

Instructional Design

Canvas ID Tips for Teachers

Here are some instructional design tips specifically for teachers using the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS):

1. **Use Accessible Design**
 - a. [Refer to Designing for Assistive Devices](#)
 - b. [Accessibility in Course Design](#)
2. **Set clear learning objectives:** Clearly define what students should be able to accomplish after completing a lesson or module. Use the "Learning Mastery Gradebook" feature in Canvas to track student progress.
3. **Organize content:** Use Modules to structure your course materials. Arrange content logically, grouping related resources, readings, assignments, and discussions together. Ensure a consistent and intuitive navigation flow.
4. **Use multimedia:** Engage students by incorporating a variety of multimedia elements such as videos, images, audio clips, and interactive presentations. Canvas supports embedding multimedia directly within pages or linking to external resources.
5. **Create interactive discussions:** Utilize the Discussion feature to facilitate meaningful student interactions. Encourage active participation by



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posting thought-provoking questions, providing clear instructions, and setting expectations for student responses.

6. **Provide timely feedback:** Use SpeedGrader to grade assignments and provide feedback promptly. Constructive feedback motivates students and helps them improve their performance. Use rubrics to establish clear grading criteria.
7. **Design assessments:** Canvas offers various assessment options. Use quizzes, assignments, and graded discussions to assess student understanding. Consider incorporating both formative and summative assessments to gauge learning progress.
8. **Foster collaboration:** Utilize Canvas' collaboration tools such as group discussions, collaborative documents, or peer review assignments. Encourage students to work together, share ideas, and learn from each other.
9. **Personalize learning:** Leverage Canvas' adaptive learning tools to personalize the learning experience. Use MasteryPaths to provide tailored content based on student performance or assign differentiated assignments to meet individual needs.
10. **Use analytics:** Take advantage of Canvas Analytics to gain insights into student engagement and performance. Monitor student progress, identify areas where students may be struggling, and provide additional support as needed.



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11. **Engage with announcements:** Regularly communicate with students through announcements. Use announcements to provide updates, clarify expectations, highlight important resources, or share relevant external content.
12. **Promote self-paced learning:** Use Canvas' modules, prerequisites, and conditional release features to allow students to progress through the course at their own pace. This accommodates diverse learning styles and promotes independent learning.
13. **Incorporate real-world examples:** Relate course content to real-world scenarios to make it more meaningful and practical for students. Use case studies, examples from current events, or relevant industry news to illustrate concepts.

Remember that these tips serve as general guidelines, and it's important to adapt them to your specific teaching context and the needs of your students. Canvas offers a wide range of features and tools, so explore and experiment to find what works best for your instructional goals.

You may also refer to the [CVC Online Course Design Rubric](#) for more information and detailed examples.

