

How do I sign up for a Canvas account as a parent?

Parents can sign up as an observer in Canvas. Observers can link their Canvas account to their student's account so they can see assignment due dates, announcements, and other course content. Observers can view the course content but cannot participate in the course.

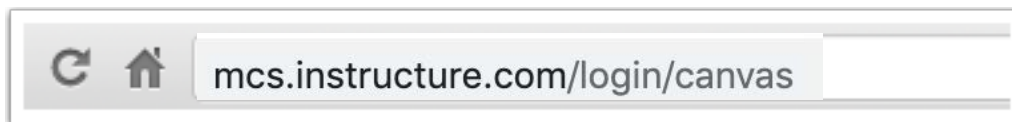
This lesson is for parents who do not have a Canvas account and want to observe their students in their courses.

If you already have an account from your student's institution, log in to Canvas using the credentials given to you.

Notes:

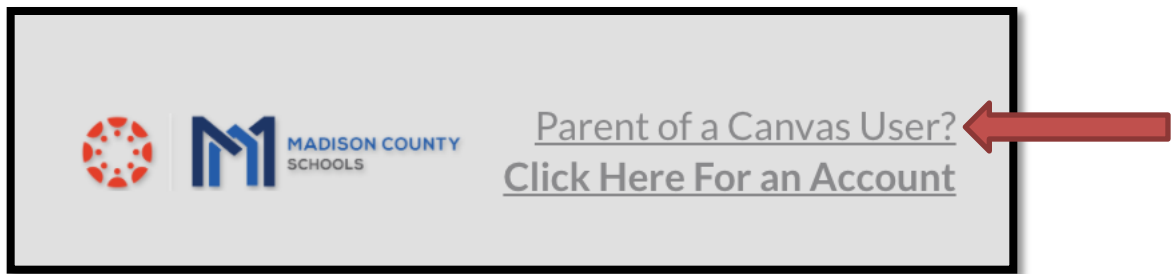
- To observe a student, you must know the student's Canvas username and password.
- The student must be enrolled in the course and must accept the course invitation before you can sign up to observe the student. If you receive an *invalid username or password* message during the signup process and the student's credentials are correct, check with the student to verify that he or she has received and accepted the course invitation.
- Once you have an account, you may be able to view student information through the [Canvas Parent app](#). Access to the Canvas Parent app is controlled by the student's institution. If you already have an account from your student's institution as an observer, you can always view student information through the Canvas Parent app.

Open Canvas URL



In a browser window, enter the institution's Canvas registration URL (e.g. <https://mcs.instructure.com/login/canvas>).

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Parent Signup ×

Your Name

Your Email

Password

Re-enter Password

Student Pairing Code [What is a pairing code?](#)

You agree to the [terms of use](#) and acknowledge the [privacy policy](#).

How do I link a student to my user account as an observer?

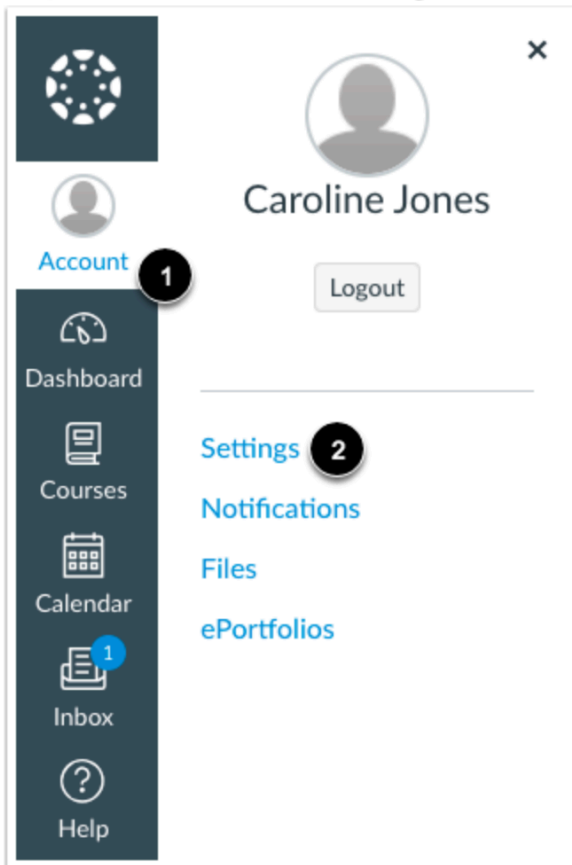
If you [signed up for a Canvas account as a parent](#), you can add students to observe within the same institution. Additionally, if an institution created an observer account linked to a student for you, you can add students to observe.

To link yourself to a student, you will need to enter a student-specific pairing code. Pairing codes are case sensitive and are valid for seven days. Students can generate pairing codes from their User Settings. Depending on institution permissions, admins and instructors may also be able to generate pairing codes. For more information on pairing codes, view the [Pairing Codes - Frequently Asked Questions PDF](#).

Notes:

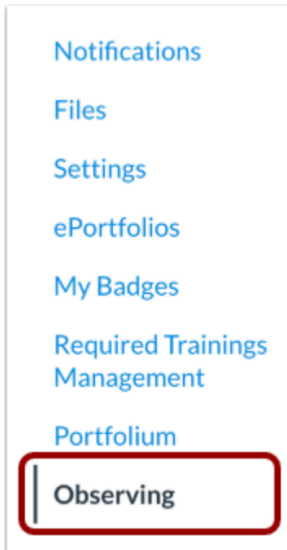
- You cannot add students whose accounts are not within your same institution (Canvas URL). To observe students in another institution, you must sign up for an account using that institution's Canvas URL.
- If you are not able to access all of a student's courses, the option to link to additional students is not available to you.
- Once you have linked to a student from the Observing page, you cannot remove the student. To remove a student, please contact the student's instructor.

Open User Settings



In Global Navigation, click the **Account** link [1], then click the **Settings** link [2].

Open Observing



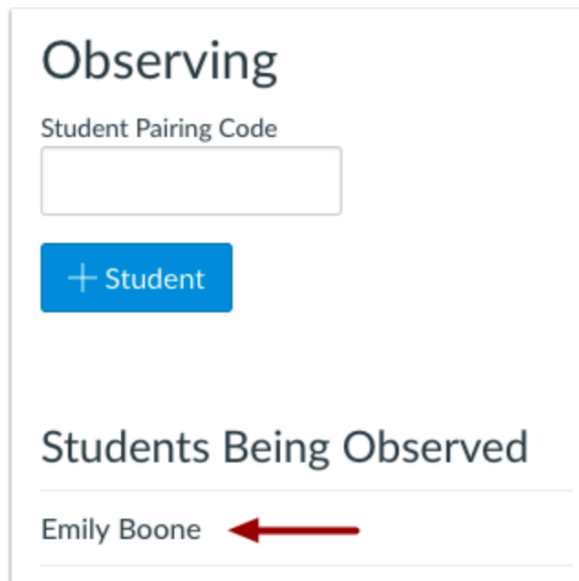
In User Navigation, click the **Observing** link.

Add Student



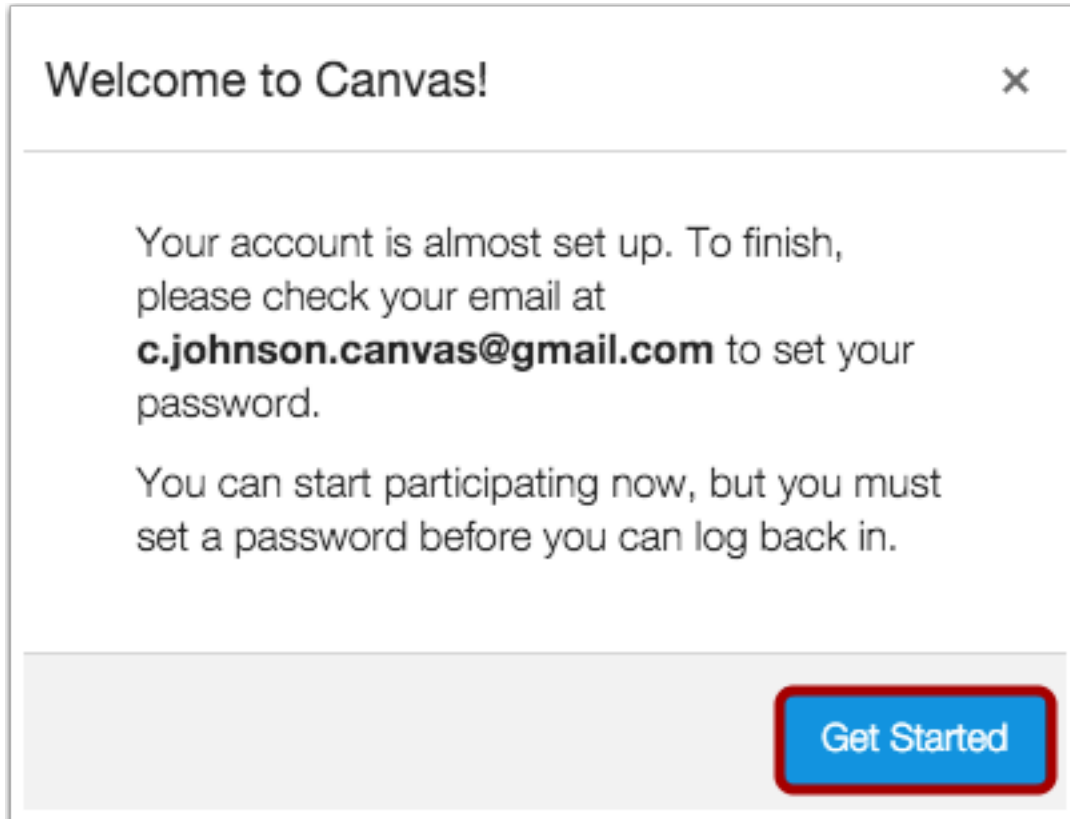
Type the pairing code in the **Student Pairing Code** field [1] and click the **Add Student** button [2].

View Student



View the paired student.

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While your account is not entirely set up, you can begin participating in Canvas immediately by clicking the **Get Started** button. To finish registering for Canvas, log into your email account.

Complete Registration Process

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[Click here to finish the registration process](#)

Thank you for registering with Canvas! This email is confirmation that the user Conrad Johnson is registering for a new account at canvas.instructure.com.



[Update your notification settings](#)

Open the email from Instructure Canvas. Click the link provided to visit the provided URL and complete the registration process.

Register for a Parent Account

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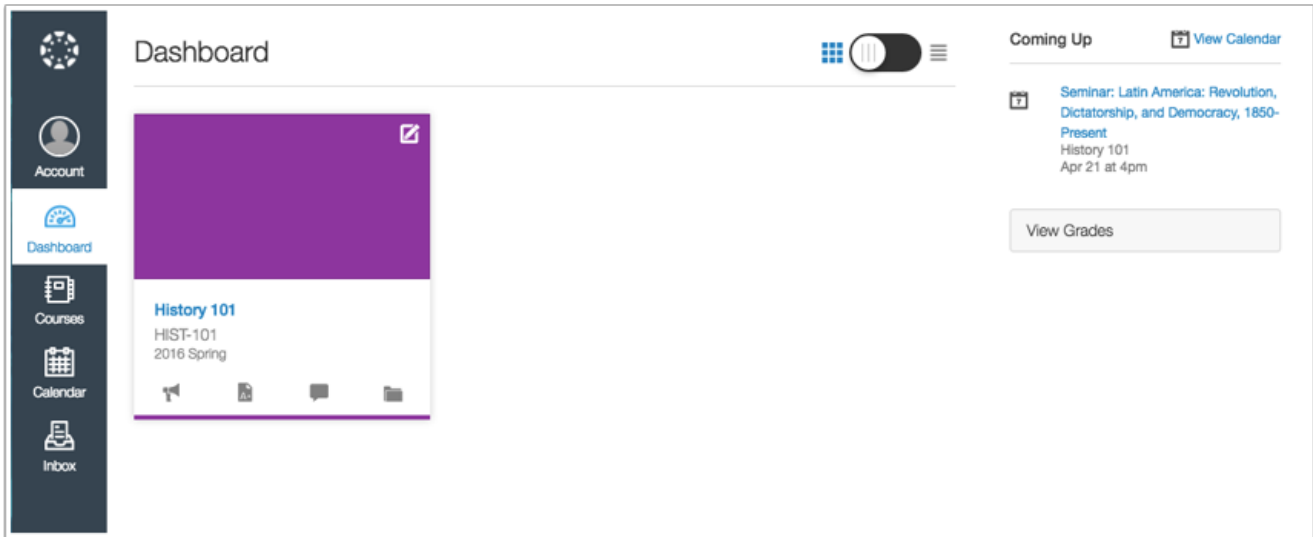
The screenshot shows a registration form titled "Welcome Aboard!". Below the title is a message: "In order to set up your account, we'll need a little more information." The form contains three input fields: "Login:" with the email "c.johnson.canvas@gmail.com", "Password:" with masked characters ".....", and "Time Zone:" with a dropdown menu showing "Mountain Time (US & Canada)". Below these fields is a checked checkbox for "I want to receive information, news and tips from Instructure" and a link for "View Privacy Policy". At the bottom is a blue "Register" button. Numbered callouts (1, 2, 3, 4) are placed to the right of each field and the Register button, respectively.

To complete the registration process fill out the following fields:

1. Verify your email in the login field.
2. Set your password by typing in the password field.
3. Set your timezone by selecting the time zone drop-down menu.
4. Click the **Register** button. You will be redirected to the Canvas URL login page for your account.

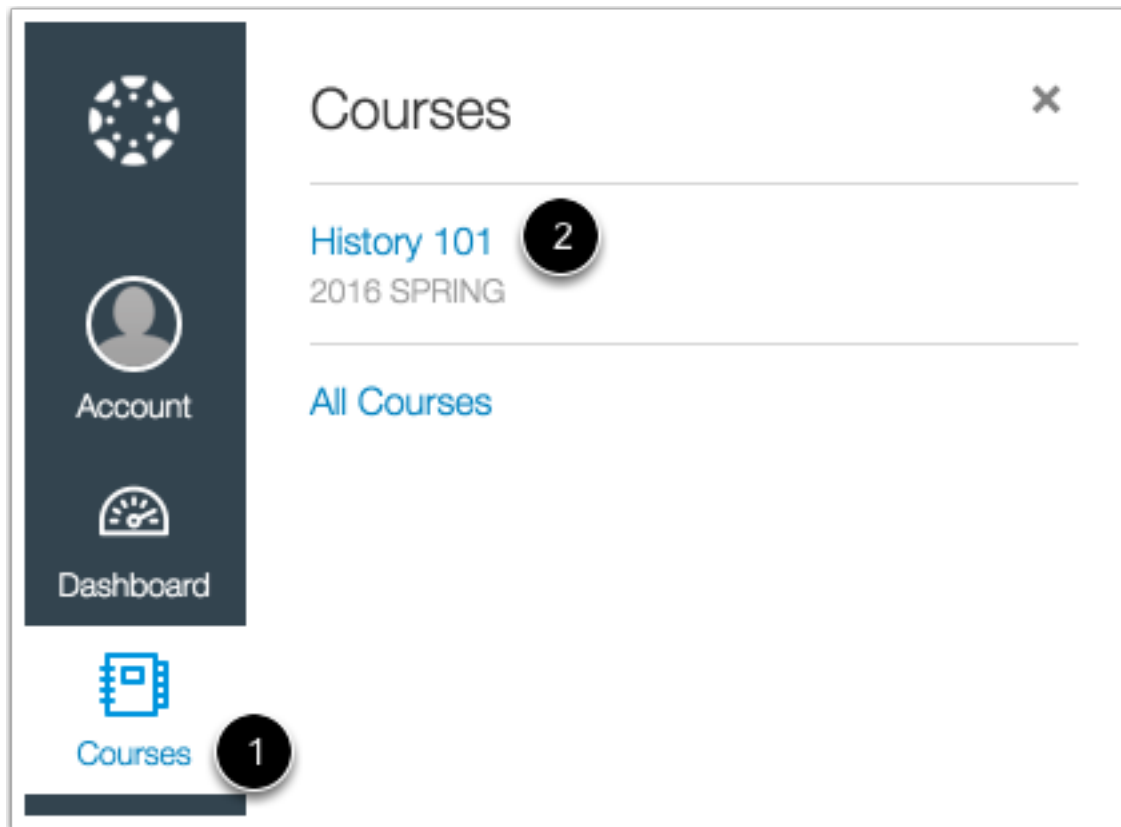
View User Dashboard

How do I sign up for a Canvas account as a parent?



View the user dashboard for your Canvas account.

View Course



In Global Navigation, click the **Courses** link [1], then click the name of the course [2].

Learn how to [observe additional students](#) in your account.