

Integrating SIMTICS into Canvas using an External Learning Tool

This guide will help you set up your Canvas environment so your students can access SIMTICS with SSO and have scores passed back to your gradebook. You may also wish to watch the video tutorial for Canvas integration: <https://youtu.be/WsE9hUAc5FQ>

Please ensure you have at least admin privileges to the courses in Canvas before proceeding with the steps in this guide.

You will also need **the unique Consumer Key and Consumer Secret codes for your school**, which the SIMTICS Support Team will provide

If you do not have these yet, please contact us at support@simtics.com or use the 'Live Chat' on the website.

This guide will take you through the following steps:

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Note: The term "module" in this document refers to a SIMTICS module (eLearning unit), which contains text, video, anatomy, simulations and quiz for learning a skill or procedure. Be aware that some special review modules have only simulations and quizzes and the Hand Hygiene and Isolation PPE Protocol module have only simulations.

Introduction

SIMTICS uses Learning Tool Interoperability (LTI) for integration with Canvas.

Once the integration is set up:

- SSO will be operational - students will only need to log into Canvas and will not have to log in separately to the SIMTICS server.
- A score will be passed back to the gradebook from each student session in SIMTICS. By default, the *best score* for a completed *Test Mode* simulation (if any) will be sent to Canvas when the student logs out of SIMTICS and returns to Canvas.

To link SIMTICS to Canvas, you need a unique SIMTICS consumer key and consumer secret to identify your system to the SIMTICS server. **If you haven't already been given these keys, please contact us at www.simtics.com/contact/**

The launch link for latest SIMTICS HTML5 version is <https://lti.simtics.com/api/v1/new>

If you would like students who access SIMTICS via Canvas to automatically be placed into groups for the SIMTICS reporting system (group.simtics.com), we can turn on a feature that automatically does that based off your course name and SIS ID in Canvas. When a student first accesses SIMTICS via Canvas, they will be sorted into that course specific group.

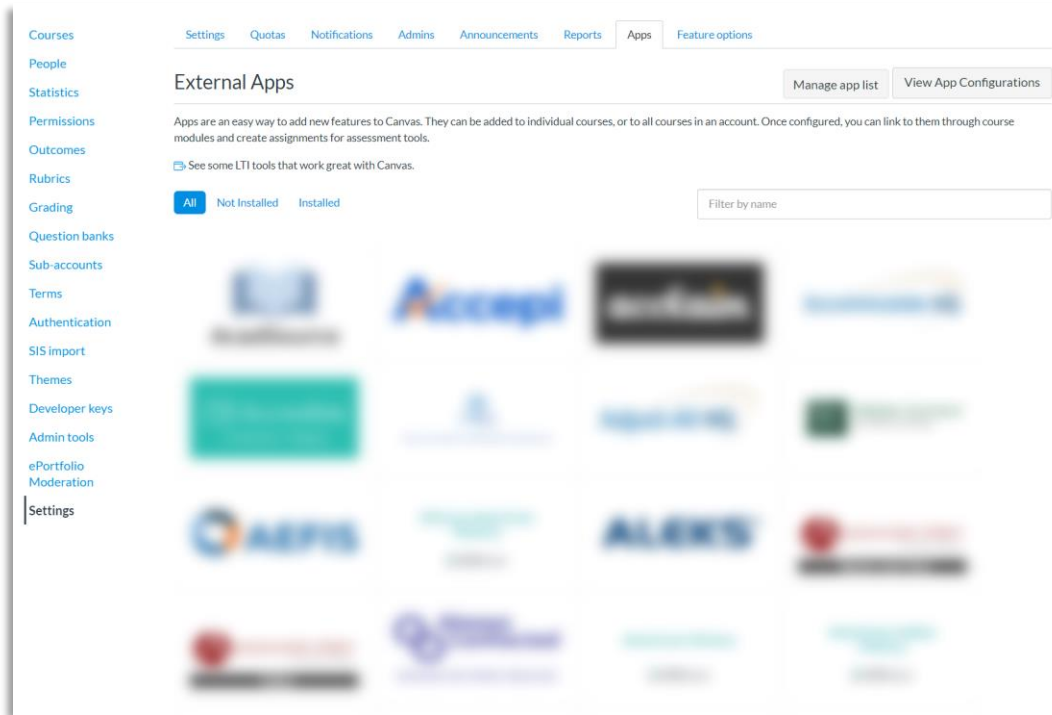
This is something we need to turn on individually for each school/domain, so please email our integration specialist benny@simtutor.com if you would like to have this set up, or you'd like to know more.

Step 1: Setting up SIMTICS as an External App

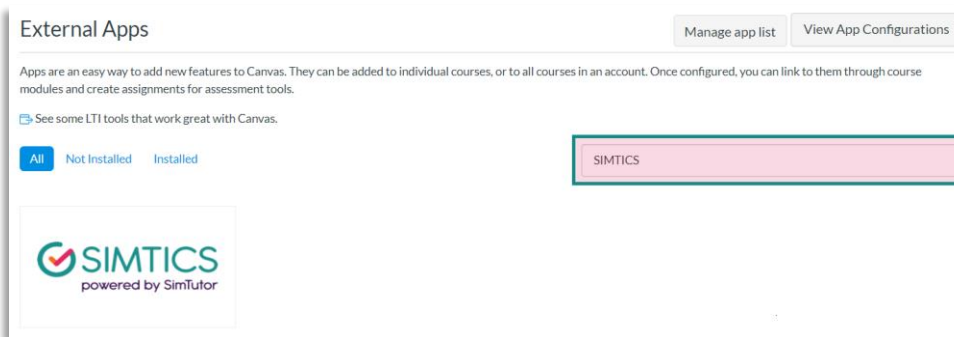
1. There are two ways to set up SIMTICS as an External App - both ways use the same method after the initial step below:

- Log in and navigate to Admin -> Settings -> Apps
- If you do not have full Admin access, navigate to Courses -> [Choose your course] -> Settings -> Apps

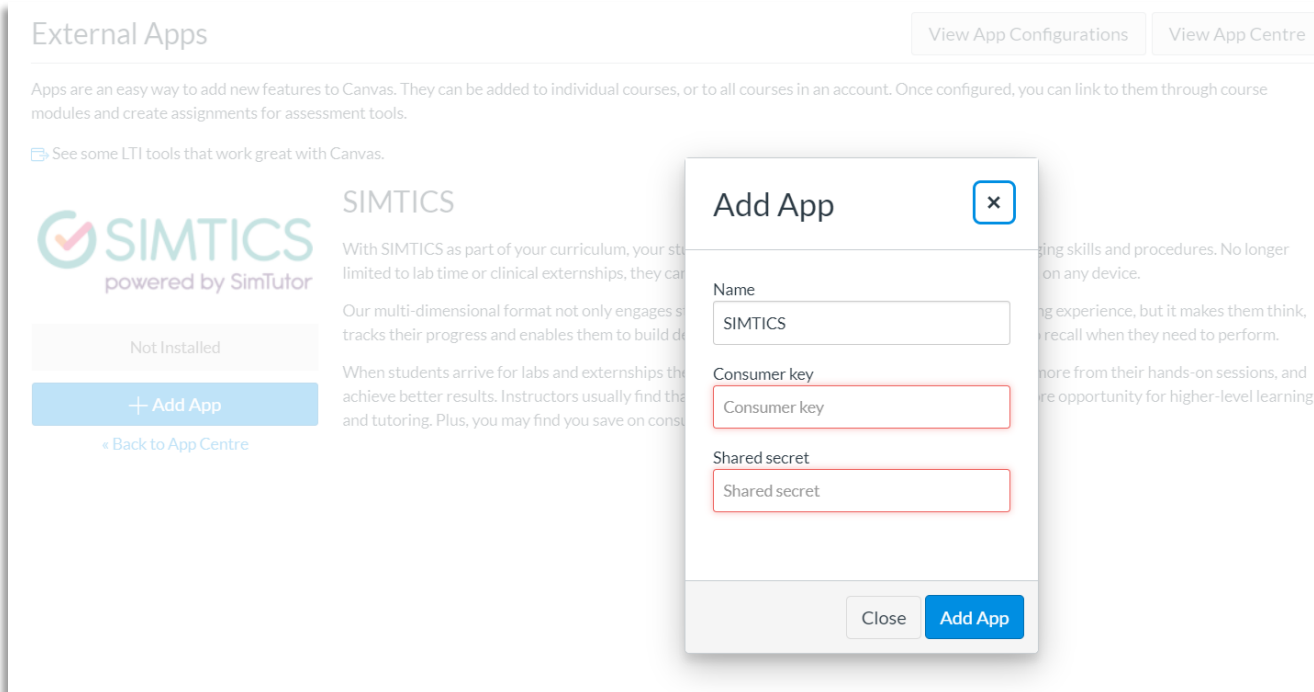
Either path should lead to the screenshot below.



2. Search for "SIMTICS" within the search bar and then select the SIMTICS logo that appears.



3. Click "+ Add App" and a pop-up like the one in the screenshot below should appear.



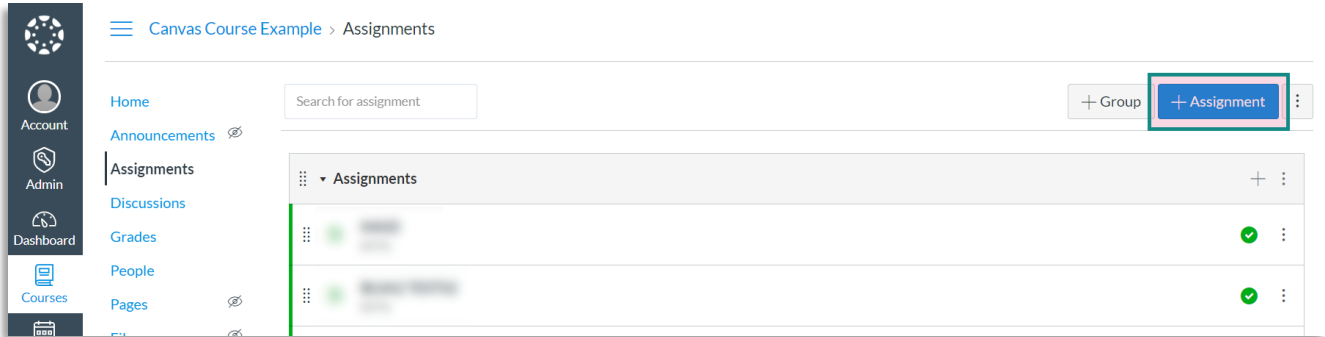
Paste the consumer key and shared secret key that you have been given for your organization.

Contact us at support@simtics.com or via the live chat on the website if you have not obtained these yet or need these re-sent.

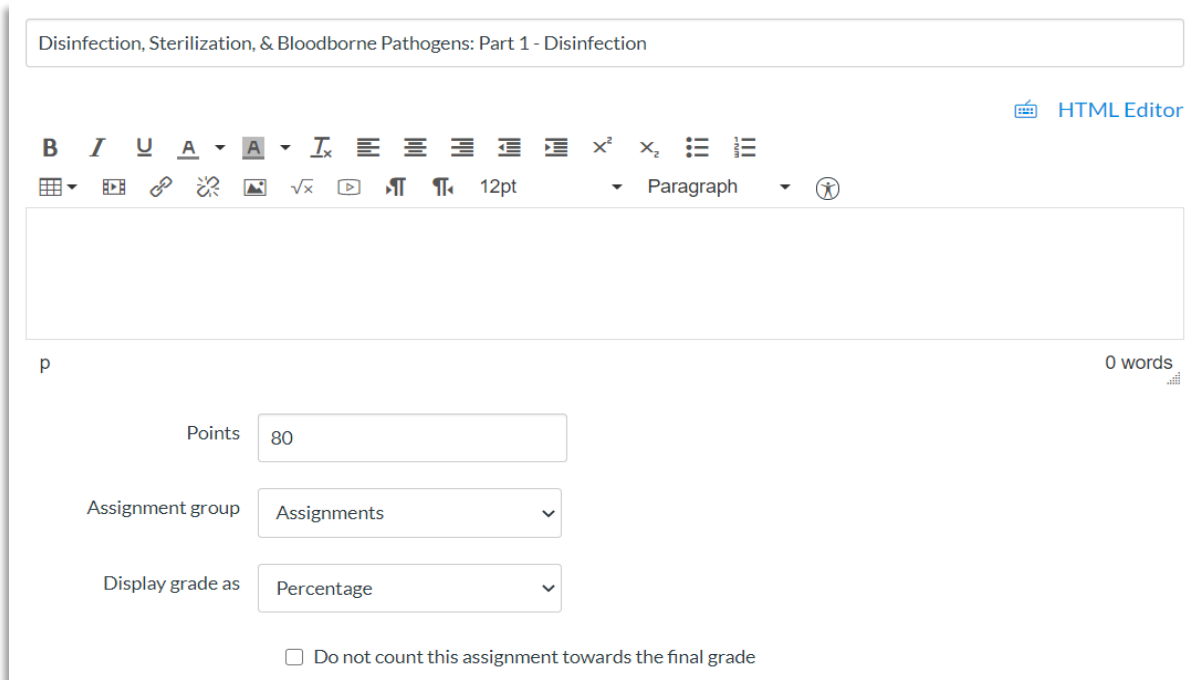
4. Finally, click "Add App"

Step 2: Creating assignments with a SIMTICS module included

1. Navigate to one of your courses and add an assignment.



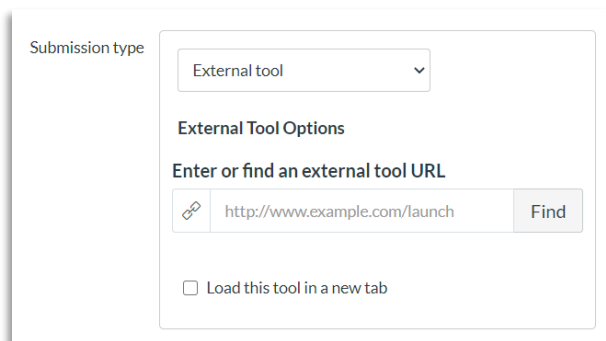
2. Set a Title for this assignment according to the SIMTICS module to which you want to link.



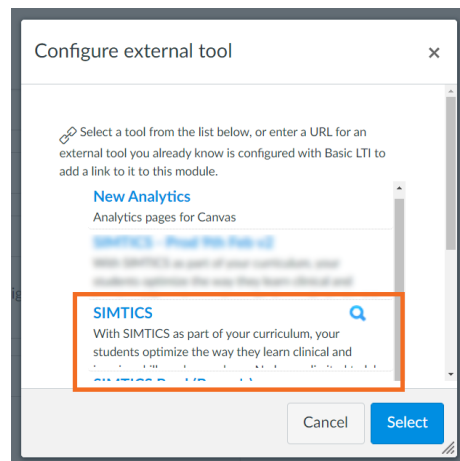
The Title should be different for each assignment so you can distinguish between them. Each SIMTICS module has a unique name that you can use.

The points, assignment group, and display grade are all settings you can customize yourself. However, for the "Display grade as" dropdown, we do recommend choosing either percentage or points if you wish to track your students' grades passed back from SIMTICS.

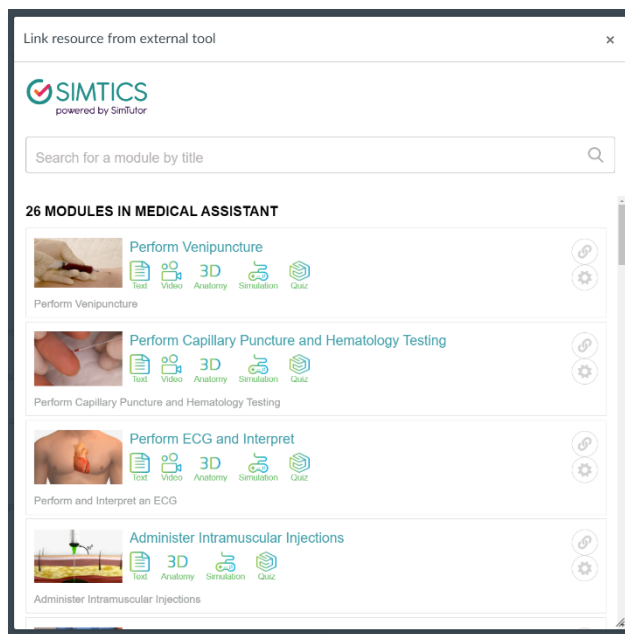
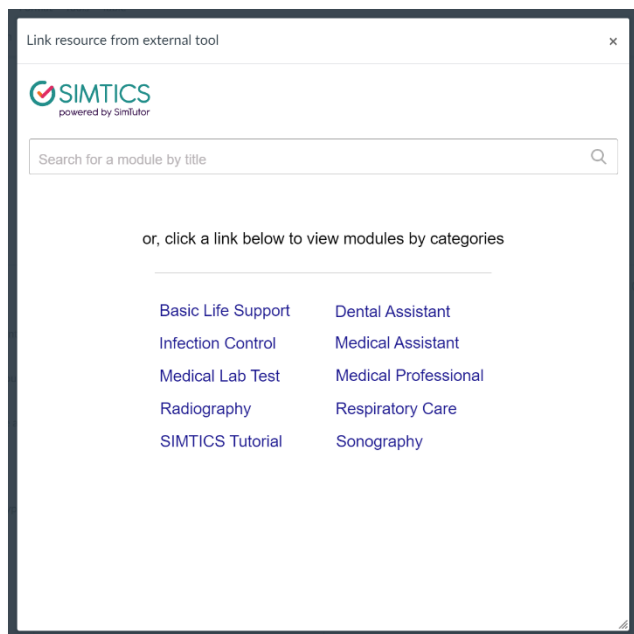
3. Change the submission type to External tool and hit the "Find" button next to the external tool URL input box.





Scroll down until you find the SIMTICS app you added earlier.



4. After clicking SIMTICS, please wait for the window to load. Once it's loaded, you will see the screen on the left. Select the category of the SIMTICS module you wish to use, or search for the module directly using the search box.



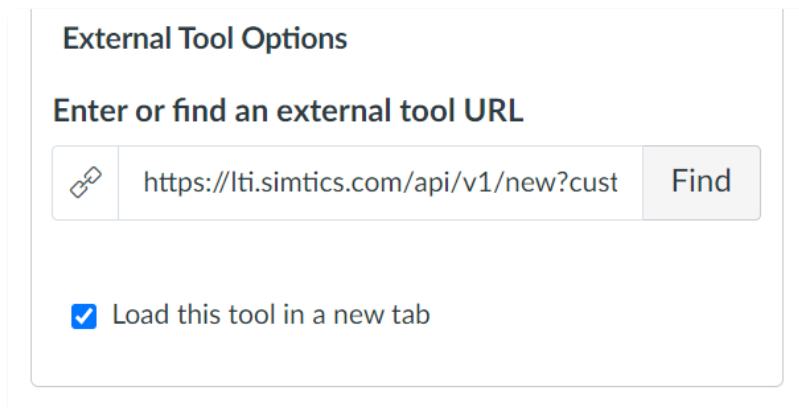
5. Select the link  icon to use that module for this assignment. You will be able to select any of the modules that your school has adopted. If you are interested in any other SIMTICS content, please reach out to your SIMTICS sales contact.

The  icon will allow you to customise certain aspects of how Canvas treats the SIMTICS module, from the type of score that's passed back, to what parts of the module the student can see. For instance, you can combine two checkboxes in

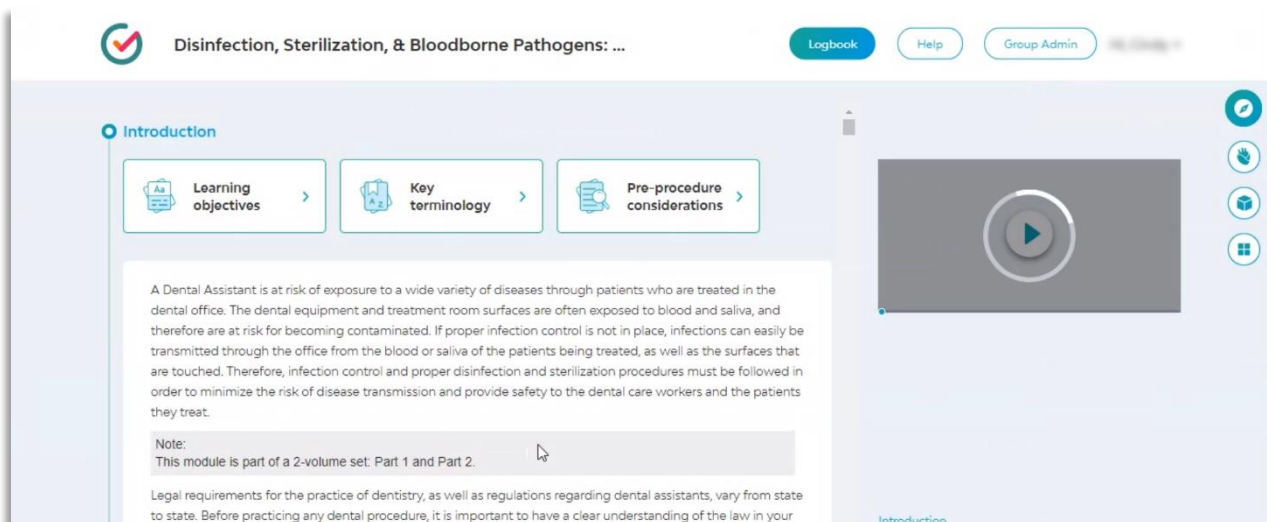


the settings screen to display only a specific scenario in a Learn Mode simulation. There are helpful “?” icons that will explain what each option does. For more, check out page 8 of this document.

6. The URL bar should be auto filled. Check the “Load in a new tab” checkbox as seen below. (If you leave the checkbox blank, some users may have problems accessing the SIMTICS module.) This will also improve the students experience as they will have more room to navigate the modules.



7. All done! Now check that the module link is working as intended: save and run the newly created assignment. You should see something similar to the screenshot below – however the module you see will be the module you selected in the Canvas menu.

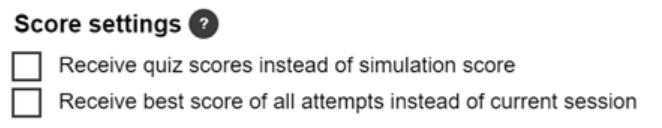


Customizing the Students SIMTICS Experience

Optional custom parameters allow you to control elements of the SIMTICS module's behavior, such as what scores are passed back, what component(s) the student can see, and more. It is important to note, that only one score can be passed back to the Canvas Gradebook per session.

After clicking the  on the module selection screen, you will see the following options.

Score settings: SIMTICS by default returns the best score during the current session from the Test Mode simulation. You can vary this with these two settings



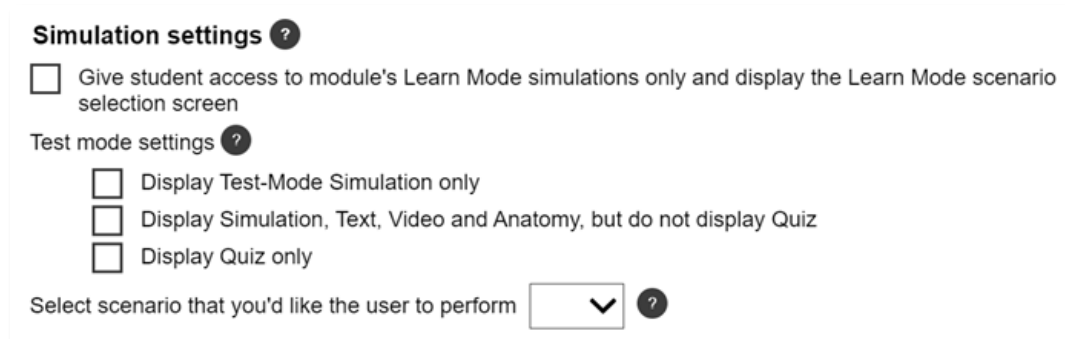
Score settings ?

- Receive quiz scores instead of simulation score
- Receive best score of all attempts instead of current session

Simulation settings: By default, SIMTICS provides the student with access to the entire module that you selected. You can vary this by using these additional parameters.

Test mode settings: This parameter controls what test content should be displayed for the specified module.

Scenario selector: By default, the system will randomly select a test mode scenario if the "Test-Mode Simulation only" checkbox has been checked. Selecting scenario here will play a specific scenario that you'd like the user to perform, e.g. "3" will go to scenario 3 of the module specified.



Simulation settings ?

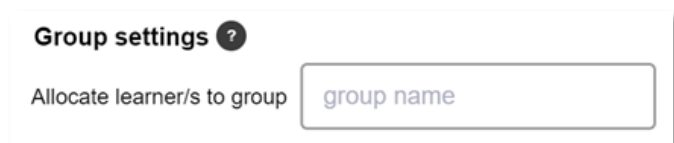
- Give student access to module's Learn Mode simulations only and display the Learn Mode scenario selection screen

Test mode settings ?

- Display Test-Mode Simulation only
- Display Simulation, Text, Video and Anatomy, but do not display Quiz
- Display Quiz only

Select scenario that you'd like the user to perform ?

Group settings: If you use the SIMTICS Group Admin & Reporting (GAR) system, this parameter allows you to place the student in a particular group for reporting purposes, e.g. a class or cohort. If group name does not exist, it will be automatically created when you or the student clicks the link.



Group settings ?

Allocate learner/s to group

Managing user accounts after Canvas integration

Once integration is complete, students and instructors will have access to SIMTICS content through the assignment links you have set up in Canvas

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Students should now use Canvas as their sole method of access to SIMTICS as a new SIMTICS account is set up when a user clicks on their first SIMTICS link in Canvas. This permanently connects the user's new SIMTICS account to their account on Canvas, which enables single sign-on and score pass-back to Canvas's gradebook. We refer to this as a SIMTICS LTI account.
- This LTI account is different from (and is not linked to) any *existing* instructor or student accounts that were previously provided by SIMTICS (eg. if your students were accessing SIMTICS directly before you began using the LMS). So if any of your users already had a SIMTICS account, after accessing SIMTICS from your LMS they will have two SIMTICS accounts – direct and LTI. (If this applies to your situation, our technical support team can merge the two accounts on request.)
- If you have the automatic reporting system feature enabled (see the end of the Introduction section of this document), instructors can access the Group Administration and Reporting (GAR) system after they have accessed the SIMTICS platform through Canvas (see below)



- If you do not have the automatic reporting system feature, instructors can use either account, however to access the GAR System they will need to log in separately at <https://group.simtics.com> with a valid username provided by SIMTICS.

Quick Tips

- If a student exits a Simulation before their score is displayed on their screen, the score won't be calculated/logged and can't be transferred to Canvas. They need to always check that their score displays before they move on to another component or exit SIMTICS entirely. It can sometimes take up to 10 minutes for the score to be updated in the Canvas gradebook.
- The SIMTICS LTI usernames are auto-generated based on your school's id in our system plus user id information that is passed from Canvas. With SSO, end users don't need to know these auto-generated usernames, however faculty / administrators will see them if they use the SIMTICS GAR system.
- If you have introduced this Canvas integration partway through a school year and you need to retain student logbook data from previously existing accounts, you can request for the students' original and LTI accounts to be merged. The older merged data will not be transferred to the gradebook, however, and will only be viewable from the GAR System.
- Student accounts are created the first time that a student accesses SIMTICS from Canvas. Therefore they will not appear on the student user list in the GAR system until they have done that.

If you encounter any problems with these steps, or have any questions, please contact us using the chat bot on our [website](#) or via email at support@simtics.com