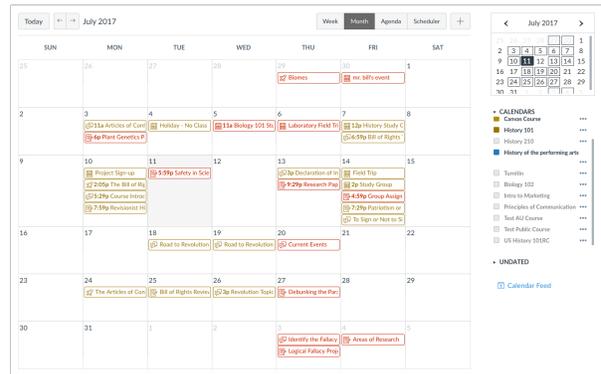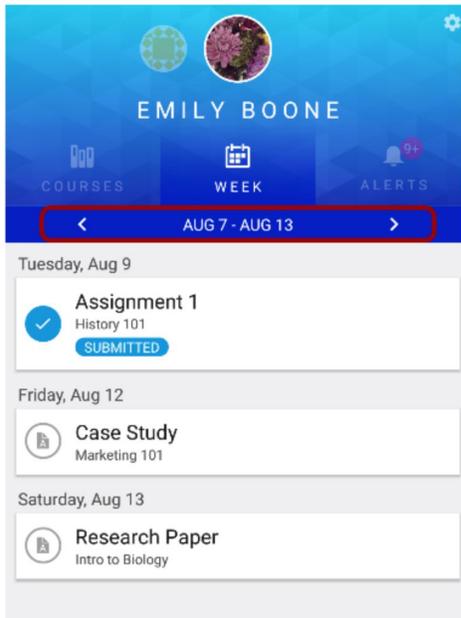# CANVAS PARENT APP VS OBSERVER ROLE

WHAT IS THE CANVAS PARENT APP? WHAT IS THE OBSERVER ROLE?

The Canvas Parent app is the mobile version of Canvas that helps parents and other users stay up to date with their student's courses. We are excited to share this high-level, compare-and-contrast document. With the agile nature of Canvas mobile and Canvas browser, this information is subject to change without notice. Here is the Community link to participate in the ongoing development: Canvas Mobile User Group

CANVAS PARENT APP	OBSERVER ROLE
The Canvas Parent app lets you view a student's course events, upcoming assignments, and grades. You can also add and view multiple students in your account.	Observers can link their Canvas account to their student's account so they can see assignment dues dates, announcements, and other course content. Observers can view the course content but cannot participate in the course. If you already have an account from your student's institution, log in to Canvas using the credentials given to you.
CALENDAR	
The Week page displays a calendar of assignments and events for the student(s) you are observing. An observer can view a student's reserved appointment(s) in the Canvas Parent App.	The Calendar is a great way to view everything a linked student has to do for all their courses in one place. You can view calendar events by day, week, month, or agenda list. The calendar also includes access to the Scheduler, which is an optional scheduling tool in Canvas. However, observers cannot reserve appointments on behalf of a student. Observers cannot view events in a student's personal calendar or appointments reserved through the Scheduler by the student.

CONFERENCES
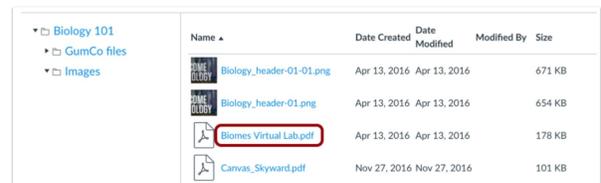
Conferences is not available in the Parent App.

Conferences- You can join a conference that has already been started by the conference host.

FILES

Files is not available in the Parent App.

Observers may only be able to access certain course files. Files will only be visible in a course if an instructor has made it visible through the course navigation.

GRADES

The Dashboard defaults to the Courses page and displays the list of courses for the student you are viewing. This is where you will see an overall grade for the course.

Some details in the dashboard, such as scoring details and the total grade, may be restricted in your course.

The Grades page in a course displays all current grades for all course assignments. You can also view scoring details, comments, and rubrics. If your instructor is using multiple grading periods, you can also filter grades by grading period.

Some details in the Grades page, such as scoring details and the total grade, may be restricted in your course.

ALERTS/NOTIFICATIONS & REMINDERS

You can set reminders through the Courses page or the Week page. You can choose the date and

Canvas includes a set of default notification preferences you can receive for the courses you

time that you would like to receive the reminder. Reminders are sent as push notifications to your device.

The Alerts page displays assignment and grade alerts for the student(s) you are observing.

You can set student alerts based on specific criteria.

Once the Course Announcements alert has been enabled, any announcements created thereafter will display in the Alerts tab.

Reminder for Assignments/Events

Alerts for Student

are observing. Notifications are sent to Canvas contact methods as specified in your account User Settings. However, you can change the default settings by setting your own notification preferences. These preferences only apply to you; they are not used to control how course updates are sent to the student you are observing.

Observer Notification Preferences

Notice of Personal Email and Privacy

Setting up Alerts

WHAT IS NOT AVAILABLE IN EITHER ROLE

- Messaging the teacher