Instructure.

Build Your Canvas Course Now

No Migration Required

- You do not need to wait for a Blackboard course migration to begin working in Canvas.
- Many instructors choose to start fresh in Canvas using materials they already have - and decide later whether to import migrated content.

Is Building from Scratch Right for You?

Building in Canvas now may be a good option if:
- You already have materials such as:
  - PowerPoint slides
  - Word or PDF documents
  - Recorded lectures
  - Links to external resources
- Your Blackboard content is limited, outdated, or optional
- You prefer a clean, simple course structure
- You want to start preparing now instead of waiting

Important: Starting now does not prevent you from importing migrated content later. Nothing is permanent or locked in.

Why Many Instructors Choose This Approach

- Most teaching materials are LMS-agnostic and upload easily to Canvas
- Canvas courses are available regardless of migration status
- Building from scratch often results in:
  - Clearer organization

- Less cleanup than migrated content
- A course that reflects how you teach today

Using migrated content is a supported option, not a requirement.

Getting started now DOES NOT mean:	Getting started now DOES mean:
• Building the entire course at once • Perfecting design or layout • Finalizing every assignment	• Creating a basic structure students can follow • Adding materials you already have • Publishing content as it becomes ready

Note: Many instructors begin by building 2-3 weeks of content, which supports student success while allowing flexibility to continue building during the term.

A Simple Way to Start

1. Open your Canvas course
2. Personalize your Homepage
    - A blank Homepage is already in your course for you
    - Use the editor to add your own text, images, or welcome message
3. Add your Syllabus or Course Information
    - Use the Syllabus tab or
    - Create a "Course Information" module at the top of the Modules page
4. Upload existing materials in your Files tab
    - Slides, documents, recordings, links, or textbook resources
5. Create Modules (by week or topic)
    - Organize content by weeks, units, chapters, or themes
    - Think of Modules as your "buckets of content" - all content that students need should be added to a module
6. Publish only what students need now

- You control visibility
- Future content can remain unpublished

You control visibility - future content can remain unpublished.

What About Migration Later?

If you choose to use migrated content later, you can:
- Import only what you want
- Ignore what you don't need
- Combine migrated content with what you've already built

Starting now will not interfere with future migration.

Resources & Support

- **[Miami Faculty Training Information](#)**
- **[Canvas Guides](#)**
- **[Canvas Office Hours](#)**
- **Canvas Help Button -** available inside any Canvas Course with access to 24/7 support, all the Canvas Guides, and the OnDemand Training Portal Webinars