Google Classroom vs Canvas

CANVAS and Google Classroom are highly rated learning management systems. While Google Classroom primarily targets academic institutions, CANVAS caters to K-12 educational institutions, higher education institutions, and businesses of all sizes.

Canvas better serves the more administratively-focused needs of higher education. It excels at document management, including assignment creation and management. The flexibility in assignment creation makes Canvas more appealing to higher ed institutions that encompass a very wide range of course content. It also has robust gradebook management for scalability with large universities.

Canvas is not as user-friendly as Google Classroom. It comes with more of a learning curve, and lacks as intuitive an interface, while Google classroom is easier to use at face value, there are some more complex mechanisms and processes that can cause problems.

Canvas is priced by quote from the vendor. There is a one-time implementation fee and then an annual subscription cost. There is a k-12 option that is free now.

Google Classroom is free for schools to use, and is included in the G Suite for Education package as well.

Google Classroom Privacy Policy

Google Classroom does not share your information with third parties and uses your information only to improve classroom performance and reliability and for troubleshooting. School Admin has the ability to control what applications students can use under the google for education account. We should teach students what they should and should not share online since some tools do allow you to share publicly online and in that case, if some screenshots your information or saves it on their drive then even if you delete the information, later on, that copy still belongs to them.

We do not share your personal information with companies, organizations, or individuals outside of Google except in the following cases listed in their policy below:

- With your school's admin
- With your consent
- For external processing
- For legal reasons

Canvas Privacy Policy

Canvas only uses data to provide Canvas to the institution, administrators, students, parents, and educators. They do not sell to any third parties or share any personal information or data collected.

Within their policy, they do state that the only people that have access to our information are relegated to the school admin, teachers, etc. There is one exception to whom they share access to our information listed below in their policy.

"Instructure uses certain companies to help us provide underlying services to operate Canvas. These companies operate as service providers or sub-processors to Instructure. Canvas is hosted on Instructure's servers at Amazon Web Services (AWS). However, AWS does not have direct access to an institution"