

This document is for **course role permissions**; to view account role permissions, please visit the [account permissions PDF](#).

This document is designed to help Canvas admins know how permissions affect student, TA, teacher, course designer, and observer users' access to Canvas features in the Canvas User Interface. Using the information in this document, you may be able to troubleshoot permissions-related questions from your users or create custom roles for your account.

Permissions are listed below alphabetically, matching the order in the Canvas UI. Each permission includes the following information:

- The default status (enabled/disabled) for default user roles in Canvas
 - A non-editable status is indicated by an **asterisk***.
- A table indicating the main effect(s) of the permission, listed specifically in reference to Canvas features
- An additional considerations table, if applicable
 - This includes information about cross-functionality with other permissions and course and/or account settings that may impact the permission

Things to keep in mind when working with permissions:

- You cannot change a permission that has a transparent check mark or X without a button. These are permissions that are locked by default and cannot be modified by anyone.
- When you change a permission, it can sometimes take 30 minutes or longer for that permission to take effect. If the expected changes do not appear immediately, try again after some time has passed.
- Enabling a permission doesn't take effect as quickly as disabling a permission.
- Admins who are given student roles in a course may still be able to view admin features. To avoid permission conflicts, admins should create a separate account.

The following permissions never apply to subaccounts:

- Become other users (Account)
- Import SIS data
- View notifications (Admin Tools)

Important: This is a working document and is subject to change. Updates are posted to the Canvas Permissions document in the Canvas Community Admins group. If you find something that does not make sense or does not work as intended, please contact our Canvas support team.

Add, edit and delete events on the course calendar

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗	✓	✓	✓	✗ *

Features	What it Does
Calendar	Allows user to add, edit, and delete events in the course calendar.
Scheduler	Allows user to create and manage appointments on the calendar using Scheduler.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Scheduler	Scheduler must be enabled by your Canvas admin.

Add/remove other teachers, course designers or TAs to the course

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✗	✓	✗	✗ *

Feature	What it Does
People	<p>Allows user to add/remove other teachers, course designers, or TAs to the course.</p> <p>Allows user to add/remove observers to the course.</p> <p>Allows user to view login ID information for teachers, designers, and TAs.</p> <p>Allows user to view settings menu for teachers, course designers, TAs, and observers.</p> <p>Allows user to view user details for teachers, course designers, and TAs in the course.</p> <p>Allows user to limit students to only view fellow section members.</p>

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
People	<p>To access the People page, See the list of users must be enabled.</p> <p>To view SIS IDs, Read SIS Data must be enabled.</p>

	<p>To edit a teacher or TA's section, See the list of users and Send messages to individual course members must also be enabled.</p> <p>To link an observer to a student, Send messages to individual course members must also be enabled.</p>
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Add/remove students for the course

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
x *	✓	✓	✓	x *

Feature	What it Does
People	<p>Allows user to add/remove students to the course.</p> <p>Allows user to add/remove observers to the course.</p> <p>Allows user to view login ID information for students.</p> <p>Allows user to view prior enrollments.</p> <p>Allows user to access a user's settings menu and user details.</p> <p>Allows user to conclude or delete enrollments on a student's details page.</p> <p>Allows user to resend course invitations.</p>

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
People	<p>To access the People page, See the list of users must be enabled.</p> <p>If the Open Registration account setting is enabled, users with this permission can add students to a course via email address if the user does not already have a Canvas account.</p> <p>To view SIS IDs, Read SIS Data must be enabled.</p> <p>To edit a student's section, See the list of users and Send messages to individual course members must also be enabled.</p> <p>To link an observer to a student, Send messages to individual course members must also be enabled.</p>

Change course state

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✗	✓	✓	✗ *

Feature	What it Does
Course	Allows user to publish, conclude, and delete courses.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Course Settings	Affects viewing the Publish Course, Conclude Course, and Permanently Delete this Course buttons. The Permanently Delete this Course button only appears for manually created courses.
Course Setup Checklist, Course Homepage	Determines whether a Publish Course option is included in the Course Setup Checklist and in the Course Home Page.

Create and edit assessing rubrics

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗ *

Feature	What it Does
Rubrics	Allows user to create, edit and delete course rubrics in the Rubrics link.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Assignments	If this permission is disabled, users can still create or add rubrics to assignments if Manage (add / edit / delete) assignments and quizzes is enabled.

Create student collaborations

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Collaborations	Allows user to create collaborations. Allows user to view/edit/delete collaborations they created.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Collaborations	<p>To allow view/edit/delete functionality of collaborations created by other users, Manage all other course content must also be enabled.</p> <p>If Manage all other course content is enabled and Create student collaborations is disabled, user will not be able to create new collaborations but will be able to view/edit/delete all collaborations.</p> <p>To add students to a collaboration, See the list of users must also be enabled. To add a course group to a collaboration, Manage (create/ edit / delete) groups must also be enabled.</p>

Create web conferences

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Conferences	Allows user to create new conferences. Allows user to start conferences they created.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Conferences	<p>To allow full management of conferences created by the user or others, Manage all other course content must also be enabled.</p> <p>To end a long-running conference, Manage all other course content must be enabled.</p> <p>If Manage all other course content is enabled and Create web conferences is disabled, user can still manage conferences.</p> <p>This permission controls a user's ability to create conferences in courses and groups.</p>

Edit grades
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
x *	✓	✓	x *	x

Features Affected	What it Does
Gradebook	Allows user to edit grades in the Gradebook. Allows user to access Gradebook History.
Quizzes	Allows user to moderate a quiz.
Settings	Allows user to edit grading schemes.
SpeedGrader	Allows user to edit grades and add comments in SpeedGrader.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Gradebook, SpeedGrader	Gradebook and SpeedGrader will be inaccessible if both Edit grades and View all grades are disabled.
Quizzes	To moderate a quiz, Manage (add / edit / delete) assignments and quizzes must also be enabled.
Settings	Course Grading Schemes can be enabled/disabled in course settings.

LTI add and edit

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗ *

Features Affected	What it Does
Course Settings	Allows user to manually add and delete an app in Course Settings.
External Apps	Allows user to edit configurations for manually added external apps.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
External Apps (Course Settings)	If this permission is disabled, users can still install approved apps through the Canvas App Center (if enabled for your institution). Additionally, if this permission is disabled, users cannot delete manually added external apps.

Manage (add / edit / delete) assignments and quizzes

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Assignments	Allows user to add, edit, delete, and publish/unpublish assignments. Allows user to manage assignment settings. Allows user to add assignment groups in a course. Allows user to enable and edit assignment group weighting in a course.
Blueprint Courses	Allows user to edit blueprint lock settings on the Assignments and Quizzes index pages in a Blueprint Master Course.
Commons	Allows user to share a quiz to Commons.
Discussions	Allows user to edit assignment details on individual discussions.
Modules	Allows user to add new assignments to a module.

Quizzes	Allows user to add, edit, delete, and publish/unpublish quizzes.
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Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Assignments	To differentiate assignments to individual students, See the list of users must also be enabled.
Blueprint Courses	<p>Blueprint courses must be enabled for an account by an admin.</p> <p>Course roles can only manage content in Blueprint Courses if they are added to the Blueprint Course as a teacher, TA, or designer role.</p> <p>If this permission is disabled, a user can still adjust content lock settings on individual assignments or quizzes in a Blueprint Master Course</p>
Grades	To manage moderated grading, the Moderate Grades permission must also be enabled.
Quizzes	To moderate a quiz, Edit grades must also be enabled.
Rubrics	Disabling this permission will override (if enabled) the Create and edit assessing rubrics permission, preventing the user from creating or editing rubrics from an individual assignment. However, if Manage learning outcomes is enabled, user can still add rubrics via Outcomes - Manage Rubrics.

Manage (add / edit / delete) course files
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Blueprint Courses	Allows user to edit blueprint lock settings on the Files page in a Blueprint Master Course.
Files	<p>Allows user to add, edit, and delete course files and folders.</p> <p>Allows user to download files into a zip file, import a zip file, and lock/unlock files.</p>
Rich Content Editor	Allows user to access the Files tab in the Content Selector

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Blueprint Courses	Blueprint courses must be enabled for an account by an admin. Course roles can only manage content in Blueprint Courses if they are added to the Blueprint Course as a teacher, TA, or designer role.
Files	If disabled, user can still view and download files into a zip file.
Settings	To import files using the Course Import Tool, Manage all other course content must also be enabled.

Manage (add / edit / delete) pages
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Blueprint Courses	Allows user to edit blueprint lock settings on the Pages index page in a Blueprint Master Course.
Pages	Allows user to view, create, edit, delete, and publish/unpublish pages. Allows user to view page history and set front page.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Blueprint Courses	Blueprint courses must be enabled for an account by an admin. Course roles can only manage content in Blueprint Courses if they are added to the Blueprint Course as a teacher, TA, or designer role. If this permission is disabled, a user can still adjust content lock settings on individual pages in a Blueprint Master Course.
Pages	Students can edit and view page history if allowed in the individual page options.

Manage (create / edit / delete) course sections

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✗	✓	✓	✗ *

Features Affected	What it Does
Course Settings (Sections tab)	Allows user to add, edit, and delete course sections. Allows user to cross-list sections.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Course Settings (Sections tab)	The user must also be enrolled as an instructor in the courses they are trying to cross-list.

Manage (create / edit / delete) groups

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗ *

Features Affected	What it Does
People (Groups tab)	Allows user to create, edit, and delete course groups. Allows user to create, edit, and delete course groups created by students.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Collaborations	Allows user to view all course groups, not just those they are enrolled in, in the Collaborate With window.
Groups	If this permission is disabled, users can only view existing groups, including groups created by students.
People	To access the People page and view Groups, See the list of users must also

	be enabled.
Course Settings (Course Details tab)	To restrict students from creating groups, deselect the <i>Let students organize their own groups</i> checkbox in Course Settings.

Manage alerts

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✗	✓	✗ *	✗ *

Features Affected	What it Does
Settings	Allows user to configure alerts in Course Settings. Alerts are a seldom-used feature designed to send an alert to students, teachers, or admins for specific triggers (e.g., no student/teacher interaction for 7 days). They are checked every day, and notifications will be sent to the student and/or the teacher until the triggering problem is resolved.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Account Settings	This is an account setting that must be turned on by your Customer Success Manager.

Manage all other course content

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Attendance	Allows teacher/TA-based roles to access the Attendance tool.
Chat	Allows teacher/designer/TA-based roles to access the Chat tool.
Collaborations	Allows user to view previously created collaborations. Allows user to edit title, description, or remove collaborators on all collaborations.

Commons	Allows user to import resources from Commons into a course. Allows user to share assignments to Commons or edit previously shared content.
Conferences	Allows users to edit Conferences.
Course	Allows user to view Course Status, Choose Home Page, and Course Setup Checklist buttons in the Home page.
Course Settings	Allows user to import content using the Course Import Tool.
Modules	Allows user to manage modules (create, add items, edit module settings, publish/unpublish, etc.).
Syllabus	Allows user to edit the course syllabus.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Attendance	The Attendance tool must be enabled by your Canvas admin.
Chat	The Chat tool must be enabled by your Canvas admin.
Commons	To share a Discussion to Commons, View discussions must also be enabled.
Course Settings	The Course Status buttons (unpublished and published) are only displayed until a student submission is received. Courses cannot be unpublished with student submissions.
Modules	Module items cannot be unpublished if there are student submissions.

Manage learning outcomes

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗	✗	✓	✓	✗ *

Features Affected	What it Does
Outcomes	Allows user to create, import, edit, and delete outcomes and outcome groups at the course level.
Rubrics	Allows user to manage rubrics.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Rubrics	If disabled, the Outcomes page becomes read-only and hides the Manage Rubrics button. User can still access individual assignment rubrics through Assignments.

Moderate Grades
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
x *	x	✓	x *	x *

Features Affected	What it Does
Assignments	Allows user to view the Moderate button for moderated assignments.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Assignments	<p>To allow a user to add students to a moderation set, View all grades must also be enabled.</p> <p>To allow a user to add students to a moderation set, review a moderated assignment in SpeedGrader, and publish final grades for a moderated assignment, Edit grades must also be enabled.</p>

Moderate discussions (delete / edit other's posts, lock topics)
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
x	✓	✓	✓	x

Features Affected	What it Does
Announcements	Allows user to view the New Announcement button in the Home page. Allows user to add announcements in the Announcements page.

Blueprint Courses	Allows user to edit blueprint lock settings on the Discussions index page in a Blueprint Master Course.
Discussions	Allows user to add discussions in the Discussions page. Allows user to close for comments, move, pin/unpin, edit, and delete discussion topics created by other users.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Announcements	To view announcements, View announcements must also be enabled.
Blueprint Courses	Blueprint courses must be enabled for an account by an admin. Course roles can only manage content in Blueprint Courses if they are added to the Blueprint Course as an teacher, TA, or designer role. If this setting is disabled, and View discussions is enabled, a user can still adjust content lock settings on individual discussions in a Blueprint Master Course
Discussions	To view discussions in a course, View discussions must be enabled. To reply to a discussion, Post to discussions must also be enabled. To edit assignment details on a discussion, Manage (add / edit / delete) assignments and quizzes must also be enabled.

Post to discussions
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Discussions	Allows user to reply to a discussion post.

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Discussions	To view discussions in a course, View Discussions must also be enabled. To manage discussions, Moderate discussions (delete / edit other's posts, lock topics) must be enabled.

Read SIS data

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗	✗	✓	✗*	✗*

Features Affected	What it Does
Course Settings	Allows user to view course SIS ID
People	Allows user to view user SIS IDs

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
People	<p>To view the list of users in the course, See the list of users must also be enabled.</p> <p>To add users via SIS ID, Add/remove students for the course and/or Add/remove other teachers, course designers, or TAs to the course must also be enabled.</p>

See the list of users

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Assignments	Allows user to differentiate assignments to individual students
Collaborations	Allows user to view and add users in a collaboration
Course Navigation	Allows user to view the People link in Course Navigation
Groups	Allows user to view groups in a course
People	<p>Allows user to view the list of users in the People page</p> <p>Allows user to view the Prior Enrollments button in the People page</p>

Settings	Allows user to view enrollments on the Sections tab
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Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Conversations	To send a message to an individual user, Send message to individual course members must also be enabled.
Groups	To add, edit, or delete groups, Manage (create / edit / delete) groups must also be enabled.
People	<p>To add users to a course, Add/remove students for the course and/or Add/remove other teachers, course designers, or TAs to the course must also be enabled.</p> <p>To edit a student's section, Send messages to individual course members and Add/remove students for the course must also both be enabled.</p> <p>To edit a teacher, course designer, or TA's section, Send messages to individual course members and Add/remove other teachers, course designers, or TAs to the course must also both be enabled.</p>

Send messages to individual course members
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Conversations	Allows user to send messages to individual course members

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Conversations	When disabled, students can still send individual messages to course teachers, course TAs, and students that belong to the same account-level groups.
People	<p>To edit a student's section, Add/remove students for the course and See the list of users must also both be enabled.</p> <p>To edit a teacher, course designer, or TA's section, Add/remove other teachers, course designers or TAs to the course and See the list of users must also both be enabled.</p>

Send messages to the entire class

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Conversations	Allows user to send a message to “All in [course name],” or “All in [course group].”

View all grades

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗*	✓	✓	✗	✗*

Features Affected	What it Does
Analytics	Allows user to view student-specific data in Analytics
Assignments, SpeedGrader	Allows user to access SpeedGrader from an assignment
Gradebook	Allows user to view the Gradebook Allows user to export the Gradebook to a comma separated values (CSV) file
Grades	Allows user to view student Grades pages
Modules	Allows user to access the Student Progress page
People	Adds Analytics link on the user settings menu
Quizzes	Allows user to view student results and/or access a quiz in SpeedGrader
SpeedGrader	Allows user to view grader comments on a rubric in SpeedGrader
Student Context Card	Adds analytics to a student’s context card

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
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Analytics	To view student analytics, View analytics pages must also be enabled.
Gradebook	If both Edit Grades and View all grades are disabled, Gradebook will be hidden from the course navigation.
Modules	To view module progression, View all grades must be enabled.
Student Context Card	Student Context Cards must be enabled by an admin.

View all students' submissions and make comments on them

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗	✓	✓	✓	✗ *

Features Affected	What it Does
Assignments	Allows user to view all student assignment submissions

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Assignments	To access assignment submissions through Assignments or the Gradebook and view in SpeedGrader, View all grades or Edit grades must also be enabled.
Gradebook, SpeedGrader	To edit a grade or add comments in SpeedGrader or Gradebook, Edit grades must be enabled.

View analytics pages

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗	✓	✓	✗ *	✗ *

Features Affected	What it Does
Analytics	Allows user to view course and student analytics from the Course Home Page or People page

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Analytics	To view student analytics in course analytics, View all grades must also be enabled.
Account Settings	The analytics feature must be enabled in Account Settings to view analytics pages. To see the Analytics link in the user sidebar from the People page, Profiles must be disabled in your account.
People	To view student analytics, See the list of users and View all grades must also be enabled.

View and link to question banks
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗

Features Affected	What it Does
Question Banks	Allows user to view and link questions in a quiz to account-level question banks. If disabled, user will only be able to view and link to course question banks Enables the Manage Question Banks link on the Quizzes Index Page

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Question Banks	This permission does not affect ability to manage course level question banks in Quizzes. Instead, Manage Question Banks is dependent on the Manage (add / edit / delete) assignments and quizzes permission. For full management of course question banks, this permission and Manage (add / edit / delete) assignments and quizzes must both be enabled.

View announcements

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Features Affected	What it Does
Announcements	Allows user to access the Announcements link in Course Navigation Allows user to view course announcements Allows user to view recent announcements on the home page

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Announcements	To add announcements, Moderate discussions must also be enabled. To view recent announcements on the home page, the <i>Show recent announcements on Course home page</i> checkbox must be selected in Course Settings.

View discussions

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Features Affected	What it Does
Blueprint Courses	Allows user to edit blueprint lock settings on individual discussions in a Blueprint Master Course.
Discussions	Allows user to view the Discussions link in Course Navigation Allows user to view course discussions

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Blueprint Courses	<p>Blueprint Courses must be enabled for an account by an admin.</p> <p>Course roles can only manage content in Blueprint Courses if they are added to the Blueprint Course as an teacher, TA, or designer role.</p> <p>To edit blueprint lock settings from the Discussions index page, Moderate discussions (delete / edit other's posts, lock topics) must also be enabled.</p>
Commons	To share a discussion to Commons, Manage all other course content must also be enabled.
Discussions	<p>To manage discussions, Moderate discussions (delete / edit other's posts, lock topics) must also be enabled.</p> <p>To reply to a discussion, Post to discussions must also be enabled.</p>

View the group pages of all student groups
Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
x	✓	✓	✓	x

Features Affected	What it Does
Groups	<p>Allows user to view the group home pages of all student groups</p> <p>Allows students to access other student groups within a group set with a direct link</p>

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
Groups	By default students are able to create groups; to restrict students from creating groups, deselect the <i>Let students organize their own groups</i> checkbox in course settings.

View usage reports for the course

Default Role Status

Student	TA	Teacher	Designer	Observer
✗ *	✓	✓	✓	✗ *

Features Affected	What it Does
Course Settings	Allows user to view the Course Statistics button in Course Settings
People	Allows user to view Last Activity and Total Activity information on the People page
Reports	Allows user to view Last Activity, Total Activity, and Student Interactions reports

Additional Considerations

Feature	Related Information
People	To access the People page, See the list of users must be enabled.