

As an instructor, creating a pathway to Canvas that reflects your teaching philosophy and supports your students finding the materials they need to succeed begins with customizing a Page and designating that Page as your Home Page.

For this tutorial, we are going to focus on adding just two of the many items that you can add to a page. I've already created a welcoming message to use and I've uploaded an avatar into Canvas.

Let's get started!

Click on Pages, then View All Pages and then the +Page button. In the header we'll name our page, Home Page. We'll place our text and avatar in the body of the page.

I'll copy and paste our message into the body of the page. From here, I'll edit the page a little further by adding some spacing between sentences and bolding a few key sentences that I don't want students to miss.

Next, we'll add an avatar. Click on the Embed Image button and then select the source for which your image or avatar is stored. Images can be uploaded into Canvas, one of three ways: URL, Canvas or Flickr. I've already uploaded the avatar into Canvas so we'll select from there.

You can choose the dimensions for your image too. We'll type 100 and allow Canvas to automatically adjust the image size. Click Update. Lastly, click Save & Publish.

There we have it!

A great, simple home page that our students will see every time they log into our course site.

At this point, we've developed the content for our Home Page. The last step is to designate this page as our Home page.

Scroll back to the top and click on the Settings Icon and then select Use As Front Page.

Once your course is published in Canvas, your students will be greeted with your customized Home Page. Like any of the pages in Canvas, you can edit this page at any time.

In Canvas you can...

- Post a personalized welcoming message for your students
- Provide A brief description of the course
- Post A description of the course's learning objectives
- Upload An image or use an avatar
- Upload an image that you use as a banner
- Create Links to your syllabus and course schedule
- You can also link to Assignments, Quizzes, Announcements, Discussions, Modules and other pages. Linking to pages gives your students quick and easy access to that page.

If you wish to learn more about how editing pages and use more of the features in your Canvas website, visit OIT's site at <https://oit.utk.edu/teachingtools/online/>