

## Working in Canvas Groups

Canvas provides a method that your instructor may use to create groups of students to foster collaborative learning activities. If your instructor creates Canvas Groups, your first encounter with them may benefit from this brief orientation.

When your instructor creates groups, you will know you are in one by looking to the Canvas Sidebar (on the right side of the Home Page). The student in this example (“George Washington”) is a member of “Project Group 2” magnified in the figure below.

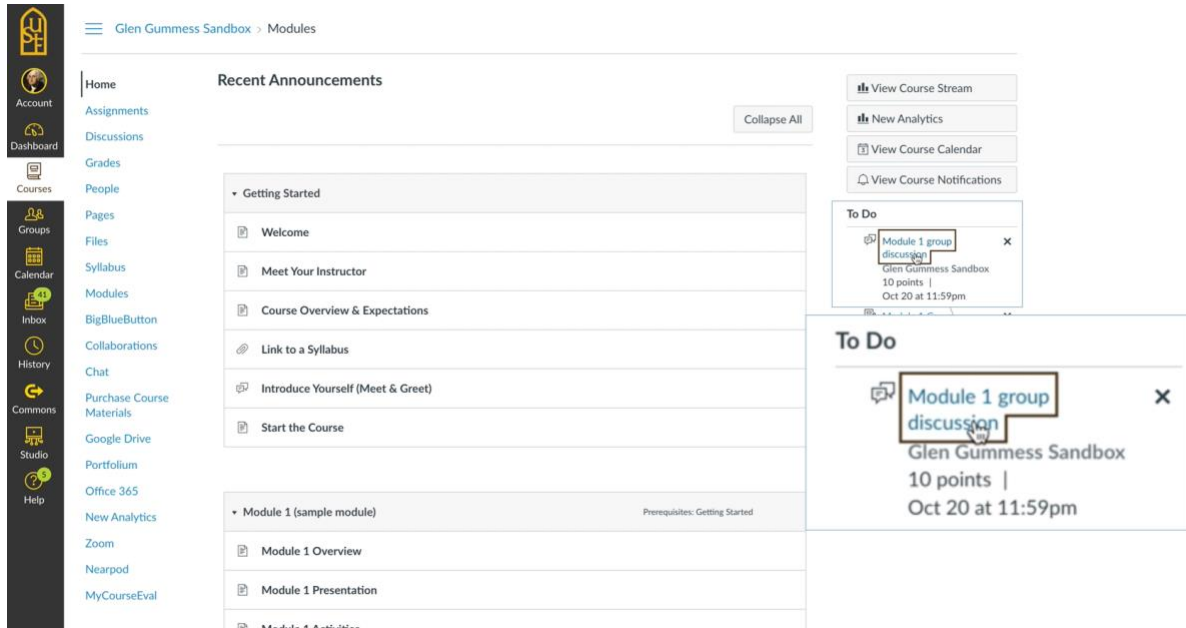
The screenshot displays the Canvas interface for a course named "Glen Gummess Sandbox". The left sidebar contains navigation icons for Account, Dashboard, Courses, Groups, Calendar, Inbox, History, Commons, Studio, and Help. The main content area is titled "Recent Announcements" and shows two sections: "Getting Started" and "Module 1 (sample module)". The "Getting Started" section includes announcements for "Welcome", "Meet Your Instructor", "Course Overview & Expectations", "Link to a Syllabus", "Introduce Yourself (Meet & Greet)", and "Start the Course". The "Module 1 (sample module)" section includes announcements for "Module 1 Overview", "Module 1 Presentation", "Module 1 Activities", and "Module 1 Discussion". On the right side, there are buttons for "View Course Stream", "New Analytics", "View Course Calendar", and "View Course Notifications". Below these are "To Do" items and "Course Groups" with "Project Group 2" highlighted. A callout box points to "Project Group 2" in the "Course Groups" section.

The initial view of the Project Group 2 “home page” shows that it has a menu (on the left) with areas that are similar to those of the course home page.

The screenshot displays the Canvas interface for a Project Group named "Project Group 2". The left sidebar contains navigation icons for Account, Dashboard, Courses, Groups, and Calendar. The main content area is titled "Recent Activity in Project Group 2" and shows a message box stating "No Recent Messages" and a "Coming Up" section with a "View Calendar" button.

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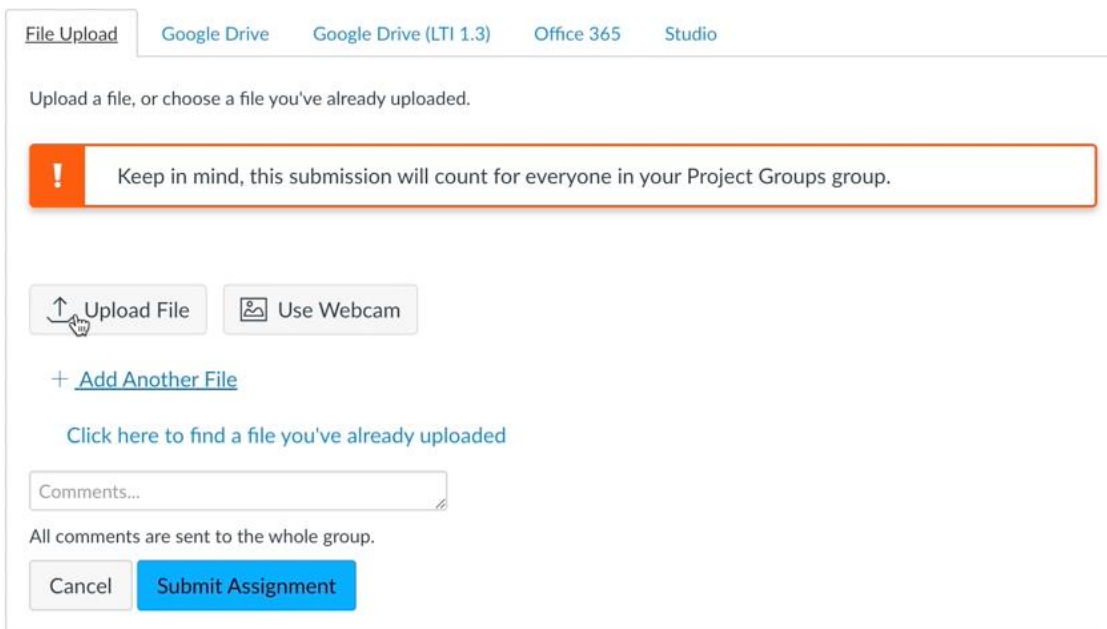
The instructor can assign work to the groups, including graded discussions and assignments. The student sees any new assignments either in the course module or under To Do in the sidebar (or both). A discussion is magnified in the figure below.



The screenshot displays the Canvas LMS interface for a course titled "Glen Gummess Sandbox". The left sidebar contains navigation options such as Home, Assignments, Discussions, Grades, People, Pages, Files, Syllabus, Modules, BigBlueButton, Collaborations, Chat, Purchase Course Materials, Google Drive, Portfolio, Office 365, New Analytics, Zoom, Nearpod, and MyCourseEval. The main content area shows "Recent Announcements" under the "Getting Started" module, listing items like "Welcome", "Meet Your Instructor", "Course Overview & Expectations", "Link to a Syllabus", "Introduce Yourself (Meet & Greet)", and "Start the Course". Below this, the "Module 1 (sample module)" is shown with prerequisites and sub-items like "Module 1 Overview" and "Module 1 Presentation". On the right, a "To Do" notification is magnified, showing a "Module 1 group discussion" for "Glen Gummess Sandbox" worth "10 points" and due on "Oct 20 at 11:59pm".

If it is an assignment, one student submits a paper for the whole group, as indicated in the assignment submission action shown below.

Please submit your group's submission in the form of a 3-4 page Word document including brackets and any relevant illustrations. Each paper will receive a group grade; the grade assigned to the paper will be assigned to each member of the group.



The screenshot shows the "File Upload" interface for submitting an assignment. At the top, there are tabs for "File Upload", "Google Drive", "Google Drive (LTI 1.3)", "Office 365", and "Studio". Below the tabs, the instruction reads: "Upload a file, or choose a file you've already uploaded." A prominent orange warning box contains the text: "Keep in mind, this submission will count for everyone in your Project Groups group." Below the warning, there are two buttons: "Upload File" (with an upward arrow icon) and "Use Webcam" (with a camera icon). A link "+ Add Another File" is also present. Below the links, there is a text input field labeled "Comments...". A note states: "All comments are sent to the whole group." At the bottom, there are two buttons: "Cancel" and "Submit Assignment".

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The grade received will count for each student in the group, and is indicated under “Recent Feedback” in the Sidebar on the Home Page of the course. The view is magnified in the figure below.

The image shows a screenshot of the Canvas LMS interface. On the right side, there is a sidebar with several navigation buttons: 'View Course Stream', 'New Analytics', 'View Course Calendar', and 'View Course Notifications'. Below these is a 'To Do' section with the text 'Nothing for now'. Underneath is the 'Course Groups' section, which includes a link for 'Project Group 2'. A 'Recent Feedback' section is highlighted with a blue box. It lists two items: 'Module 1 Group Assignment' and 'Module 1 group discussion', both with green checkmarks. The first item shows a grade of 'A' and a comment: 'Thorough and comprehensive, well done.' The second item shows a grade of '10 out of 10'. A magnified view of this 'Recent Feedback' section is shown in a larger blue-bordered box on the right, providing a clearer view of the text and formatting.

**Recent Feedback**

- ✓ **Module 1 Group Assignment**  
Glen Gummess Sandbox  
A  
"Thorough and comprehensive, well done."
- ✓ **Module 1 group discussion**  
Glen Gummess Sand  
10 out of 10

**Recent Feedback**

- ✓ **Module 1 Group Assignment**  
Glen Gummess Sandbox  
A  
"Thorough and comprehensive, well done."
- ✓ **Module 1 group discussion**  
Glen Gummess Sandbox  
10 out of 10

October, 2022, by Glen Gummess, Ed.D.