Task Analysis

Canvas Classroom is a platform for online college classes. Teachers can host classes for a variety of different subjects. Canvas allows students to converse via discussion threads set up by their teacher and submit assignments online via a file upload, a text entry on the assignment page, or a website URL. Assignments have due dates programmed by the teacher. Students are also able to complete tests or quizzes programmed by their teachers, who can set a number of attempts for students taking the quiz so that they can learn from any mistakes made. Students can view their grades at any time and set up notifications for when their assignments have been graded, among other events.

Audience Analysis

There are two sets of users for Canvas Classroom: the students and the teachers. For the purposes of this project, we will be working primarily with the students. Students using Canvas Classroom have completed at least their secondary education, as the site hosts college-level classes. Most students on Canvas have also completed some level of post-secondary education, likely a bachelor's degree of some form. This places the majority of users at 22 years of age or more, though many students are likely older.

Beyond this, the students vary in many different ways. The majority of students encountered here are female, though there is a population of male students as well. Many of these students currently hold jobs of some kind, usually full time or part time, while others are stay-at-home parents. Some students with jobs possibly work long hours and thus are unable to attend traditional classes. In the programs we observed, several of the students lived in different parts of the United States or even different areas elsewhere in the world. All students appear to be native English speakers or are significantly fluent in English, as most classes are conducted in English.

Scenario

Melanie is a young woman working part time at odd hours of the day. Because of her work schedule, she cannot attend evening classes on technical writing. Melanie is hoping to go into technical writing as a possible change of career, and she is currently taking classes in Canvas from a local university program.

Melanie has a test coming up very soon for this class, and she's very worried. This test will make up a good chunk of her final grade, and she wants to do well. She needs to review the video lectures her teacher has posted, find the assignment for the test and review how to take it, and she wants to review her past assignments to see where she needs work.

Task List

Sharing Files with Classmates

Modules and Files (Reference)

Downloading Class Files

Viewing Class Files

Submitting Assignments

Submitting Group Assignments

Viewing Previously Submitted Assignments

Due Dates and Late Assignments (Concept)

Completing Tests and Quizzes

Contacting Teachers and Classmates

Viewing Class Roster

Class Groups

Sending Messages

Posting in Discussion Threads

Adding Media to Discussion Posts

Adding Images to Discussion Posts

Viewing Grades

Viewing Feedback on Assignment

Comments on Assignments (Concept)

Planning your School Year

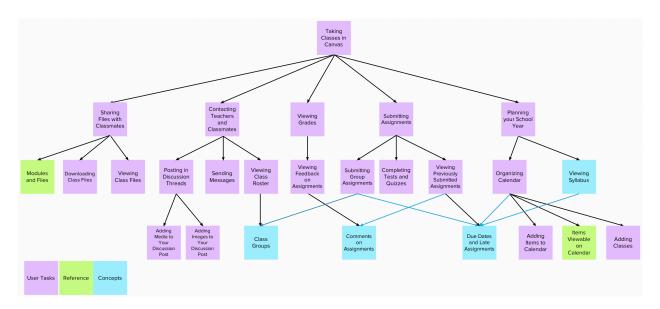
Organizing Calendar

Adding Classes

Items Viewable on Calendar (Reference)

Adding Items to Calendar

Viewing Syllabus



Use Case: Downloading Class Files

Actors

- The user, hereafter referred to as the student
- The system
- The student's web browser

Pre-conditions

- The student is enrolled in a class.
- There is a file of lecture notes uploaded to the aforementioned class that are available for students to download. The file will be labelled "Unit 2 Lecture."
- The file containing the needed lecture is located in a folder in the Files menu. The folder will be labelled "Unit 2".

Post-condition

• The student is able to download the lecture notes to their device.

Basic Path

- 1. Starting from the main page for the class, the student selects "Files" from the left column next to the blue sidebar. The system brings up the Files menu.
- 2. From the Files menu, the student selects the "Unit 2" folder. The system displays the contents of the folder.
- 3. The student selects the file "Unit_2_Lecture" from the files available. The browser downloads the file.