

Canvas Advice

From Kitty, 7/16/2020...

I would also like to share some tips about Canvas that I learned from my.

1. Canvas allows most (if not all) of the external tools, such as Zoom, Panopto, Top Hat, Sapling, Gradescope, etc. to be intergrated in the course site. To make materials in these external apps easily accessible to students, the most straightforward approach is to start from Canvas, and then build the site for the specific app needed for the course. For example, if you schedule your Zoom conferences from Canvas, the meeting links and videos would be found easily by students in the Zoom tab. Videos can also be found in the Panopto video tab on the Canvas site. You can also put the link to videos in "Modules", where course materials are organized for students.

I would single out Top Hat because it takes one additional step. The procedure to set up Top Hat site in Canvas is below:

- A. 1). Log in Top Hat account, in account setting, change "University of Pittsburgh" to "University of Pittsburgh (Canvas)". (the previous setting was for Blackboard)
 - B. 2). Create the course in the Top Hat tab on the Canvas course page. If the Top Hat course is created before changing the setting of "University of Pittsburgh" to "University of Pittsburgh (Canvas)", the Top Hat course can not be linked to Canvas (it would still work on its own). In that case, Top Hat customer support can link the course to Canvas, but the linked Top Hat course would have some funky issues with gradebook based on my experience.
2. If you use Quizzes in Canvas to offer quizzes and exams, and the quiz/exam has questions including images, please tell students ahead of time that they should use either Firefox or Chrome but NOT Safari. Safari has a new upgrade that is blocking images within Canvas. If Safari is the only browser choice, students need to disable the prevent cross site tracking. [Here \(https://support.apple.com/guide/safari/prevent-cross-site-tracking-sfri40732/mac\)](https://support.apple.com/guide/safari/prevent-cross-site-tracking-sfri40732/mac) is a guide on how.
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