In Canvas, “Public” courses lets anyone with the URL view many pieces of course content.

What are Public courses used for?
- Provide a **view-only orientation** course, such as:
  - CSU Instructor Orientation Course
  - CSU Student Orientation Course
- Promote a program by sharing a **view-only sample** course, such as:
  - CU Denver Public Sample Course
  - CSU BU Sample Course: PUBLIC-BU-SampleCourse-BUS500

***************
What **CAN** Public viewers see/do in Public courses?
- Syllabus
- Modules
- Pages
- Discussions topics
- Assignment titles & instructions
- Practice/ungraded quizzes or surveys as anonymous

What **CANNOT** be seen/done by Public viewers in Public courses?
- Cannot see other people or students’ work.
- Cannot post to discussions; can view the discussion title, but links leads to a login screen.
- Cannot take graded quizzes or submit assignments; can view the description/instructions.
- Cannot see buttons for Announcements, Grades, Chat, People, Discussions, Attendance, Conference, Collaborations, Outcomes.

***************
What are the **CSU Guidelines/Criteria** for Public Courses?
- Accessibility – meets accessibility standards WCAG 2.0 LEVEL AA.
- Includes ALT text and captioning
- No copyright materials
- Instructor permission for intellectual property
- No links to CSU-only resources such as advisors or support

**Who** can set a course to Public?
- CSU Canvas Coordinators
- CSU Instructors
**How are Canvas courses set to Public?**

**Steps:** In the Canvas Course > Settings > Course Details > Visibility > Public > Update Course

To whom do the **Visibility Settings** make content available?
- **Course:** all users enrolled in the course.
- **Institution:** all users associated with the institution.
- **Public:** anyone with the URL.

**Canvas documentation:**
- [Canvas Course Visibility Options PDF](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10004)