

## CANVAS: TERM DATES, COURSE DATES, AND PUBLISH STATUS – EFFECT ON STUDENT ACCESS

**Control Dates** (my terminology) – These are the start and end dates for a course.

- Control dates start out being inherited from the **term dates**, which are set at the root account level.
- The instructor can set **course dates** that will override term dates, and thereby become the control dates. To set course dates, the instructor must do **all** of the following:
  - Go into the course.
  - Click the *Settings* button.
  - Click the *Course Details* tab.
  - Enter dates in the *Starts* and/or *Ends* boxes. (Note: If the *Starts* or *Ends* box is left empty, then the course inherits the respective date from the term.)
  - Check the box labeled “*Users can only participate in the course between these dates*”.
- **Section dates** can further override course dates. Only the students in the section for which dates have been set will be affected by the section dates. All other students will be governed by the course dates (if any), or the term dates if there are no course dates.

### Scenarios:

Course Publish Status		Control Dates		Student Ability to Enter Course		Student Ability to Participate In Course	
Course Published - Yes	Course Published - No	Between Control Start/Stop Dates	Outside Control Start/Stop Dates	Student Can Enter Course	Student Cannot Enter Course	Student Can <b>Only View</b> Available Items (e.g. published items, items not having prerequisites, etc.) and cannot participate.	Student Can <b>Participate Normally</b> In Course
✓		✓		✓			✓
✓			✓	✓		✓	
	✓	✓			✓	N/A	
	✓		✓		✓	N/A	

NOTE: These will also impact students’ access. 1) “*Restrict students from viewing course after end date*” if checked would prevent students from entering the course after control end date. 2) “*Restrict students from viewing course before start date*” if checked would prevent students from entering the course before the control start date. 3) Clicking the “*Conclude this Course*” button will block students from entering the course and will also block the teacher from modifying grades.