Common Canvas Terminology!

Announcements 📢

Announcements is a communication tool that allows instructors to post announcements for all users in a course. Announcements can be created in courses and groups. Canvas Admins can set Campus wide Announcements.

Cross-Listing

Cross-listing courses is the process of combining different sections into one parent shell. All students will be in one class and you will only have to publish one assignment for all classes.

Course Code

The course code is the 4-6 digit numerical code for your class in Canvas. It is located in the URL and is listed directly after "/courses/####"

Course Navigation

Course Navigation is a blue menu on the left side of each Canvas course. This navigation can be adjusted for each individual course. Items on this navigation can include Modules, People, Pages, and Grades. There is also a Site Navigation.

Site Navigation

Site Navigation is the black bar navigation on the far left side of Canvas. This navigation will remain the same from course to course. Items on this navigation can include Account, Dashboard, Inbox, and Calendar. Also known as Global Navigation.

Dashboard

The dashboard is your Canvas Home page. It will show all of your active courses and groups. You will also find any recent activity, to-do items, and recent feedback on your dashboard.

Files 📁

There are two different files for faculty. My files are those tied to your account. Course files are tied to that course. When you copy a course, course files can be copied over.

Sandbox

A sandbox is similar to a shell, but has no intended term. Sandboxes are for development and can be imported into multiple shells for your class content. Sandboxes are manually created by Canvas Admins, or faculty.

Sections

Sections are the same class divided up into groups with different students and sometimes different faculty. This could be different class periods. Faculty with multiple sections of one class may consider cross-listing (combining) those sections in Canvas.

Shell

A shell is a canvas course. This is where you will build/import course content. If it is not published you can build content without your students seeing it. Shells will be pulled from the school database with instructor and students already assigned. Sandboxes are development shells without student enrollment.

SpeedGrader

The SpeedGrader will be available for all of your assignments. It allows you to view what your students submitted. You can adjust points here then add text, video, or audio feedback