Student Canvas Interface Overview

I. **Canvas Interface** – three main components  
   A. **Dashboard** – is the first thing you see when you log into canvas  
   B. **Global Navigation** – gives direct access to your course  
   C. **Sidebar**

1. **Course Dashboard** – is the first thing you see when you log into Canvas. It provides a high-level overview across all your courses. It has 2 different viewing options  
   a. Click the **course view**  
   b. Click **Recent activity stream**  
   c. **Course Card** – for each favorite courses  
   d. **Each Card** 4 main canvas features – announcements, assignments, discussions, files
Note: These tabs mimic visibility and order in Course Navigation, so for instance, if an instructor hides the Announcements link, the Announcements tab will not be displayed. The total number of activates are indicated on the appropriate tab with a number icon. You can directly access recent activities by clicking the tab.

2. **Course Card Settings** – you can change your course card settings
   a. **Course Nickname**
      - Click on the circle icon
      - Type Nickname – (appear in your navigation menu, course breadcrumbs, and notification emails and only changes the name of the course for the individual user who created the nick name)
      - **Note:** If you want to see the original name you need to hover over the Nickname and the original name will appear
      - To remove – just open the gear again and delete the nick name
   b. **Change Color** - Select Color for course card or Type the HEX code for any color
   c. **Click Apply** to save changes
d. View Recent Stream: Toggle left and right

**Note:** The recent activity stream view contains a stream of recent notifications from all of your courses including announcements, discussion, assignments, and conversations.

- New Or Unread activities are shown by green dot indicator
- Click **Show More** link to view the detail
- Click **Show Less** link to collapse the detail
- Click **X** to remove a notification
3. **Global Navigation** - A static menu on the left side of the page, it gives you direct access to your courses.

   a. **Account** – modify your user settings or profile
      - **Profile** – modify your profile
      - **Settings** – modify your settings
      - **Notification** – specify your notifications preferences (weekly, ASAP, Daily)
      - **Files** – to upload personal files
      - **ePortfolios** – Manage ePortfolios
      - **Logout** – click to logout of the course
      - Click X Click **Account** again– to close the slide-out menu

   b. **Dashboard** – return to dashboard anytime
c. **Courses** – Click courses to access individual courses or view a list of all courses in which you are involved. You can customize courses that display on your dashboard and your courses list by clicking the stars ✰ next to the courses name.

![My Courses](image)

d. **Groups** - to access any groups in which you are enrolled or to view a list of all your groups.
e. **Calendar** – the global calendar shows an aggregated view of all assignments and events from each of your courses
f. **Inbox** – provides all your conversations. You can compose and send new messages to students and other canvas users here, or view any existing conversation.

4. **Click Help** - to access help resources
   - Canvas Guides
   - Canvas Community
   - Canvas Support
5. **Side-bar** – The side-bar includes a To Do List, Coming up feed, recent feedback, and a View Grades Button.
   a. **To Do List** – helps you keep track of assignments that you need to grade
      - Click any assignment link and canvas will direct you to the appropriate page
      - Click X – next to any assignment item to close any assignment
   b. **Coming Up Feed** – lists upcoming assignments and events within your courses
   c. **Recent Feedback** – you will see the latest comments from instructors or peers on previously submitted assignments
   d. **View Grades** – quickly access the grades for any of your courses
NOTE: When viewing Canvas with small screen resolution, any sidebar content aligns with the bottom of the page.
6. **Course Interface**
   
a. **Course Navigation** – provides links to different areas of your course. Your instructors have the ability to customize this menu, so it may vary slightly from course to course. This menu can be collapsed by clicking the **menu** icon.

   ![Course Navigation Menu](image)

   - **Home**
   - **CTL Training 19**
   - **Training Workshops**

b. **Content Area** – The content of the course will be displayed here.

c. **Breadcrumb Navigation** – shows you your current location within a course and allows you to easily return to a previous screen.

d. **Sidebar** – is similar to the Canvas Sidebar. It includes a View Course Stream link to see recent course activity, as well as your To Do list, coming up feed, and Recent Feedback Comments.

   ![Course Interface Diagram](image)