Video 4: Content & Assessments

# Slide Twenty (20)

Now we're going to look at Content and Assessments in Canvas.

# Slide Twenty-One (21)

Pages - These are similar to the Moodle setup of Pages where you can edit that top part of your section and type in whatever you want. Pages are set up similarly to that. They have a Rich Content Editor that allows you to add images and files, record or upload multimedia through the Canvas Studio, which is built in, or embedded external tools.

You also have a Content Selector in the Page. This allows you to directly link to other things inside the class. So, you can do external URLs. But now you can do internal URLs too. A good example of this is having buttons on the front page of your class, and then those buttons hyperlink to the modules within the class. You do that with the Content Selector.

It also has that built in Accessibility Checker we already talked about, and it can work like a collaborative Wiki page for students to edit. So, a great use case of this would be if you're having group projects you could assign, create a Page for each group and assign the group to edit the Page and present their content to their peers. So, you can make it a collaborative Wiki.

# Slide Twenty-Two (22)

Discussions are also known as Forums. They are the exact same thing – it is where we can talk back and forth to our learners. and have a collaborative learning experience. Discussions in Canvas can be graded or ungraded, so graded Discussions obviously would be required. Ungraded discussions might be like a. Q. A. Discussion spot where students can come to ask questions and answer each other's questions.

You can also set learner flexibility, which I discussed earlier, where you can have it set up so that the learner must post before they're able to see what their peers have said. And you can also set it to allow them to edit or delete their posts or not edit or delete their posts. Replies are created within the Rich Content Editors, so learners can submit multimedia and discussion posts. They are easily duplicated for reuse, and with most things in Canvas for assessments, you can actually add a rubric to it for easier scoring or allow for peer review. So, you can have your peers review each other's Discussion posts.

# Slide Twenty-Three (23)

Assignments - they can be graded or ungraded. Learners can submit through the LMS or through a 3rd party application. An example of that would be something like McGraw Hill Connect where they go and do an assignment through the 3rd party app, and then the grade is pushed into Canvas. It is automatically populated to the syllabus, the calendar, and the to do list. So anytime you make a graded assignment, it automatically goes into those spots.

You can accept any type of multimedia for a submission from learners, but you can also dictate the type of submission you'll accept. You can go all the way down to dictating the file type. So, if you want only PDF, you can block them from submitting Word Docs. You can also add a rubric for easy grading and do peer review on assignments.

# Slide Twenty-Four (24)

Also, there are 4 types of quizzes in Canvas. You have graded quizzes, practice quizzes, graded surveys, and ungraded surveys. So, there are a lot of use cases for these practice tests, quizzes. They will be really helpful for letting learners get some practice with the testing environment before they actually take a high-stakes exam in Canvas. These are your question types: multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, fill in multiple blanks, multiple answers, multiple dropdowns, matching numerical answers, formula essay, or even a file upload.

So, there are 2 quizzes in Canvas. Currently, there is Classic Quizzes, which is what they originally rolled out with, and then they have something called New Quizzes, which just recently came out. New Quizzes, I want to point this out to everybody, they have not finished the code yet to connect New Quizzes to the Respondus Lock Down Browser. So, if you will be using the Respondus Lock Down Browser for your learners, make sure you use the Classic Quizzes. The one downside is Classic Quizzes has a few less question types. They are coming up with more question types and building those into New Quizzes. But again, if you're going to use Respondus, make sure you use Classic Quizzes.

# Twenty-Five (25)

SpeedGrader is really handy. It is where you go and grade all of your learner assessments. So, it looks similar to Moodle, in that the student work is on the left, and the grading functions are on the right. It is color-coded. So, when you look in SpeedGrader, you can see that something is graded because it will have a check mark. If it needs grading, it's going to have an orange circle next to it, and if it hadn't been submitted, it will not have anything next to it, so you can easily see by the drop-down list of the learners who is actually turned in their assignments.

It is timestamp. It shows late in red, so that it gets your attention. You can give a variety of feedback within speed greater, you can annotate, which I'll talk about in a minute. But you can give that written feedback, audio, or video feedback. So, you can actually record in Canvas Studio, right inside the submission.

You can use the Mute Assignment function. And so, this means that you can withhold scores until you finish grading everybody. I know I always have the best of intentions when I sit down to grade that I'm going to knock everything out in that assignment set, but sometimes it just does not happen that way. And so, this is a great option to withhold grades until you do get a chance to finish grading everybody.

You can annotate and grade right within a Doc, a PDF or a PowerPoint. So, you can actually drop pinned comments. You can drop text box comments right on there. You can highlight, you can strike through, you can draw on top of it. There are all kinds of annotation features. So now we can leave meaningful feedback right within the assignment. And the app on your phone for SpeedGrader, the Canvas App for Teachers is incredibly useful. So, you can actually grade on a device. Now, you don't have to pull out your computer to grade.

# Slide Twenty-Six (26)

Rubrics work with a variety of assessments that you can build in Canvas. Those include assignments, graded discussions and quizzes. They do not work on ungraded discussions, because obviously they're ungraded. Rubrics do allow for flexibility and scoring so no longer are you stuck with that 1, 2, 3, 4 designations. Maybe they did ¾ of the components of the rubric, but they're missing ¼. You can now give them 2.75 instead of a straight 2 or a straight 3. So, you have that ability to do some flexibility and scoring with the rubric.

As with any rubric, they streamline grading because you set your criteria for scoring. And then when you go through Canvas after you've built the rubric in, you click through the rubric and it automatically assigns the points. And you can create a bank of available rubrics across classes and share them so that you don't have to keep recreating the same rubrics within the LMS.

# Slide Twenty-Seven (27)

Gradebook allows you to easily see and enter grade. So, just like Moodle, you can enter a grade directly into the gradebook and override them. Grades can be viewed in multiple ways. So, points, percentages, complete or incomplete, GPA scale or a letter grade. So, you get to determine which, with each graded item, how you want that grade to display.

You can also “Message Students Who.” This is a wonderful feature to communicate with students based on their assessment scores. So, you can send a message to students who failed an assessment and offer additional remediation specifically to those students based on their scores. You can also import or export grades using a CSV file. I know a lot of people like to keep their grade book in Excel. So, now you can do that and easily import or export those into Canvas.

You can set late policies right within the LMS. So, you can do an automatic deduction. If it's late you can do missing submission grading, you can actually go ahead and assign a grade. If it's missing you determine how, being tardy, impacts their grade and the LMS will do that work for you.