Canvas – Creating assignments

**What are Assignments?**

Assignments include Quizzes, graded Discussions, and online submissions (i.e. files, images, text, URLs, etc.). Assignments in Canvas can be used to challenge students' understanding and help assess competency by using a variety of media. The Assignments page shows students all of the Assignments that will be expected of them and how many points each is worth.

Assignments can be assigned to everyone in the course or differentiated by section or user. Any assignment created and published in the Assignments page will automatically show up in the Grades, Calendar, and Syllabus features so students can view them. The reverse is also true: any assignments created in the Calendar will automatically show up in the Grades, Assignments, and Syllabus features.

Assignments can also be organized in Modules.

**When would I use Assignments?**

Assignments can be used to:

* Set up online submissions that can be quickly graded in the SpeedGrader
* Grade online as well as student work submitted "on-paper"
* Create differentiated assignments for sections
* Set up peer reviews
* Grade Discussions, either by the whole class or student groups

Read more on creating assignments [here](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-9873-415267003).

Turnitin Assignments

**Note:**To be able to check students work for plagiarism, you have to create an assignment using Turnitin.

Turnitin is integrated in Canvas and facilitates teachers to provide systematic feedback to submitted assignments, including plagiarism detection (originality check). You can enable Turnitin as part of a new Canvas assignment.

**Create a Turnitin assignment**

Watch this [video](https://vimeo.com/155202655) to learn how to use Turnitin in Canvas.

The Canvas interface in this video is slightly different from the interface you are currently working with. In this video you can see that the navigation bar is at the top of your screen (instead of the left) and it has a different color. However, the buttons and functionalities are exactly the same.

Take a look at these Canvas guides to learn more:

* [How do I create a Turnitin assignment? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-1799)
* [How do I manage Turnitin assignments? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-5448)
* [How do I change Turnitin settings for an assignment? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-5480)
* [How do I grade Turnitinassignments in SpeedGrader? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-13087-415264431)

More can be found in the Turnitin guides, which are specific for Canvas:

* [How to use Turnitin in Canvas (Links to an external site.)](https://guides.turnitin.com/03_Integrations/Turnitin_Partner_Integrations/Canvas/Canvas_LTI_Instructor)

**Feedback**

When you have created a Turnitin assignment, there are several ways to provide feedback: the Speedgrader, Quickmarks and Rubrics.

It is possible to use the Canvas Speedgrader to provide feedback. To use the Speedgrader in a Turnitin assignment, go to the Assignment Inbox and click 'Speedgrader' at the top right of the screen. It is recommended to choose one way to provide feedback, and don't use the Speedgrader and the feedback functions of Turnitin both, for the same assignment. Read more in this Canvas quide:

* [How do I grade Turnitin assignments in SpeedGrader? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2860)

**Group assignments**

Turnitin has no built-in support for students working in groups. There are two possible work-arounds:

1. Let one of the students of the group submit the assignment in Turnitin. After receiving the feedback, this student can download the marked version as a PDF and send this to the other group members.
2. Create a Canvas group assignment. In that case, the assignments the students submit are not checked for plagiarism. However, you can hand in the assignments in Turnitin yourself. In the next section ((Re)submit assignments) you can read how to do that.

**(Re)submit assignments**

In some cases, it is necessary for you as a teacher to (re)submit the assignments of the students in Turnitin. This can be the case when a student has emailed you his file and you still want to use Turnitin for the feedback. Or when you have created a Canvas group assignment (because Turnitin does not support working in groups) and you want the submitted assignments to be checked for plagiarism. There are two possibilities to (re)submit the assignments to Turnitin on behalf of the students:

Through a Turnitin Assignment in Canvas: ([Resubmitting on Behalf of a Student (Links to an external site.)](https://guides.turnitin.com/03_Integrations/Learning_Tools_Interoperability_(LTI)/03_LTI_Instructor_User_Manual/Resubmitting_on_Behalf_of_a_Student)):

1. Click the assignment name to open the assignment inbox. In the assignment inbox: click (for one student) the upload icon.
2. Click Confirm if you understand that all marks and comments associated with the submission will be deleted if you opt to resubmit the paper. Alternatively, click Cancel.
3. Choose the way you want to resubmit the assignment:
   1. Paper upload submission
   2. Text input submission
   3. Additional options: cloud submission

**Limitations**

Turnitin in Canvas currently includes a few limitations when creating assignments:

* You cannot use Turnitin with group assignments.
* Turnitin assignments cannot include more than one submission date; differentiated due dates are not supported.
* Turnitin submissions require a minimum of 20 words, a maximum of 400 pages, and a file size maximum of 40 MB.
* You cannot restrict student submission types.
* Students cannot submit multiple file uploads.

**Note:** The Student View of Canvas does not support Turnitin assignments as the Test Student.