



Cañada College Canvas Course Design Best Practices

Based on the [OEI Course Design Rubric](#)

The OEI created the Course Design Rubric in order to stream line the quality of courses participating in the Course Exchange and [Cañada's Academic Senate adopted the rubric in 2015](#). Please review the guidelines below in order to build Canvas courses that support students' success.

1

Write unit-level objectives clearly, so that students know what is expected of them. Include unit-level objectives in units and align assessments to course objectives.

2

Chunk units and pages into manageable, consistently structured, and logical segments. Set up course navigation to be intuitive to students and include a tutorial explaining how students should navigate the course.

3

Use a variety of tools and formats to provide students with a variety of ways to learn information at a variety of levels. Include instructions on how students are expected to use different tools.

4

Offer students space in the course to leave anonymous feedback about the course, find institutional polices that relate to them, and find information on how to access support services.

5

Contact students before the semester begins. Provide students with your contact information, the best ways for students to contact you for help, and technology support resources.

6

Provide opportunities for students to initiate interaction with the course and each other. Offer students guidelines around participation levels and design interactions to create a learning community.

7

Offer a variety of assessments, formative and summative, to students that directly assess course outcomes. Include frequent assessments in different formats that mimic authentic environments.

8

Make rubrics and instructions that clearly outline how students can successfully complete activities and meet course outcomes. Offer students a feedback plan and opportunities for self-assessment.