How to Facilitate Discussion, Sharing of Student Work and Peer Review using Blackboard Tools

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Learning Objectives Participants will be able to...

- Describe the value of asynchronous discussion in their course
- Explain the differences between the discussion tools (Blackboard, Voicethread, Yellowdig)
- Setup a Blackboard Discussion Board for various Scenarios
- Setup a Blackboard Blog
- Describe Various Discussion Strategies
- Explain How to Facilitate Peer Review Activities

WHY DISCUSSION?

Student-Teacher interaction

Formative assessment

Application of learning

Student-Student interaction

Summative assessment

FACILITATING DISCUSSION

Discussion Ideas

Debate Role play

Reflection Ice breakers

Discussion

Help forum

Synthesis

Social forum

Peer Review

Participating in Online Discussions

- Be careful...
- Choose specific discussions to participate in
- Respond to key discussion posts from learners and weave major themes, redirect, or expand thinking
- Interact with different learners in different discussions
- Assign learners to moderate discussions

Interactions to Encourage Knowledge Construction and Critical Thinking

Prompts

Elaboration

Clarification

Weaving

Perspectives

Inferences and Assumptions

Implications

Summary

Student Leadership roles in Discussion

- Student Moderator
 - Develop prompts
 - Probing questions
 - Encouraging integration
- Student summarizer
 - Summarize 2-3 times per week
 - Identify and discuss major themes
- Faculty
 - Communication with moderator / summarizer
 - Weekly response

DISCUSSION TOOL COMPARISONS

Technical Features

Feature	Blackboard Discussion	Voicethread	Yellowdig	Blackboard Blog	
Threaded	Y	Y	Y	N	
Multimedia Posts and Responses	N	Y	Y	N	
Auto-grading	N	N	Y	N	
Easy grading	Y	Maybe	NA	Y	
Separate forums	Y	Y	N (topics)	N	

Pros



Blackboard Discussion Gathers student submissions together for grading • Excellent for textual

- summaries Allows for
- some visuals
- Grading with rubrics



Voicethread

• Uses student voice and video

 Casual interactions



 Automatic grading

- Lots of options for participation
- Easy to bring in outside sources
- Social media experience



Harmonize

- Excellent for textual summaries
- Allows for audio/video
- Multiple Milestones
- Auto-grading

Cons



Blackboard Discussion

• Less studentfriendly • Can be text

heavy



Voicethread

• Time consuming to review • Long

responses are harder to follow



Yellowdig Everything counts equally toward grade

• Harder to read large amounts of text

• One grade for entire semester



• Limited Video Size

Discussion Tools



Blackboard Discussion

- Formal Discussion
- •Written language skills



Voicethread

- Conversational Discussion
- •Spoken language skills



Yellowdig Engage

- •Information sharing
- •Casual conversations and Social interactions
- •Term-based discussion board



Harmonize

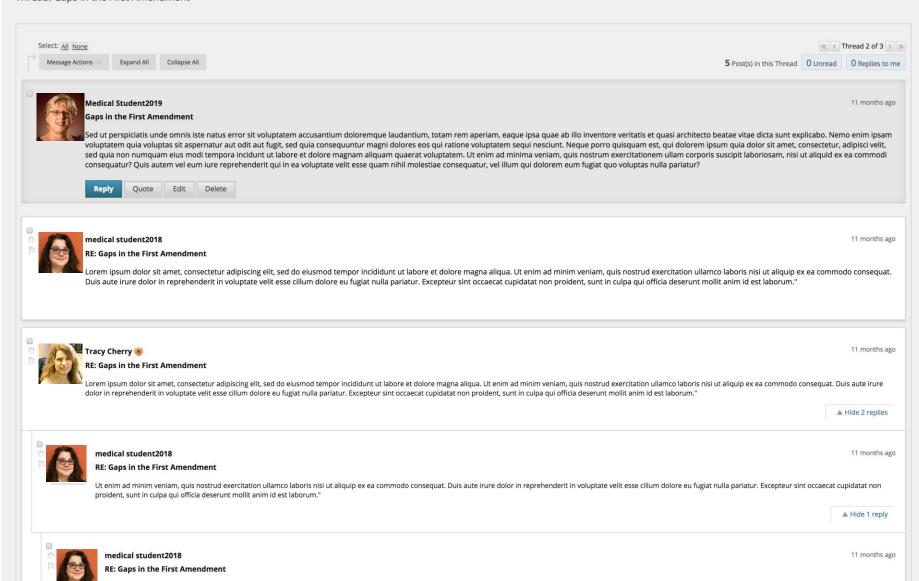
- •Written and spoken discussions
- Multiple milestones



Piazza

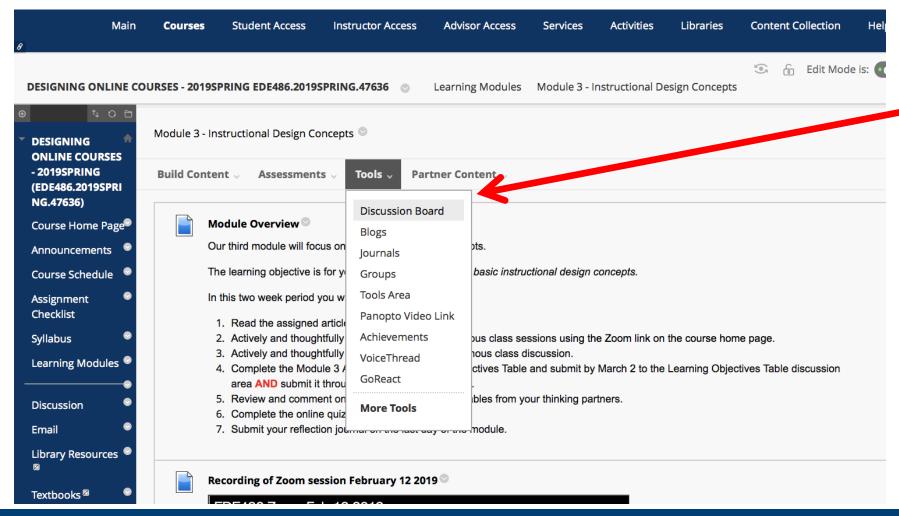
•Mathematical or Computational dialog

BLACKBOARD DISCUSSION BOARD – BASIC SETUP

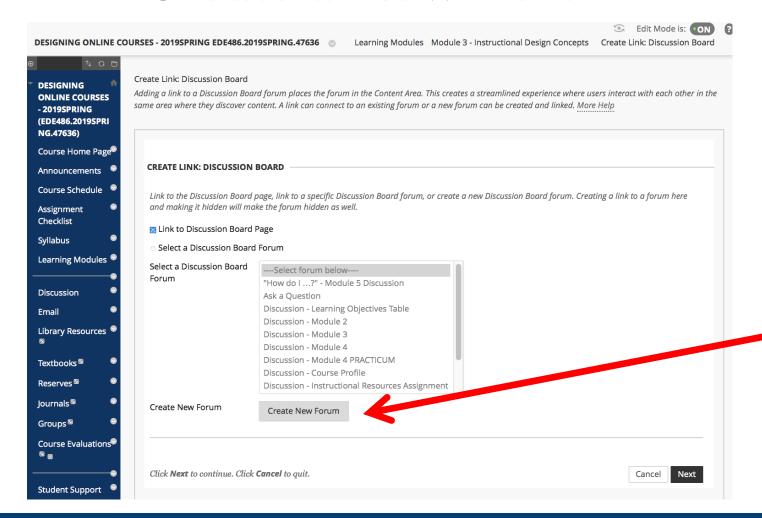


Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum."

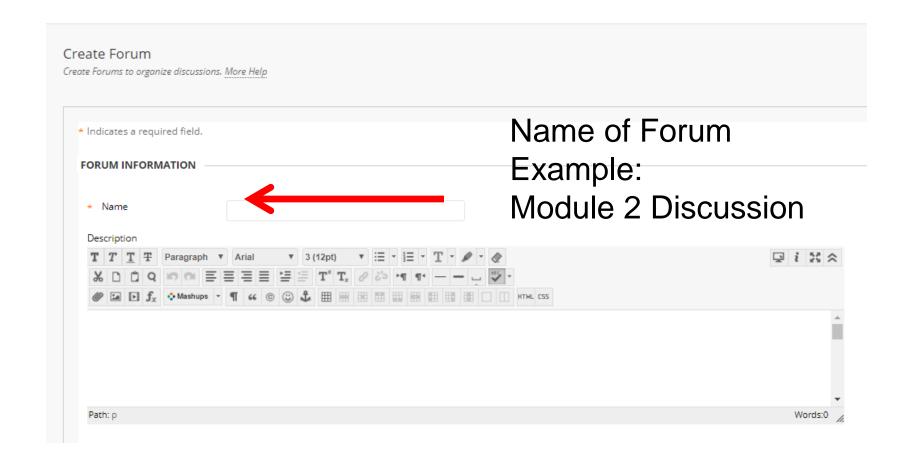
Create a Link to a Discussion Forum



Create a New Forum



General Forum Information



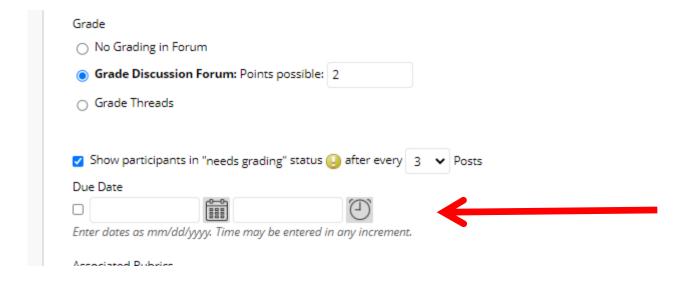
Forum Availability



Grading Settings

If a Due Date is set, submissions are accepted after this date, but are marked late. Viewing Threads/Replies Standard View Participants must create a thread in order to view other threads in this forum. If participants are required to create threads in order to view other threads in the forum, they cannot delete or edit their own posts, and cannot post anonymously. Those options will be set for you automatically. Grade No Grading in Forum Grade Discussion Forum: Points possible: 0 Grade Threads Subscribe Do not allow subscriptions Turn on Grading if Desired Allow members to subscribe to threads Allow members to subscribe to forum Name of Forum appears in Include body of post in the email **Grade Center** Include link to post

Due Date



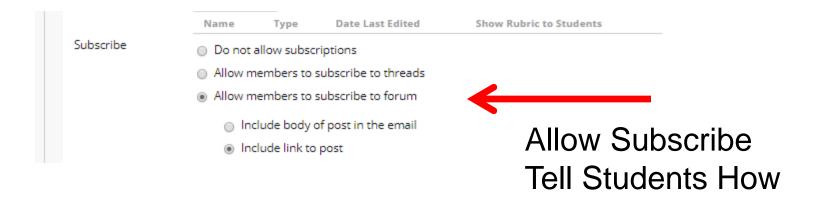


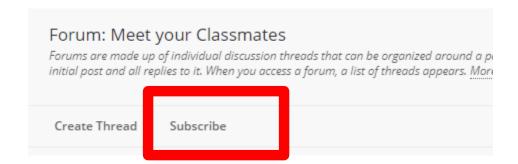
Due date will appear on Activity Stream and Calendar

Edit Settings

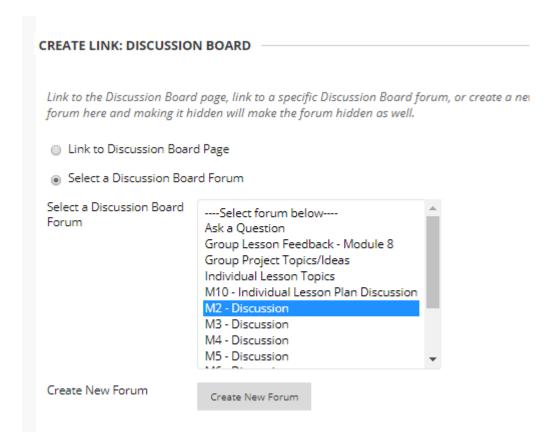
Include link to post Create and Edit Allow Anonymous Posts Turn this ON Allow Author to Delete Own Posts Allow Author to Edit Own Published Posts Allow Members to Create New Threads Allow File Attachments Allow Users to Reply with Quote Force Moderation of Posts Additional Options Allow Post Tagging Allow Members to Rate Posts

Recommended Setting

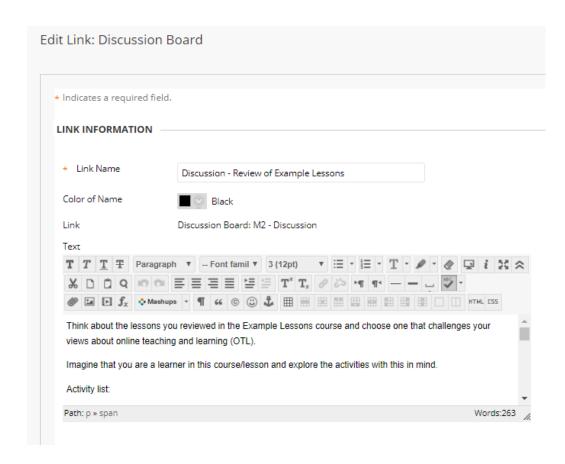




Select Forum to Link To



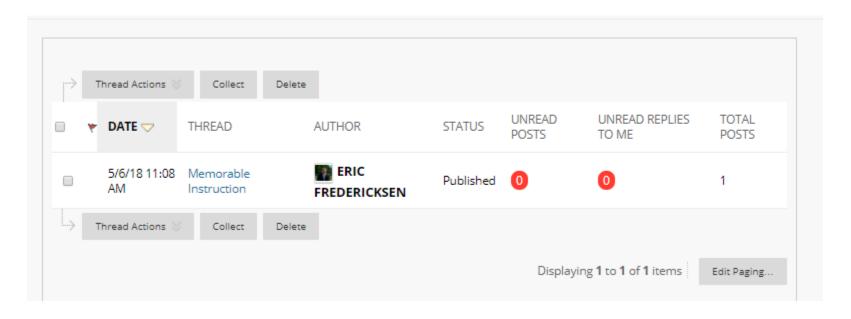
Link Name and Instructions



Link Availability

OPTIONS —	
Available	● Yes ○ No
Track Number of Views	○ Yes No
Date Restrictions	☑ Display After 01/20/2020 12:00 AM
	Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Time may be entered in any increment.
	☐ Display Until
	Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Time may be entered in any increment.

EXAMPLE: INSTRUCTOR PROVIDES STARTER POST





Edit Settings

Create and Edit

- Allow Anonymous Posts
- Allow Author to Delete Own Posts
- Allow Author to Edit Own Published Posts
- Allow Members to Create New Threads
- Allow File Attachments
- Allow Users to Reply with Quote
- Force Moderation of Posts

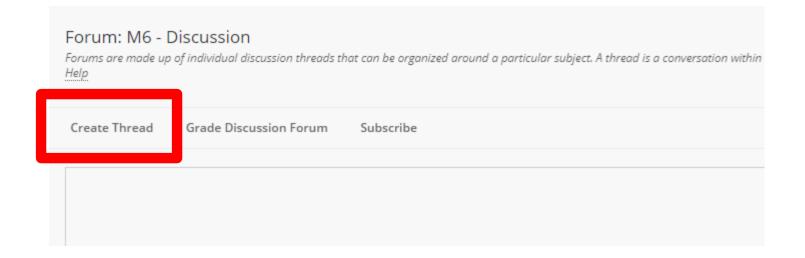
Additional Options

- Allow Post Tagging
- Allow Members to Rate Posts

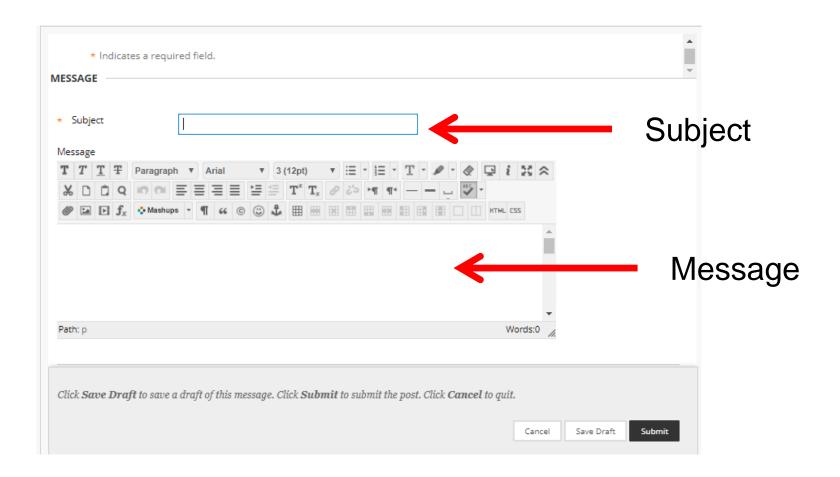


Turn this OFF

Create the Thread



Post Initial Thread



EXAMPLE: MULTIPLE STARTER POSTS

\rightarrow	Thread Actions 🍑	Collect Delete				
	♥ DATE ▽	THREAD	AUTHOR	STATUS	UNREAD POSTS	UNREAD REPLIES TO ME
	5/28/20 11:12 AM	Introductions prior to the first week of class	MELISA TANGER- BROWN	Published	0	0
	5/6/18 2:14 PM	THIS fully asynchronous weekly module	MELISA TANGER- BROWN	Published	0	0
	5/6/18 2:14 PM	Review of Example Lessons	MELISA TANGER- BROWN	Published	0	0
	5/6/18 2:14 PM	Fish Activity	MELISA TANGER- BROWN	Hidden	0	0

Edit Settings

Create and Edit

- Allow Anonymous Posts
- Allow Author to Delete Own Posts
- Allow Author to Edit Own Published Posts
- Allow Members to Create New Threads
- Allow File Attachments
- Allow Users to Reply with Quote
- Force Moderation of Posts

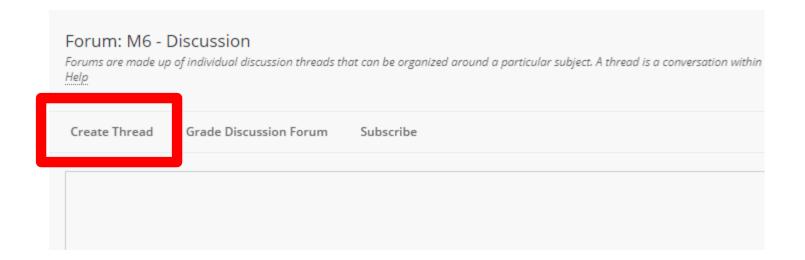
Additional Options

- Allow Post Tagging
- Allow Members to Rate Posts

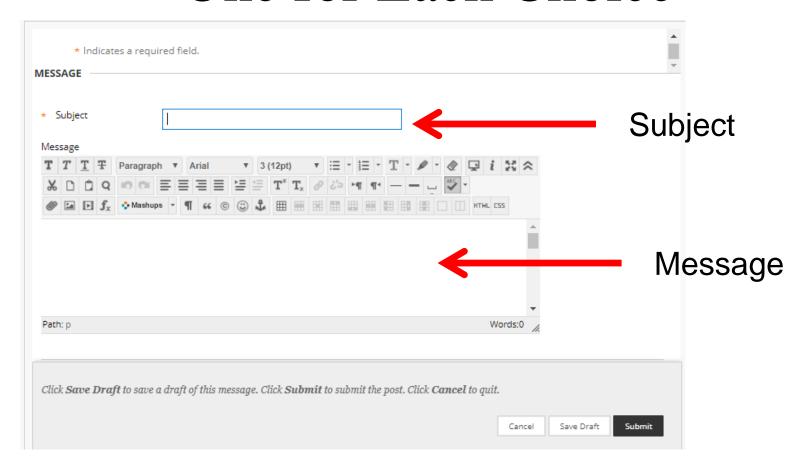


Turn this OFF

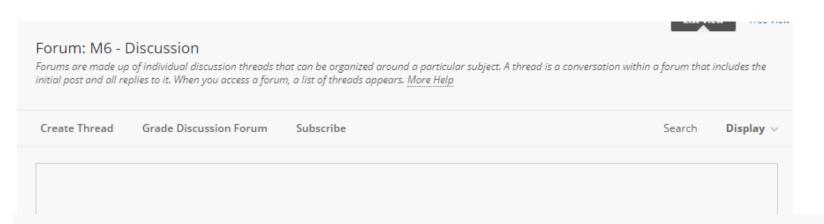
Create the Thread

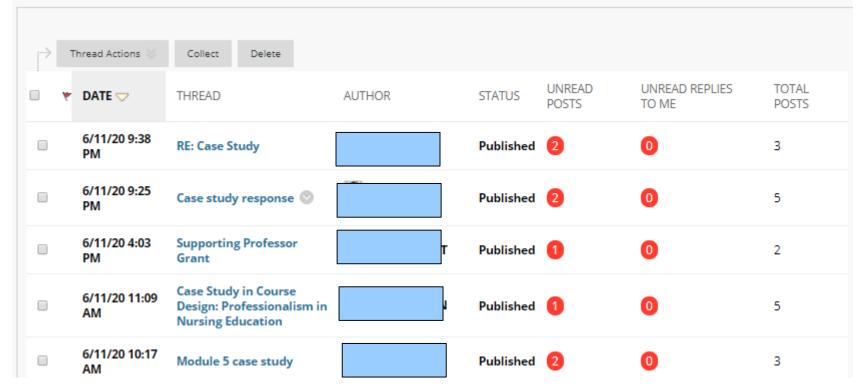


Post Initial Threads One for Each Choice



EXAMPLE: STUDENT POST FIRST





Edit Settings

FORUM SETTINGS

If a Due Date is set, submissions are accepted after this date, but are marked late.

Viewing Threads/Replies

- Standard View
- Participants must create a thread in order to view other threads in this forum. If participants are required to create threads in order to view other threads in the forum, they cannot delete or edit their own posts, and cannot post anonymously. Those options will be set for you automatically.



Turn this ON

Include link to post

Create and Edit

- Allow Anonymous Posts
- Allow Author to Delete Own Posts
- Allow Author to Edit Own Published Posts
- Allow Members to Create New Threads
- Allow File Attachments
- Allow Users to Reply with Quote
- Force Moderation of Posts

Choice Forces the Following Settings

EXAMPLE: ANONYMOUS POSTS

Edit Settings

Create and Edit

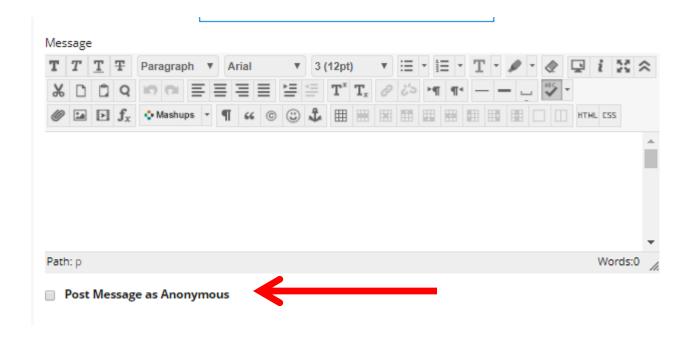
Allow Anonymous Posts

Allow Author to Delete Own Posts

Allow Author to Edit Own Published Posts

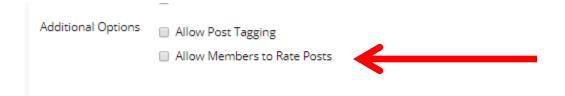
Allow Members to Create New Threads
Allow File Attachments
Allow Users to Reply with Quote
Force Moderation of Posts

Post As Anonymous

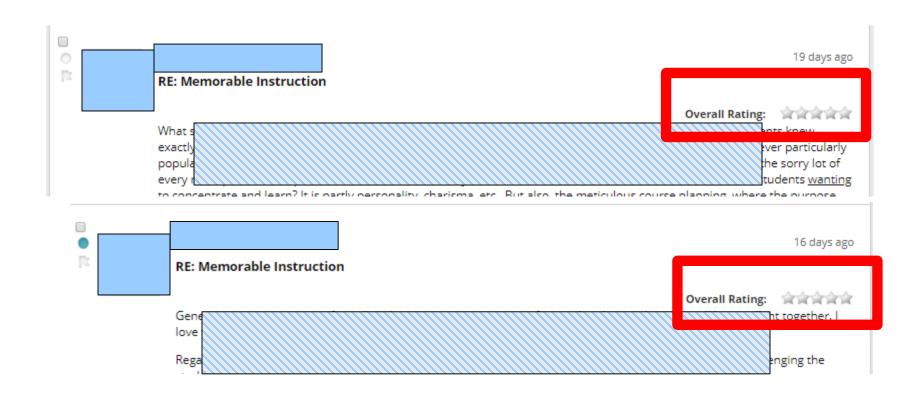


EXAMPLE: RATING POSTS

Edit Settings

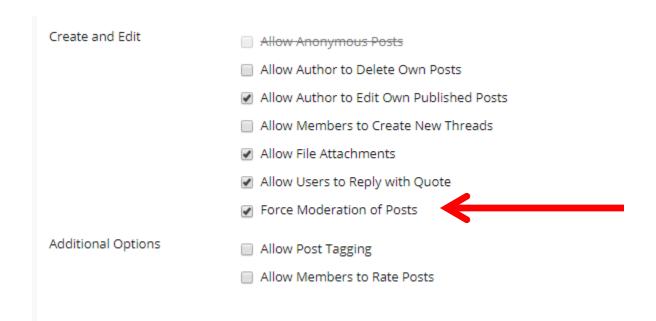


Ratings

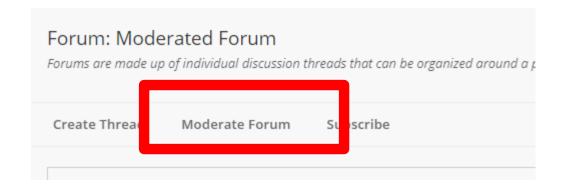


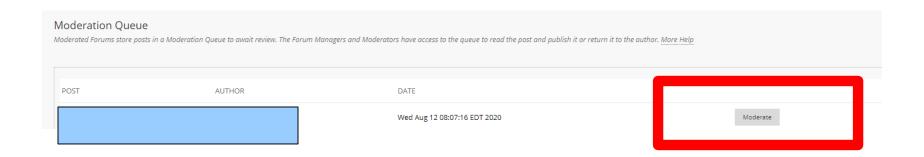
EXAMPLE: MODERATING POSTS

Edit Settings



Moderate Forum

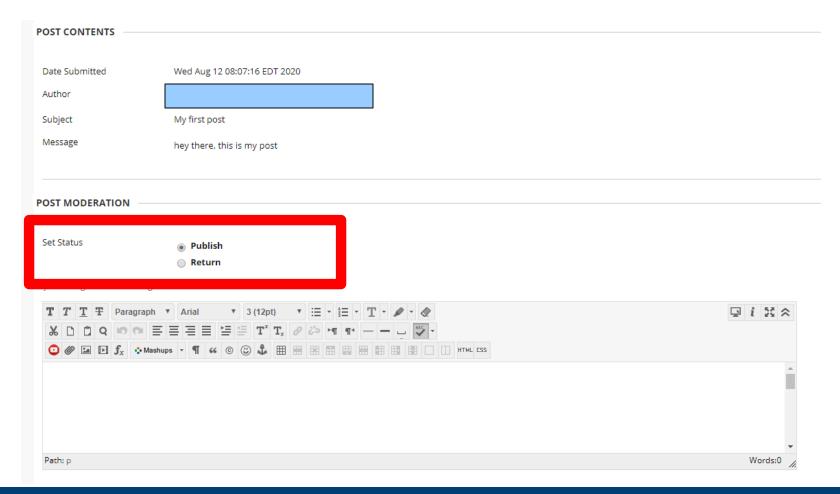




Actions

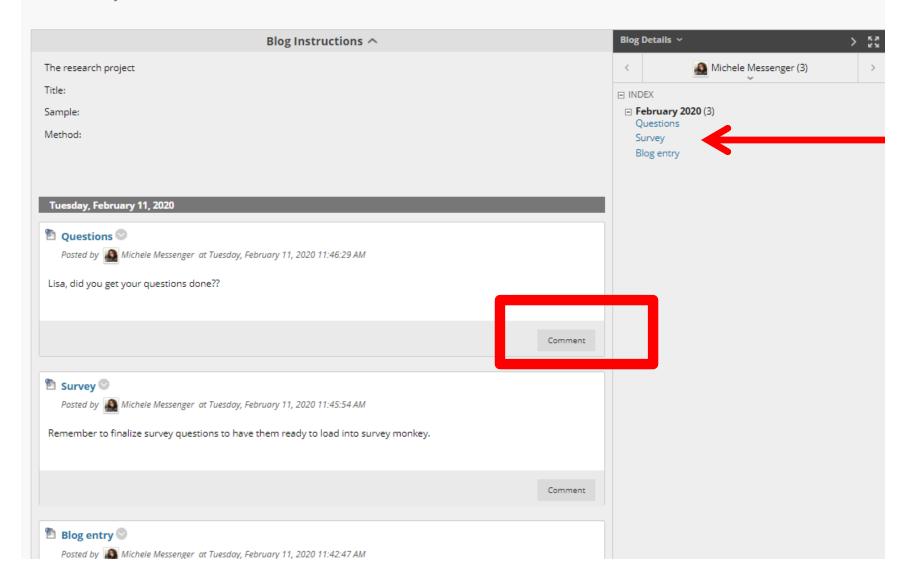
- Publish the post
- Return the post to the sender without a message
- Return the post to the sender with a message

Decide on Moderation Action

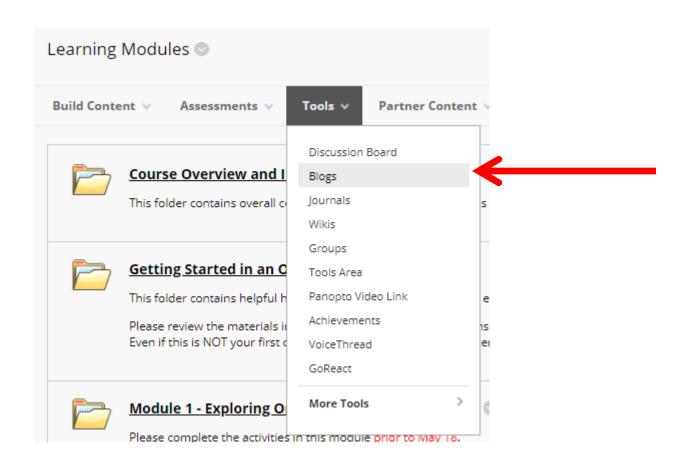


BLACKBOARD BLOG

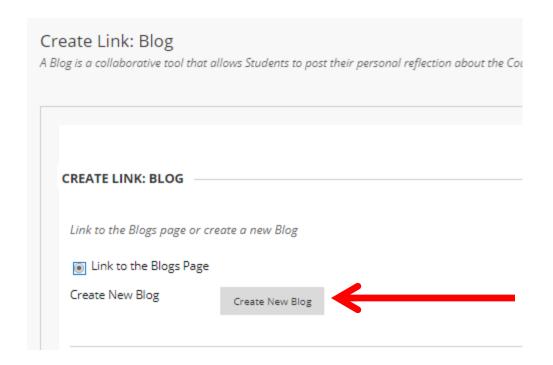
Research Project



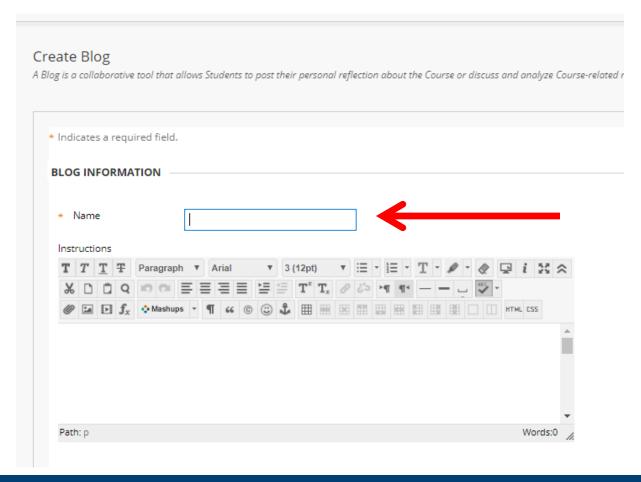
Create a Link to Blog



Create a New Blog



General Blog Information



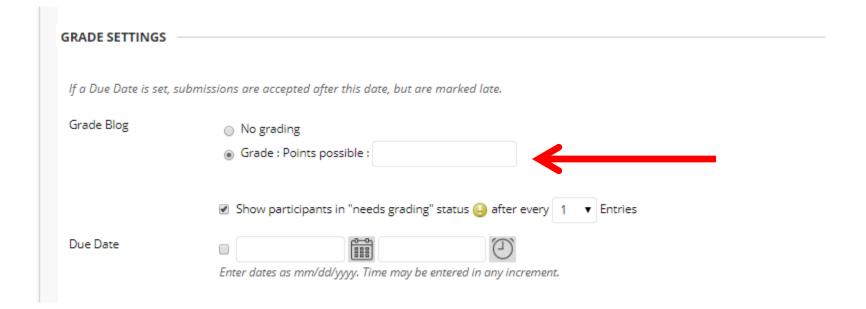
Blog Availability

BLOG AVAILABILITY				
Blog Availability	Yes ○ No		_	
BLOG DATE AND TIM	E RESTRICTIONS			
Limit Availability	☐ Display After Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Tin	ne may be entered in an	y increment.	
	☐ Display Until Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Tin	0-0-	(1)	

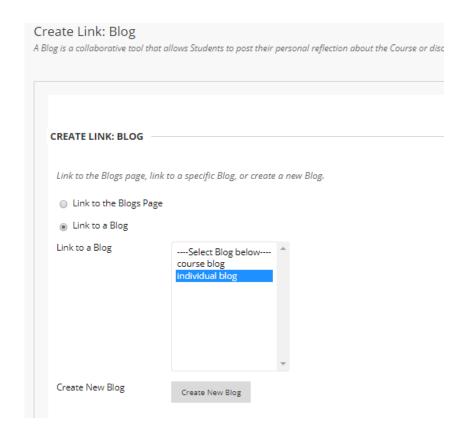
Blog Type

BLOG PARTICIPATI	ON —	
Blog Type	 Individual to All Students ○ Course Allow Anonymous Comments 	Individual – Each
BLOG SETTINGS —	Monthly Indexing will organize entries by the chosen time-frame.	student creates their own
	○ Weekly	Course – Everyone
Allow Users to Edit and Delete Entries Allow Users to Delete Comments		contributes to same

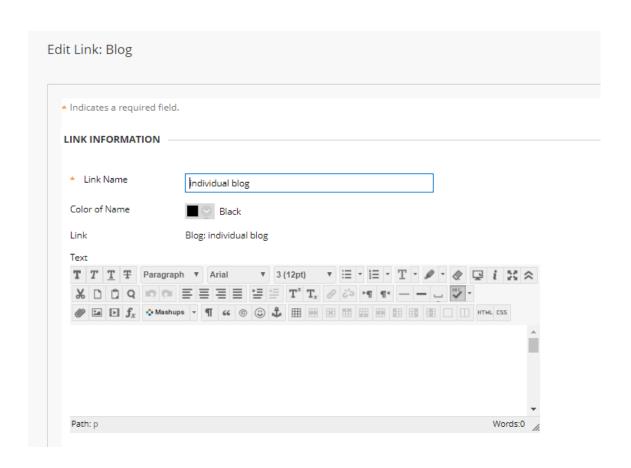
Grading Options



Add Link to Course



Link Name and Instructions



Link Availability

vailable	○ Yes No	
rack Number of Views	○ Yes No	
ate Restrictions	☐ Display After	
	Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Time may be entered in any increment.	
	☐ Display Until	
	Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Time may be entered in any increment.	

FACILITATING PEER REVIEW

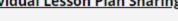
Why Peer Review

Create an opportunity for your students to collaborate and share their individual views and knowledge with their classmates regarding papers or projects.

This feedback benefits the student author and the student reviewer, and can be a great addition beyond the feedback from the professor.



Individual Lesson Plan Sharing



Availability: Item is hidden from students. It will be available after Jul 26, 2020 12:00 AM.

Share your individual lesson plan in this discussion board by Thursday.

At this point you should be able to think critically about a lesson and provide helpful feedback to your classmate on potential changes. You should be able to ask good questions that will help your classmate further develop their teaching plans. No lesson is perfect - I take feedback from students and make changes to my lessons every semester.

Review the lesson plan of your thinking partner and provide feedback to them by Sunday.

Check the discussion board for feedback from your thinking partner after Sunday. Check the graded area of this discussion board after Sunday for feedback from the instructor.

Use feedback from all sources to develop your final lesson plan which you will create in Blackboard and will be turned in later during Module 10

Use the same Lesson Planning template that we have been using: Lesson Planning Template

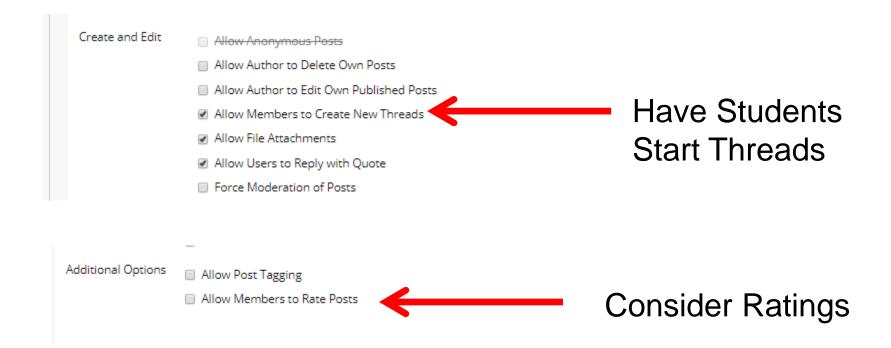


(Note that you can continue from the development you did earlier in this course, you do not need to start from scratch unless you choose to).

How To: Click on the link for the discussion board. Click "Create Thread" and provide a name for your topic. Create a first post and attach your lesson plan as an attachment for your thinking partner to review.

Thinking Partners: You can choose to use Track changes and attach a reviewed document in a reply to your classmate, or you can provide a list of helpful thoughts, questions, and changes directly in your post.

Edit Settings



Other Discussion Tools

- Voicethread
 - video and audio
- Yellowdig
 - social media-like experience
- Harmonize
 - Combination of text and audio/video
- Piazza
 - Good math / codeeditor

Getting Started Workshops

- **-** Getting Started: Collecting Assignments, Projects, and Presentations Online
 - **-** August 16, 2023 10am 11am
- **-** Getting Started: Facilitating Student Discussion and Interaction
 - **August 17, 2023 10am 11am**
- Getting Started: How to Create and Facilitate an Online Exam,
 Test, or Quiz
 - August 22, 2023 10am 11am
- Getting Started: Planning to use the Blackboard Grade Center
 - August 24, 2023 10am 11am

Additional Workshops in August

- Add Interactivity to your Class: Poll Everywhere
- **+** How-to Pre-Record and Deliver Video Content to your Students
- **How to Facilitate a Live, Interactive Zoom Session**
- Collaborative Annotation using Perusall
- Building Community in your Course with Yellowdig
- Enhancing your Discussion and Student Interaction using VoiceThread
- Improve the Accessibility of your Course with Ally
- How to Use Padlet: A Digital Discussion Board
- Qwickly Tools for Attendance and Course Management
- Enhancing your Discussion and Student Interaction using Harmonize
- Repurpose, Reuse & Upcycle Video Content with PlayPosit! (Sept)

Getting Help

Online Documentation

https://tech.rochester.edu/services/learning-management-system/

Upcoming Workshops

http://rochester.edu/online-learning/

Reach Out!

Blackboard Support Digital Instructional Design Support

UnivITHelp@Rochester.edu

275-2000

THANK YOU QUESTIONS?