

CANVAS CONVERGENCE FACT SHEET FOR FACULTY

APRIL 2026



WHAT IS CHANGING ABOUT CANVAS?

The University of Nebraska is moving from four separate instances of Canvas into a new single instance of Canvas used across UNK, UNL, UNMC, UNO & NCTA starting with the Fall 2026 semester. The new instance was first made available to faculty on March 23rd to give ample time to prepare your Fall 2026 courses.

WHY ARE WE MAKING THIS CHANGE?

While faculty and students who regularly use Canvas report very high levels of satisfaction with the system, those who teach and learn on multiple NU campuses currently need to log in and out of different instances, which also requires them to manage multiple Canvas inboxes, calendars, and sets of notifications. This project will pull all NU courses onto a single dashboard for faculty and students across all NU campuses, which streamlines the experience using the system. This project will make piloting of new technologies that are integrated with Canvas more efficient and will also allow for additional options for merging courses when faculty would like to do so.

WHAT ABOUT MY PAST COURSES?

Past courses will remain available in the current campus-specific instances of Canvas, which will run concurrently with the new instance of Canvas. If faculty want to access prior courses including student submissions, they simply log into one of the current instances of Canvas instead of the new instance. Two years of prior courses (Fall 24, Spring/Summer/Fall 25, and Spring/Summer 26) are being copied into the new instance of Canvas on behalf of faculty so that faculty can use these copies to begin to prepare their upcoming courses. If faculty need additional content copied beyond these two years, they can easily move courses/content themselves using Canvas Utilities, or the support team (its-lmsteam@nebraska.edu) can move content for faculty by request.

IF I HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP, HOW WILL I GET SUPPORT?

A live drop-in Zoom room for faculty is available 9-4 M-F. To access, simply log into the new instance of Canvas at canvas.nebraska.edu, click "Help" on the left-hand tray, and choose "Canvas Drop-In Support." This NU ITS team supporting Canvas and integrated tools is available to assist all faculty across all NU campuses and can also be reached anytime at its-lmsteam@nebraska.edu.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NOW?

Bookmark, review, and begin using canvas.nebraska.edu for all logins to current and new instances of Canvas, as well as to access other helpful resources related to Canvas – on-campus workshop dates, trainings, guidelines for use, etc.

WHAT SHOULD I TELL MY STUDENTS?

1. Bookmark canvas.nebraska.edu to login to current and new instances of Canvas.
2. Between now and August, students should update their notifications in the new instance of Canvas under the "Account" tab. Notifications are how students can choose the frequency that they receive notifications about things like new assignments being posted, due dates changing, or grades being updated by their instructors. They can also add additional email addresses in which they would like to receive notifications (primary campus email is default).
3. In August, returning NU students who use the Canvas app will need to make a very simple change so that their app is directed to the new instance of Canvas instead of the current campus-specific Canvas platforms. There will be ample communication this Fall instructing students how to make this update to the Canvas app. Current NU students should wait until August to make this change to their Canvas app so that access to Spring/Summer courses is maintained without interruption.