

Assignment Discord Bot - User Manual

Version 1.0

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Getting Started
3. Bot Permissions
4. Core Features
5. Commands
6. Weekly Summary
7. Reminders
8. Data & Sync
9. Settings
10. Troubleshooting
11. Support & Feedback

Introduction

Welcome to the **Assignment Discord Bot**! This bot helps classes and study groups stay on top of assignments by syncing from Canvas, posting a weekly summary, and sending gentle reminders for work sessions and due dates.

Key Features

- ✓ **Canvas Sync** – Pulls courses and assignments from Canvas
- ✓ **Weekly Summary** – Posts a Monday overview of upcoming items
- ✓ **Work Session Reminders** – Nudges you when planned study times start
- ✓ **Due Date Alerts** – Reminds you ahead of assignment deadlines
- ✓ **Completion Flow** – Mark items complete to stop reminders
- ✓ **Timezone-Aware** – Stores in UTC, presents in your timezone

Getting Started

Prerequisites

- A Discord server with permissions to add bots
- A Canvas account and API token
- Python 3.9+ on your host machine

Setup

1. Create a `.env` file based on `.env.example` and set:
 - `BOT_TOKEN` , `CHANNEL_ID` , `CANVAS_TOKEN` , `CANVAS_BASE_URL` , `TIMEZONE`
2. Install dependencies:

```
pip install -r requirements.txt
```

3. Run the bot:

Bot Permissions

- Recommended Discord permissions for the bot role:
 - Read Messages / View Channels
 - Send Messages
 - Embed Links
 - Add Reactions (optional)
 - Manage Messages (optional, for tidy-ups)

Ensure the target `CHANNEL_ID` is visible to the bot.

Core Features

- **Canvas Integration:** Fetches courses and assignments via the Canvas API.
- **Weekly Overview:** Summarizes upcoming assignments every Monday.
- **Interactive Planning:** Users can set preferred study day/time.
- **Smart Reminders:** Sends pings for planned sessions and upcoming due dates.
- **Completion Tracking:** Mark assignments complete to stop future reminders.

Commands

Below are common commands (exact names may vary by server setup):

- `sync` : Fetch the latest assignments from Canvas and update the database.
- `thisweek` : Show this week's assignments (summary in-channel).
- `plans` : Start an interactive flow to set your weekly study day/time.
- `complete <assignment_id>` : Mark an assignment as complete.
- `reschedule` : Update your planned day/time for work sessions.

Tip: Use `thisweek` after `sync` to confirm the latest items.

Weekly Summary

- The bot posts a summary every Monday to the configured channel.
- It groups assignments by course and highlights due dates.
- Timezones are respected for display; data is stored in UTC.

Reminders

- **Work Session Reminders:**
 - Triggered at your planned day/time.
 - Sent once per session to avoid spam.
- **Due Date Alerts:**
 - Sent ahead of assignment deadlines based on configured lead times.
 - Suppressed once the assignment is marked complete.

You can adjust your schedule via `plans` or `reschedule` .

Data & Sync

- **Canvas Sync:**
 - Uses `canvas_api` module and pagination for large result sets.
 - Handles transient API errors gracefully.
- **Database:**
 - SQLite with async access; schema and migrations managed automatically.
 - Stores assignments, user plans, and reminder flags.
- **Timezone Handling:**
 - Datetimes stored in UTC; presented in `TIMEZONE` from environment.

Settings

Key environment variables (see `.env.example`):

- `BOT_TOKEN` : Discord bot token
- `CHANNEL_ID` : Channel ID for posts and reminders
- `CANVAS_TOKEN` : Canvas API token (Bearer)
- `CANVAS_BASE_URL` : Canvas base URL (e.g., `https://canvas.instructure.com`)
- `DB_PATH` : Optional custom SQLite path
- `TIMEZONE` : IANA timezone (e.g., `America/New_York`)
- `WEEKLY_NOTIFICATION_HOUR` / `WEEKLY_NOTIFICATION_MINUTE` : Post time on Mondays

Troubleshooting

- **No messages appear:**
 - Confirm `BOT_TOKEN`, bot permissions, and `CHANNEL_ID`.
- **Canvas sync fails:**
 - Verify `CANVAS_TOKEN` and `CANVAS_BASE_URL`; check network connectivity.
- **Wrong times shown:**
 - Ensure `TIMEZONE` is set correctly; restart the bot after changes.
- **Duplicate reminders:**
 - Mark items complete; if issues persist, run `sync` and check DB state.

Support & Feedback

For help or suggestions:

- Open an issue in the repository
- Share feedback in the bot's Discord channel
- Provide assignment IDs and context when reporting reminder issues

Thanks for using the Assignment Discord Bot! Stay organized and on track.