



Introducing a new item to your course

When incorporating new elements into a course, consider the following terms as valuable guidelines:

♥ INVITING

How appealing is the page or learning activity for users to explore and interact with?

🔧 USEFUL

How does it help the learner to get a step further in their learning journey?

⚙️ USABLE

How user-friendly is the learning activity or page for the learner to navigate and successfully complete?

Design Principles



Maintain consistency and familiarity

- ✓ Keep design elements consistent in their appearance and functionality across all platforms and screens.
- ✓ When learners experience consistency, it enhances their ability to navigate a course.
- ✓ This principle also lends a more professional appearance to the brand for learners.



Minimize cognitive load

- ✓ Cognitive load refers to the mental effort required for a user to process a screen or complete a task.
- ✓ When the amount of new information exceeds a learner's processing capacity, their overall performance and experience will suffer. This is known as cognitive overload.



Narrate the learning journey

- ✓ It's easy for learners to get lost in a course (Am I on a page? Inside a module?). By helping students understand where they are in their learning process, they will have a more enjoyable experience going through the course.



Rules of communication/engagement

- ✓ One way to foster greater engagement and participation in an online course is to clearly communicate to learners how they can interact with others enrolled in the course, as well as with course staff (i.e course tutor(s)).
- ✓ This can include information about the frequency and types of communication.



Accessibility

- ✓ An inclusive course ensures that all learners have equal access to learning activities, information and interactions.
- ✓ Canvas complies with many accessibility guidelines. Ensure these accessibility guidelines are also applied to any course content created by you and/or course staff.



Seek (learner) feedback

- ✓ In order to improve the user experience, it is important to seek feedback from learners and others involved in the course. This feedback can help identify areas which the learners are satisfied with and areas where improvement is needed.



Interested?

We can help you get the most out of Canvas, no matter what your goal is. Book a free demo now to see how we can help you and your team in getting the most out of Canvas.

