

New AI Features in Canvas

Name	Function	Where Appears	Status	Opt-in or Opt-out?	Users with Access When Enabled	Cost	Documentation	User Groups	Nutrition Facts
Discussion summaries	When the Discussion Summary feature option is enabled, discussion threads have a "Summarize" button that will use generative AI to generate a summary of key points and questions in the thread. Once generated, summaries may be refined or regenerated. These summaries are only available to Teachers, not Students.	Discussions	Available now as Feature Preview*	Can be turned on at account or subaccount level, then Teachers can turn on/off at course level	Teacher	None	Feature Preview Overview: Discussion Summaries	Discussion Summaries - Instructure Community	AI Nutrition Facts: Canvas Discussion Summaries
Smart search	Smart Search allows both Teachers and Students to search the current Canvas course content by understanding the context of queries and finding relevant results based on that context.	Course Navigation	Available now as Feature Preview*	Can be turned on at account or subaccount level, then Teachers can turn on/off at course level	Teacher, Student	None	Smart Search • FAQ	Smart Search - Instructure Community	AI Nutrition Facts: Canvas Smart Search
Khanmigo Teacher Tools	Khanmigo assists Teachers with a variety of basic tasks such as clarifying assignment instructions, generating assignment or discussion ideas, etc. It does not search, access, or create course content, but instructors can cut and paste assignment instructions, readings and other details from their course content if desired.	Course Navigation	Available now	Once turned on at account or subaccount level, Teachers can add to Course Navigation in individual Canvas courses	Teacher	None	Teacher Guide: How to use the Khanmigo Teacher Tools in my Canvas account?	Khanmigo Teacher Tools - Instructure Community	AI Nutrition Facts: Khanmigo Teacher Tools
Inbox AI Translation	Teachers and Students can use AI supported translations to translate Inbox message content. Additionally, inbox messages are automatically translated into the user's preferred language, as set in their Settings.	Inbox	Not yet available	Can be turned on at account level (No subaccount or course-level control)	All users	None	Canvas Release Notes entry for feature option		AI Nutrition Facts: Canvas Inbox and Course AI Tra... -
Course AI Translation	Teachers and Students can use AI-supported translations to translate text with Discussions and Announcements.	Announcements, Discussions	Not yet available	Once turned on at account or subaccount level, can be turned on/off at course level	Teacher, Student	None	Canvas Release Notes entry for feature option		AI Nutrition Facts: Canvas Inbox and Course AI Tra... -
IgniteAI icon/Assistant	More of a general AI Assistant - little information currently available	Unknown	Not yet available	Unknown	Unknown	Additional Cost - Unknown	IgniteAI: Integrated, Transparent AI for Education Workflows		
All product announcements from InstructureCon 2025	Link to product announcements								
From Marina Aminy - CVC:									
The big picture: Instructure's announcement specifically mentioned that "educators maintain complete control over interactions, ensuring they align with learning objectives." Specifically, they have committed to providing the necessary tools and transparency for you to manage these features in a way that aligns with your institution's broader approach to Generative AI. Furthermore, they have assured me that additional features are launching on an opt-in basis.									
IgniteAI: The biggest impact you will begin to see is the IgniteAI icon in Canvas where AI is already integrated into the product experience, such as with the already released Discussion Summaries and Smart Search . These features are tagged as "Feature Previews" while in active development and will remain as Feature Options that will continue to be controlled from the top root account of your Canvas instance. This means that there will be controls at the institution-level.									
More on IgniteAI: Although a few core features will be available for everyone (like Discussion Summaries and Smart Search), other features like the AI Assistant will be a paid-for add-on feature. This also means that colleges may opt out of the AI Assistant.									

More information forthcoming: Just as they have done for features like the Discussion Summaries and Smart Search , they do plan to have Release Notes and specific Community spaces with the necessary details to assist you and your team in making informed decisions around when and how to roll features out. Where AI is already integrated, such as with Discussion Summaries and Search, it will become more transparent through the IgniteAI icon.								
"AI Nutrition Facts": They have also committed to providing "AI Nutrition Facts" for each feature to offer details on data use, privacy compliance, and model specifics. For example, the "AI Nutrition Facts: Canvas Discussion Summaries" is already available for your reference. These will be released for each feature as it becomes available for broader adoption. Furthermore, their published content for IgniteAI states they will "never, ever train models using institutional or student data without explicit consent."								
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