

## COURSE DESIGN LAYOUT THAT ENHANCES ENGAGEMENT

### INTRODUCTION

Effective organization of a Canvas learning management system plays a critical role in shaping how students engage with course materials. This poster presents a streamlined approach to organizing a Canvas course design that prioritizes clarity, accessibility, and efficiency.

This poster highlights simple, effective strategies for organizing a Canvas course to improve student engagement. By centralizing all course materials and assessments in one location, instructors can reduce confusion and save students' time.

### CHALLENGE

- Students often navigate multiple tabs (Modules, Assignments, Files, etc.)
- Poorly structured course layouts increase cognitive load
- Time is wasted searching instead of learning
- Frustration can reduce engagement, participation and hinder learning outcomes

### SOLUTION: "One Stop Shop" Design

All course content is centralized in the Assignments section and organized by weekly modules, allowing for easy access.

Organizing content in weekly modules makes it easier for instructors to plan, update and maintain course flow. The clear structure allows teachers to keep track of weekly assignments and prioritize grading accordingly. Overall, it reduces the risk of lost assignments or updates by students and reduces oversight by instructors by helping to maintain a consistent grading workflow.

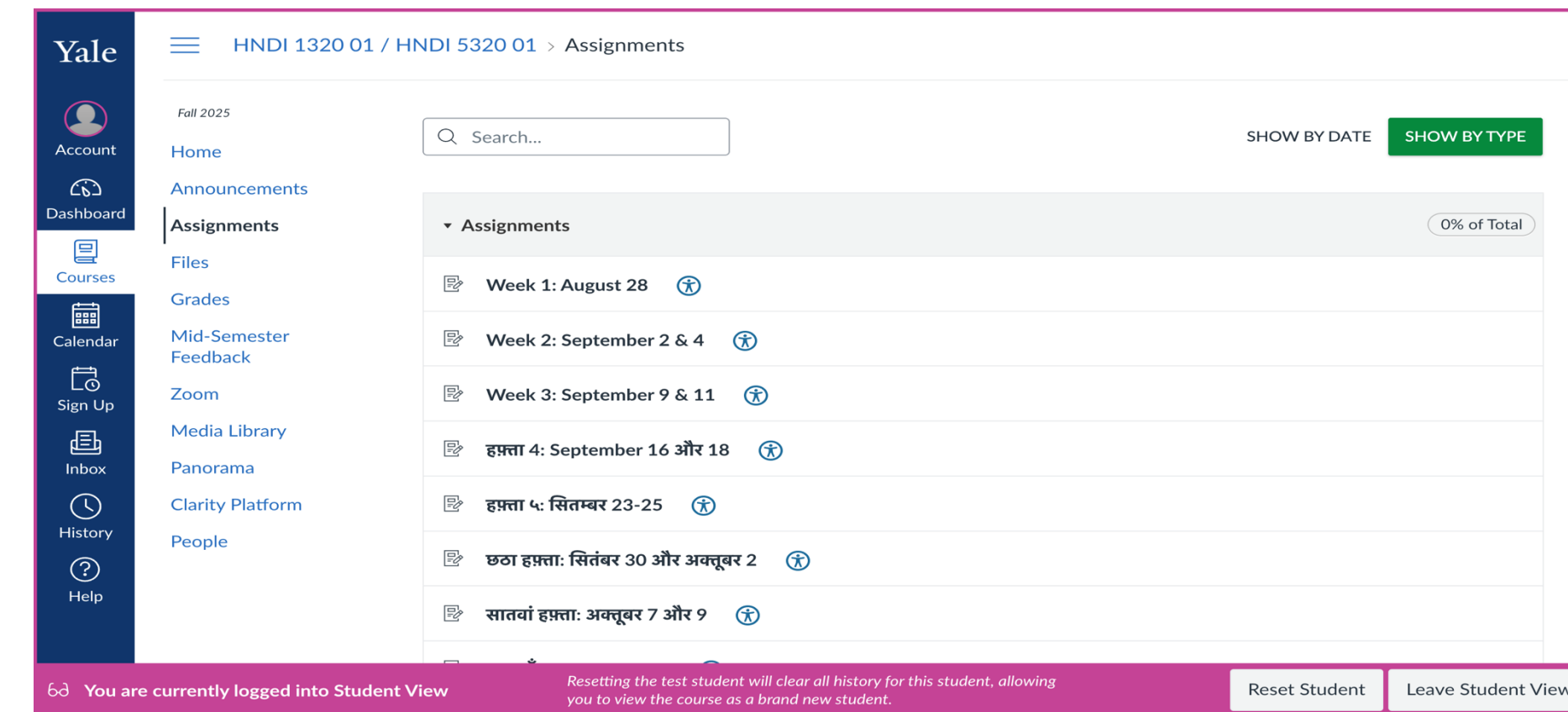


Figure 1: **Weekly Organization:** Each week functions as a self-contained unit, allowing students to simply select the relevant week and access everything they need in one place.

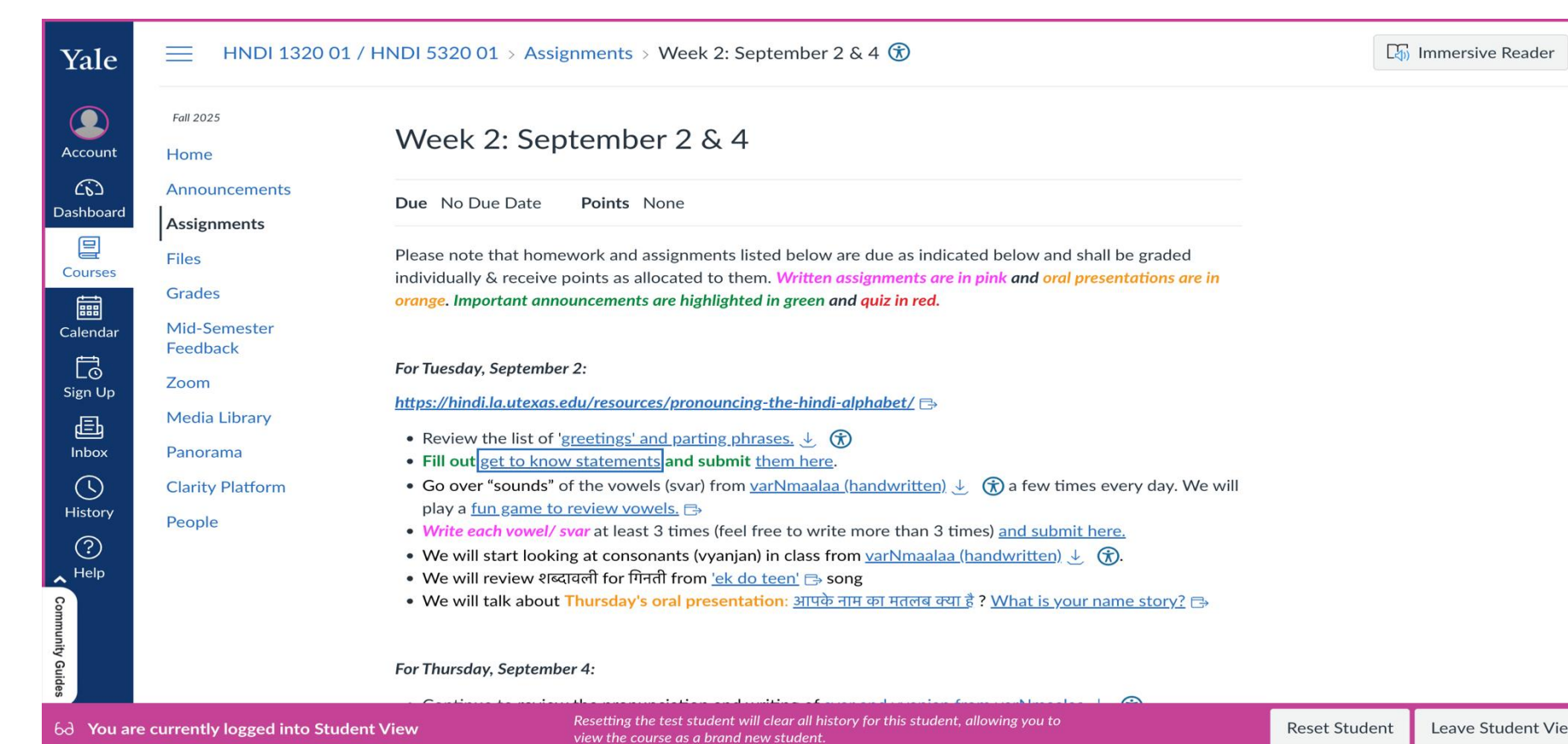


Figure 2: **Centralized Layout:** All materials—uploaded documents, external web links, homework, graded activities and plan for the day—are centralized within the "Assignments" section and organized by weekly modules.

Figure 3: **Student-focused design:** All assignments with detailed submission information and evaluation can be accessed with a click simplifying access to improve engagement and satisfaction.

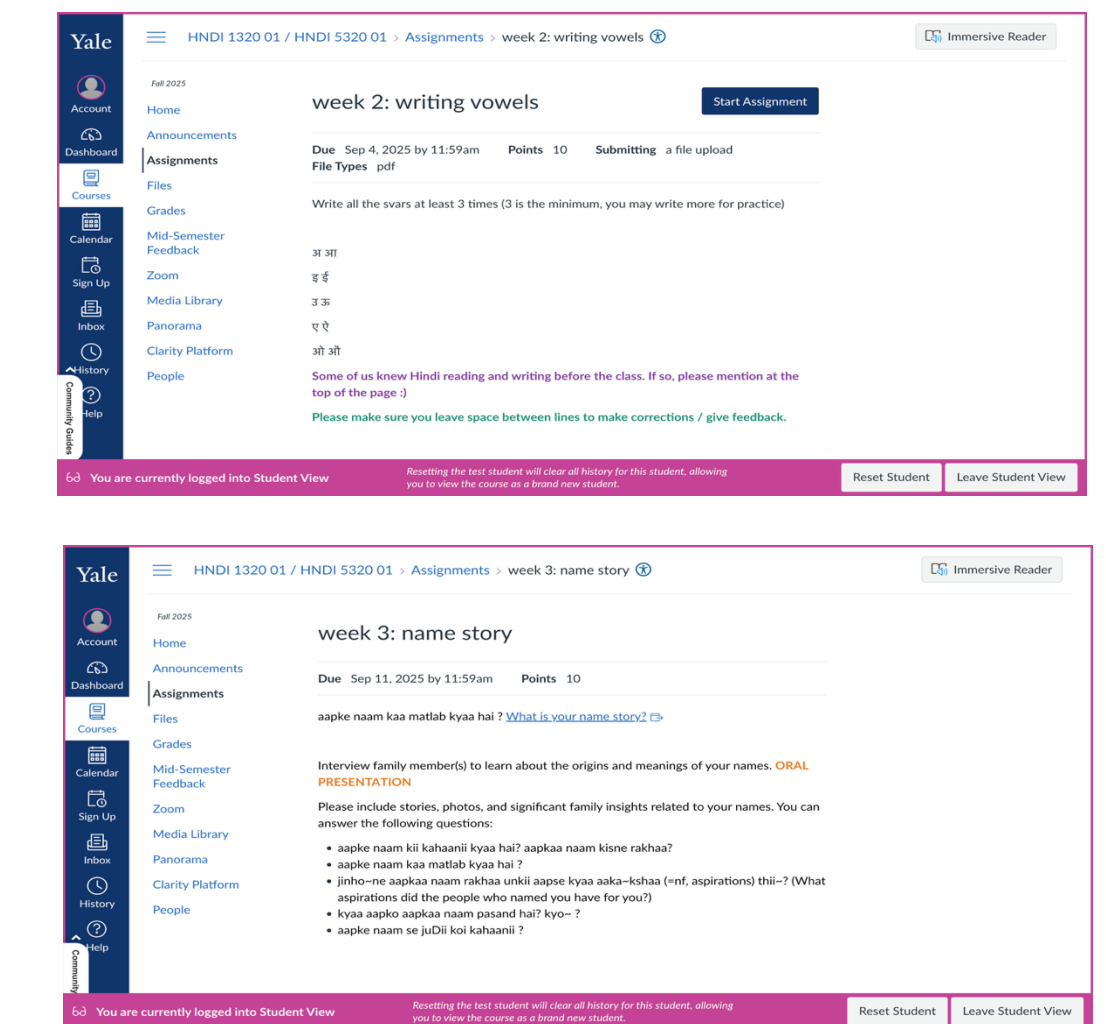
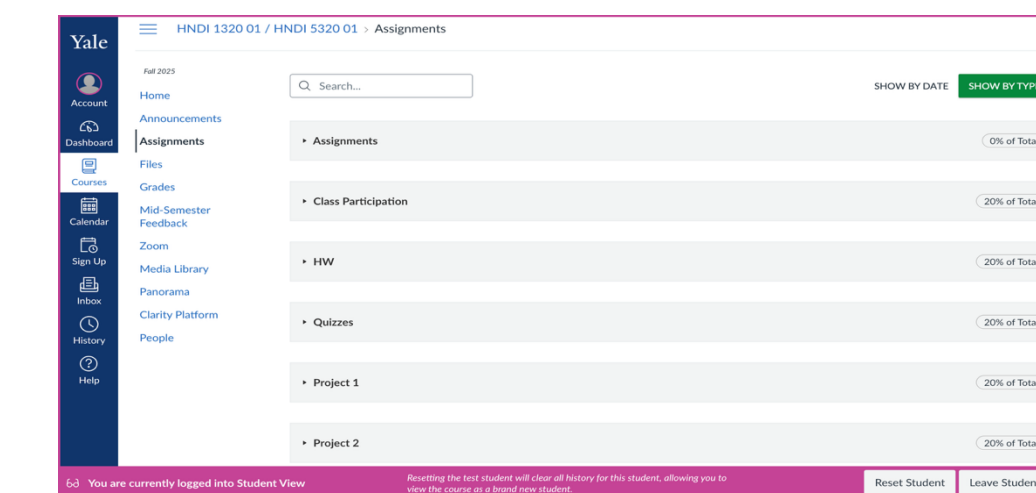


Fig 4: **Flexible Access:** All information may still be accessed through other sections, if that's preferred.



### IMPACT ON LEARNING

- Enhances student experience and provides equitable access
- Promotes consistent engagement with course materials helping drive retention rates
- Supports more effective learning by reducing cognitive load and enables personalized learning
- Saves time and minimizes frustration; no unnecessary navigation required

Student feedback consistently reflects appreciation for this intuitive structure, noting that the organization makes it easier to stay on track and engage with course content. Overall, clear and intentional Canvas organization supports a more efficient and positive learning experience.