Design Options – Groups

Purpose
Groups provide students with an area for collaborative work or group discussion.

Canvas Design Option
In Blackboard, assignments and discussions can be created within each group, one at a time. In Canvas, once groups are created, an assignment or discussion board can be assigned to all groups simultaneously. There is also space for group specific discussions.

More Details
To create a group in Canvas, enter the People section of the course, and select +Group Set.

In Canvas, groups always have access to their own group page, which includes Announcements, Pages (like Wiki in Blackboard), People, Discussions, Files, Conference, and Collaborations. These cannot be removed or hidden.

Instructors can access groups by going to the People menu item and then selecting View User Groups. They can also view assigned group discussions by going into the Discussions menu item, opening the desired discussion, and selecting the group.

Students can access groups by selecting their group from the Courses & Groups global menu (top menu bar).

Assignments can be assigned to groups by selecting, “This is a Group Assignment” when creating or editing the assignment. One group member submits the assignment on behalf of the group. You can set the assignment up to give all group members the same grade, or to grade them individually (although they cannot submit the assignment individually).

Discussions, like assignments, can be changed to a group discussion through the settings. Students can access these from the main discussion board or their group page. Only group members will see posts within the group’s discussion board.