Canvas Course Files into the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-embed-images-from...
Use the Math editor in the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Math-Edito...
All Canvas Resources Regarding the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/tkb-p/Instructor#NewRichCon...

Create Accessible Content Using the Rich Content Editor (RCE)

Accessible U: Instructor Considerations
https://accessibility.umn.edu/your-role/instructors
Manage Alt Text and Display Options for Images Embedded in the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-manage-alt-text-an...
Create Hyperlinks to External URLs in the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-create-hyperlinks...
Create Hyperlinks to Course or Group Content in the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-create-hyperlinks...
Insert a Table Using the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-insert-a-table-usi...
Use the Accessibility Checker in the RCE
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Accessibility...

Add Media Using Kaltura with the RCE
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-add-media-using-kaltura...

Build Pages

Working with Pages

What are Pages?
Pages: Overview (video, 3:10)
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Video-Guide/Pages-Overview-Instructors/ta-p/...

Use the Page Index Page
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Pages-Inde...

Create a New Page in a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-create-a-new-page...

Edit a Page in a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-edit-a-page-in-a-c...

Delete Pages in a Course

Upload a PDF to a Page in a Course

Embed a Video in a Page in a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-embed-a-video-in-a...

Create a Hyperlink in the Rich Content Editor as an Instructor
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-create-a-hyperlink...

Use the Library Course Page

Enable Your Library Course Page
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-enable-your-library-cou...
Add Media

Using Voicethread

Canvas: VoiceThread Overview
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-voicethread-overview
Canvas: VoiceThread for Students
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-students-voicethread
Troubleshoot VoiceThread
https://voicethread.com/howto/category/troubleshooting/

Using Kaltura

Upload Videos to Kaltura My Media
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-upload-videos-kaltura-m...
Use Your Computer's WebCam to Record a Video
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-use-your-computers-webc...
Use Kaltura Capture
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/kaltura-use-kaltura-capture
Add Kaltura Videos to Media Galleries
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-add-kaltura-videos-media

Sharing YouTube Videos

Link to a YouTube Video in the Rich Content Editor as an Instructor
Link to Content in YouTube from Kaltura
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/kaltura-linking-content-in-you...

Build Assignments

Adding Assignments

What are Assignments?
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-Assignments/ta-...
Assignments Overview (video)
Use the Assignments Index Page

Create an assignment

Canvas: Assess and Grade Student Work

This self-help guide walks you through the process of planning, creating, and using methods of assessment and evaluation in Canvas.

Publish or Unpublish an Assignment

Build Quizzes

Adding Quizzes

Understand Classic Quizzes vs. New Quizzes

What are Classic Quizzes?

Use the Classic Quizzes Index Page

Understand Classic Quiz Types

Understand Classic Quiz Options

Canvas: Assess and Grade Student Work

This links to a self-help guide resource on how to grade student work.

Using Proctorio for Exam Security

Learn about Proctorio
Using Respondus Lockdown Browser

Learn about Respondus Lockdown Browser
Install Respondus 4.0 (Quiz Builder)
Respondus for Quiz Building Overview
Publish Questions from Respondus Directly to Canvas
Enable Respondus Lockdown Browser for a Quiz
Canvas for Students: Download and Install Respondus LockDown Browser

Build Discussions

Adding Discussions

What are Discussions?
Create a Discussion as an Instructor
Canvas: Assess and Grade Student Work
This self-help guide walks you through the process of planning, creating, and using methods of assessment and evaluation in Canvas.
Canvas: Communicate with Students  
[https://it.umn.edu/self-help-guide/canvas-communicate-students](https://it.umn.edu/self-help-guide/canvas-communicate-students)

This self-help guide helps you use tools available within Canvas to communicate with your students.

**Create Modules**

**Using Modules**

What Are Modules?  

Modules: Creation and Management (video, 4:12)  

Use the Modules Index Page  

Add a Module  

Move or Reorder a Module  

Add Requirements to a Module  

Add a Prerequisite to a Module  

Edit a Module  

**Working with Module Items**

Add a Text Header as a Module Item  

Add Course Content as Module Items  


Incorporate External Apps

Working with External Apps (LTis)

Status of Canvas Integrations
/services-technologies/learning-tools-canvas
Overview on Using iClicker
/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-overview-using-iclicker
Canvas for Students: Purchase and Register an iClicker Remote
/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-students-purchase-register
Host a Zoom Meeting within Canvas
/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-host-zoom-meeting-within-canvas

Set Up the Student Interface

Use the Syllabus Tool

Using the Syllabus Tool

Use the Syllabus as an Instructor
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Syllabus-a-
Edi[t the Syllabus in a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-edit-the-Syllabus-

Use the Calendar

Working with the Calendar

What is the Calendar?
Working with Scheduler

What is the Scheduler?
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-is-the-Scheduler/ta-
...

Set a Home Page

Selecting a Home Page

Use the Course Home Page
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Course-Hom-
...

Change the Course Home Page
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-change-the-Course-
...

Set a Front Page in a course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-set-a-Front-Page-i-
...

Create a Homepage Using a Design Tools Template
/services-technologies/self-help-guides/design-tools-canvas-create-course
This guide walks through how to create and customize a Canvas course homepage using a Design Tools template.

**Set the Student Navigation Menu**

**Setting the Student Navigation Menu**

What Layout Options Are Available in the Course Home Page as an Instructor?  

Course Home Page Customization (video, 3:25)  

Start at 2:50 into video

Reorder and Hide Course Navigation Links  

Use the Course Navigation Menu as an Instructor  

Use the Global Navigation Menu as an Instructor  

View a Course as a Test Student Using Student View  

View course as a student to check your navigation.

**Customize Your Course**

**Customize Course Settings**

Use Course Settings  

View Favorite Course Cards in the Dashboard  

Add an Image to a Course Card in the Dashboard  
What Are Profile and User Settings?
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-Profile-and-Use...

Edit My Profile in My User Account
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-edit-my-profile-in...

Changes to your user profile apply across all courses.

**Building and Applying Letter Grade Scales**

What Are Grading Schemes?
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-grading-schemes...

Use Grading Schemes in a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-grading-scheme...

Enable a Grading Scheme For a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-enable-a-grading-s...

Add a Grading Scheme in a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-add-a-grading-sche...

Add a Grading Scheme to an Assignment
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-add-a-grading-sche...

**Publish/Unpublish Your Course**

**Check Your Course for Accessibility**

Use UDOIT to Scan Your Course for Accessibility Issues
https://it.umn.edu/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-use-udoit-scan-course

**Publishing a Course**

What Are the Different States of a Canvas Course?
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/What-are-the-different-stat...

Publish a Course
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-publish-a-course/t...
Use the Course Setup Checklist
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Course-Set...

**Viewing a Course as a Student**

View a Course as a Test Student Using Student View
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-view-a-course-as-a...
View your course as a student before making it available to students.

**Organize Content for Groups and Sections**

**Set up Groups**

**Setting up Groups**

What Are Groups?
https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10717-67952724469
Use Groups for Collaboration
/services-technologies/self-help-guides/canvas-use-groups-collaboration
This resource is a self-help guide for setting up and using groups for collaboration.

**Setting up Collaborations**

What Are Collaborations?
Use the Collaborations Index Page
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Collaborat...

**Set up Sections**

**Working with Sections**
Understand Course Sections
/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-understand-course-sections
Manually Create a Section and Add Students
/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-manually-create-section-add
Cross-List (Merge) Course Sites or Sections
/services-technologies/how-tos/canvas-cross-list-merge-course-sites-or
Assign an Assignment to a Course Section
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-assign-an-
assignme...
Change the Name of a Course Section
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-change-the-name-
of...
Delete a Course Section
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-delete-a-course-se...
View Enrollments in a Course Section
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-view-enrollments-i...
Remove an Enrollment from a Course Section
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-remove-an-
enrollme...

Set up the Attendance Tool

Setting up the Attendance Tool

Use the Roll Call Attendance Tool in a Course
Edit a Roll Call Attendance Assignment
https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-edit-the-Roll-Call...