How do I use the Course Navigation Menu as an instructor?

The Course Navigation Menu is a series of links on the left side of your course that help you and your students access different course areas. The Course Navigation Menu is visible by default, but you can choose to collapse it.

Depending on the structure of your course, you can choose to reorder and hide course navigation links.

Note: If you have enabled the Canvas Elementary Theme for your course, the Course Navigation Menu displays a different font.

https://embed.app.guidde.com/playbooks/aUR6FjiigTy4scLeKKApJA
Embed this Video

Open Course

View Courses

To open a course from the Global Navigation Menu, click the **Courses** link [1]. Then click a course link [2], or to view all courses, click the **All Courses** link [3].

View Course Navigation Menu

View Course Navigation Menu
View the Course Navigation Menu [1]. The currently active link is highlighted with different color text and a line indicator [2]. This highlight helps you quickly identify the feature area you are currently viewing in Canvas.

Links that are hidden to students are indicated by the **Visibility** icon [3]. A link may be hidden to students because the feature area has no content or because the link is disabled. Learn more about managing course navigation links.

By default, new courses show links leading to the index pages for the following areas:

- Home
- Announcements
- Assignments
- Discussions
- Grades
- People
- Pages
- Files
- Syllabus
- Outcomes
- Quizzes
- Modules
- Conferences
- Collaborations
- Settings
- Lucid (Whiteboard)

Note: Configured external (LTI) tools may create additional Course Navigation links. However, these links do not display the visibility icon. To prevent a link for an LTI tool displaying in the Course Navigation Menu for either you or your students, you can disable Course Navigation links for LTI Tools in course settings.

Open Course Navigation Link

Open Course Navigation Link
To open a feature area in Canvas, click the name of a Course Navigation link.

Collapse Course Navigation Menu

Collapse Course Navigation Menu
To collapse the Course Navigation Menu, click the **Menu** icon.

Expand Course Navigation Menu

Expand Course Navigation Menu
When the Course Navigation menu is collapsed, it is not visible. To expand and view the Course Navigation Menu, click the **Menu** icon.

Note: When you expand or collapse the Course Navigation Menu, the menu is expanded or collapsed in all of your courses.

[Content retrieved from https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-use-the-Course-Navigation-Menu-as-an-instructor/ta-p/941]

Revision #1
Created 2025-05-14 16:32:23 UTC by Brandy Brickey
Updated 2025-05-14 16:34:30 UTC by Brandy Brickey