

How to Use Different Discussion Tools in your Course

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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)
- Use any of the tools above for discussion



WHY DISCUSSION?



Student-Teacher
interaction

Formative
assessment

Application
of learning

Student-Student
interaction


Summative
assessment



Types of Discussion

 Application / Synthesis of Learning

 Conversation Starter / Finisher

 Debate

 Role Play



Interactions to Encourage Knowledge Construction and Critical Thinking

Prompts

Elaboration

Clarification

Weaving

Perspectives

Inferences
and
Assumptions

Implications

Summary



BLACKBOARD DISCUSSION BOARDS



Select: [All](#) [None](#)

Message Actions

Expand All

Collapse All

<< Thread 2 of 3 >>

5 Post(s) in this Thread

0 Unread

0 Replies to me



Medical Student2019

RE: Gaps in the First Amendment

Main Post or Thread

11 months ago

Sed ut perspiciatis unde omnis

que ipsa quae ab illo inventore veritatis et quasi architecto beatae vitae dicta sunt explicabo. Nemo enim ipsam voluptatem quia voluptas sit aspernatur aut odit aut fugit, sed quia consequuntur magni dolores eos qui ratione voluptatem sequi nesciunt. Neque porro quisquam est, qui dolorem ipsum quia dolor sit amet, consectetur, adipisci velit, sed quia non numquam eius modi tempora incidunt ut labore et dolore magnam aliquam quaerat voluptatem. Ut enim ad minima veniam, quis nostrum exercitationem ullam corporis suscipit laboriosam, nisi ut aliquid ex ea commodi consequatur? Quis autem vel eum iure reprehenderit qui in ea voluptate velit esse quam nihil molestiae consequatur, vel illum qui dolorem eum fugiat quo voluptas nulla pariatur?

Reply

Quote

Edit

Delete



medical student2018

RE: Gaps in the First Amendment

Reply

11 months ago

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum."



Tracy Cherry

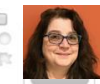
RE: Gaps in the First Amendment

Reply

11 months ago

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum."

▲ Hide 2 replies



medical student2018

RE: Gaps in the First Amendment

Second level Reply

11 months ago

Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum."

▲ Hide 1 reply



medical student2018

RE: Gaps in the First Amendment

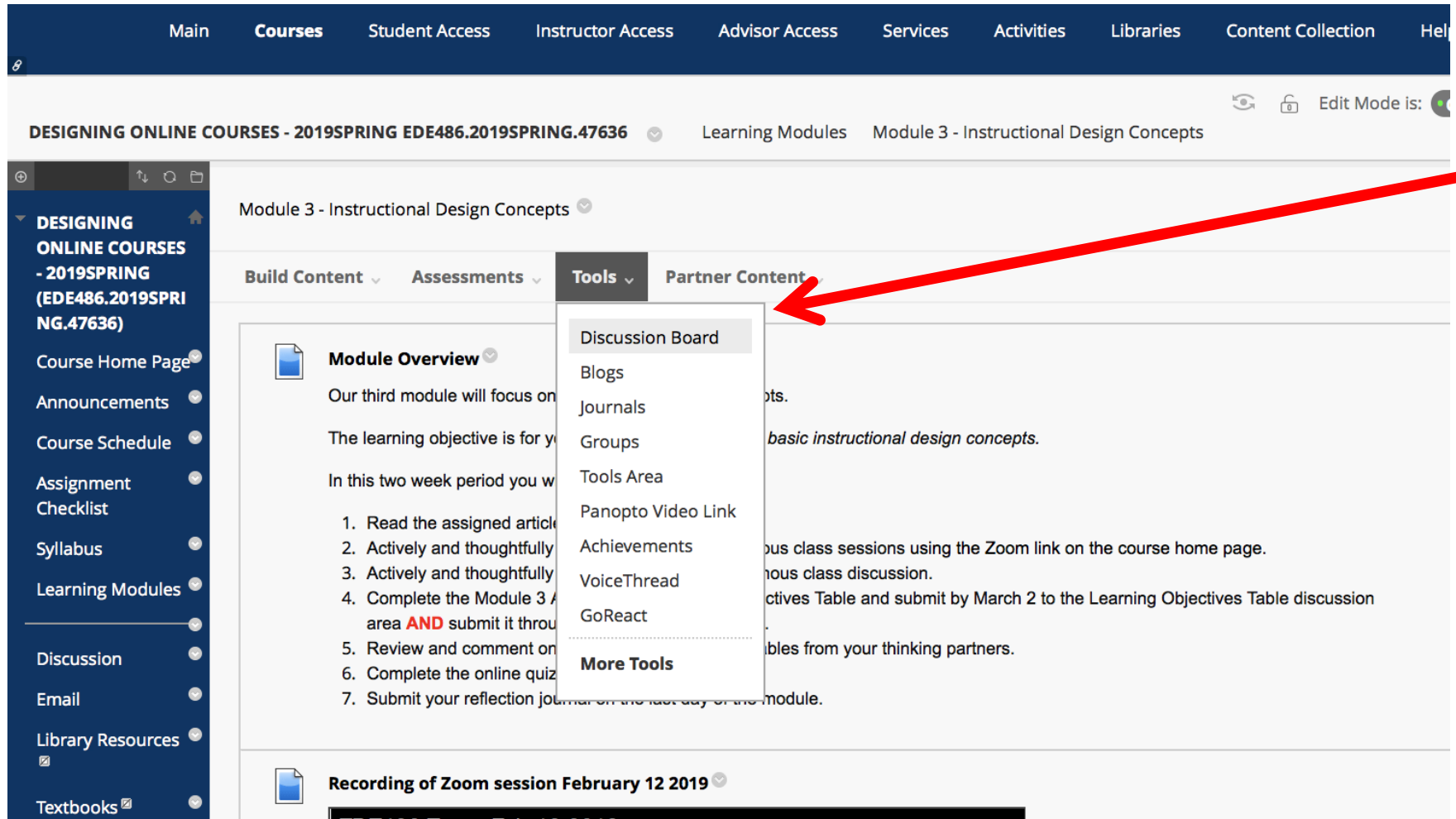
Second level Reply

11 months ago

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



Create a Link to a Discussion Forum



The screenshot displays the Blackboard LMS interface for the course "DESIGNING ONLINE COURSES - 2019SPRING EDE486.2019SPRING.47636". The top navigation bar includes links for Main, Courses, Student Access, Instructor Access, Advisor Access, Services, Activities, Libraries, Content Collection, and Help. The course title and "Learning Modules" are shown below the navigation bar. The "Module 3 - Instructional Design Concepts" is selected. The left sidebar contains a list of course navigation links: Course Home Page, Announcements, Course Schedule, Assignment Checklist, Syllabus, Learning Modules, Discussion, Email, Library Resources, and Textbooks. The main content area shows the "Module 3 - Instructional Design Concepts" page. The "Tools" menu is open, displaying options: Discussion Board, Blogs, Journals, Groups, Tools Area, Panopto Video Link, Achievements, VoiceThread, GoReact, and More Tools. A red arrow points to the "Discussion Board" option.

DESIGNING ONLINE COURSES - 2019SPRING EDE486.2019SPRING.47636 Learning Modules Module 3 - Instructional Design Concepts

Module 3 - Instructional Design Concepts

Build Content Assessments Tools Partner Content

Module Overview

Our third module will focus on...

The learning objective is for you...

In this two week period you will...

1. Read the assigned article...
2. Actively and thoughtfully...
3. Actively and thoughtfully...
4. Complete the Module 3 /... area **AND** submit it through...
5. Review and comment on...
6. Complete the online quiz...
7. Submit your reflection journal on the last day of the module.

Recording of Zoom session February 12 2019



Create a New Forum

DESIGNING ONLINE COURSES - 2019SPRING EDE486.2019SPRING.47636 Learning Modules Module 3 - Instructional Design Concepts Create Link: Discussion Board Edit Mode is: ON ?

DESIGNING ONLINE COURSES - 2019SPRING (EDE486.2019SPRING.47636)

Course Home Page

Announcements

Course Schedule

Assignment Checklist

Syllabus

Learning Modules

Discussion

Email

Library Resources

Textbooks

Reserves

Journals

Groups

Course Evaluations

Student Support

Create Link: Discussion Board

Adding a link to a Discussion Board forum places the forum in the Content Area. This creates a streamlined experience where users interact with each other in the same area where they discover content. A link can connect to an existing forum or a new forum can be created and linked. [More Help](#)

CREATE LINK: DISCUSSION BOARD

Link to the Discussion Board page, link to a specific Discussion Board forum, or create a new Discussion Board forum. Creating a link to a forum here and making it hidden will make the forum hidden as well.

☒ Link to Discussion Board Page

☐ Select a Discussion Board Forum

Select a Discussion Board Forum

---Select forum below---

"How do I ...?" - Module 5 Discussion

Ask a Question

Discussion - Learning Objectives Table

Discussion - Module 2

Discussion - Module 3

Discussion - Module 4

Discussion - Module 4 PRACTICUM

Discussion - Course Profile

Discussion - Instructional Resources Assignment

Create New Forum

Create New Forum

Click **Next** to continue. Click **Cancel** to quit.

Cancel Next



General Forum Information


Create Forum
Create Forums to organize discussions. [More Help](#)

* Indicates a required field.

FORUM INFORMATION

* Name

Description



Path: p Words:0

Name of Forum
Example:
Module 2 Discussion



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

☐ Allow members to subscribe to threads

☒ Allow members to subscribe to forum

☐ Include body of post in the email

☒ Include link to post

Turn on Grading if Desired
Name of Forum appears in
Grade Center



Edit Settings

Create and Edit

☒ Include link to post

- ☐ 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

Turn this ON



Additional Options

- ☐ Allow Post Tagging
- ☐ Allow Members to Rate Posts



Recommended Setting

Subscribe

Name	Type	Date Last Edited	Show Rubric to Students
<input type="radio"/>	Do not allow subscriptions		
<input type="radio"/>	Allow members to subscribe to threads		
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Allow members to subscribe to forum		
<input type="radio"/>	Include body of post in the email		
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Include link to post		

← Allow Subscribe
Tell Students How

Forum: Meet your Classmates

Forums are made up of individual discussion threads that can be organized around a p
initial post and all replies to it. When you access a forum, a list of threads appears. Mor

Create Thread

Subscribe



Select Forum to Link To

CREATE LINK: DISCUSSION BOARD

Link to the Discussion Board page, link to a specific Discussion Board forum, or create a new forum here and making it hidden will make the forum hidden as well.

- ☐ Link to Discussion Board Page
- ☒ Select a Discussion Board Forum

Select a Discussion Board Forum

----Select forum below----

- Ask a Question
- Group Lesson Feedback - Module 8
- Group Project Topics/Ideas
- Individual Lesson Topics
- M10 - Individual Lesson Plan Discussion
- M2 - Discussion**
- M3 - Discussion
- M4 - Discussion
- M5 - Discussion

Create New Forum

Create New Forum



Link Name and Instructions

Edit Link: Discussion Board

* Indicates a required field.

LINK INFORMATION

* Link Name

Discussion - Review of Example Lessons

Color of Name

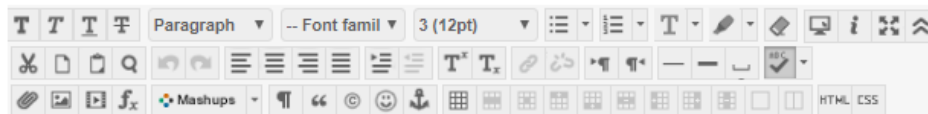


Black

Link

Discussion Board: M2 - Discussion

Text



Think about the lessons you reviewed in the Example Lessons course and choose one that challenges your views about online teaching and learning (OTL).

Imagine that you are a learner in this course/lesson and explore the activities with this in mind.

Activity list:

Path: p » span

Words:263



Result in your Course



Discussion - Review of Example Lessons ▼

Think about the lessons you reviewed in the Example Lessons course and choose one that challenges your views about online teaching and learning (OTL).

Imagine that you are a learner in this course/lesson and explore the activities with this in mind.

Activity list:

- Lesson about blogging
- Card Trick Lesson
- Generational Differences
- Entrepreneurial course activity
- Nursing course activity



VOICETHREAD DISCUSSION





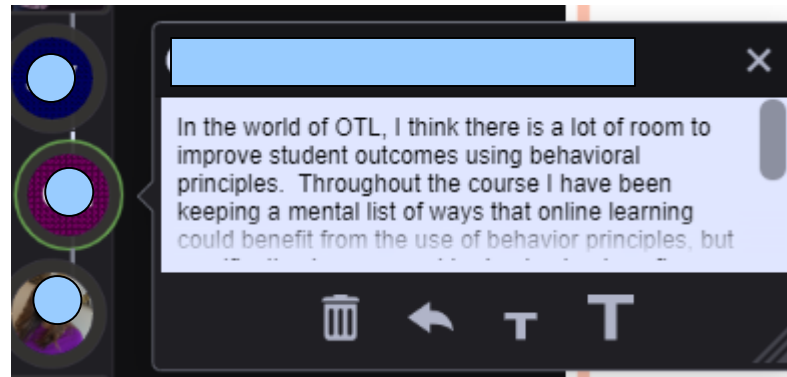
Use for...

- Introductions
- Discussion board
- Multimedia discussion board
- Start with Powerpoint or Video
- Supports text, voice, and video
- Support annotations

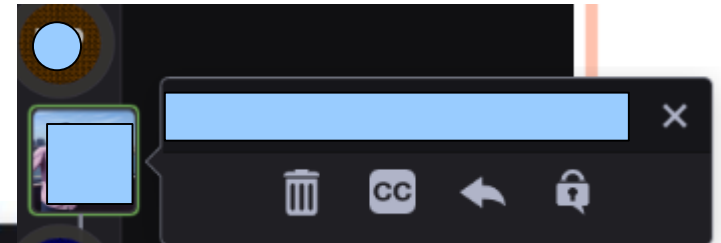


Types of Discussion

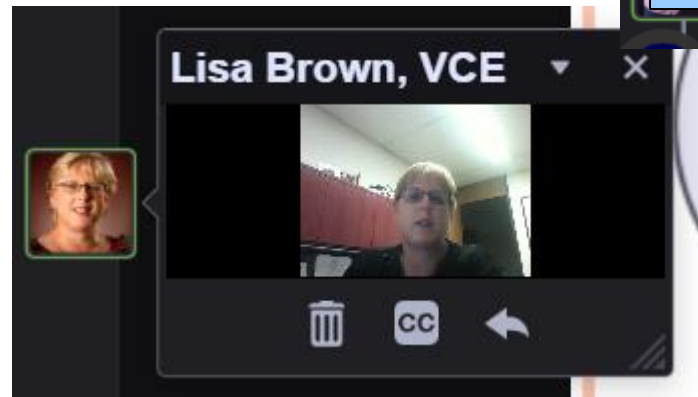
- Text



- Audio



- Video



Threaded Asynchronous Conversation

Main “Post”

Main “Post”

Reply

Main “Post”

Reply

Reply

Main “Post”



Discussion “Forum”

Community of Inquiry (484-F18) (Slide 4 of 5) BG Blackboard Guest

Q >>

SOCIAL PRESENCE STUDENT-TO-STUDENT

- The ability of participants to identify with the community (e.g. course of study), communicate purposefully in a trusting environment, and develop interpersonal relationships by way of projecting their individual personalities.

Social Presence	Open Communication Group Cohesion Affective Expression	Risk-free expression Encourage collaboration Emoticons
------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------

Comment



Add Tool to Content Area

The image shows a screenshot of a web application interface. On the left, a navigation menu is open, showing options like 'Assessments', 'Tools', and 'Partner Content'. The 'Tools' menu is expanded, listing various tools such as 'Discussion Board', 'Blogs', 'Journals', 'Wikis', 'Groups', 'Tools Area', 'Authenticated User Link', 'Panopto Video Link', 'piazza', 'Achievements', 'VoiceThread' (which is highlighted), 'GoReact', 'Echo360', and a 'More Tools' link. On the right, the 'Create VoiceThread' form is displayed. It includes a title field with the text 'Voicethread example', a 'Color of Name' dropdown set to 'Black', and a 'Description' field. The description field contains the text 'For the toolbar, press ALT+F10 (PC) or ALT+FN+F10 (Mac).' and a rich text editor toolbar. The toolbar includes various icons for text formatting, alignment, and linking. Below the description field is a 'Sample instructions' section. At the bottom of the form, there is a 'Path' field with the value 'p' and a 'Words:2' counter.

Assessments ▾ Tools ▾ Partner Content ▾

- Discussion Board
- Blogs
- Journals
- Wikis
- Groups
- Tools Area
- Authenticated User Link
- Panopto Video Link
- piazza
- Achievements
- VoiceThread
- GoReact
- Echo360
- More Tools >

Create VoiceThread

* Indicates a required field.

INFORMATION

* Name

Color of Name Black

Description

For the toolbar, press ALT+F10 (PC) or ALT+FN+F10 (Mac).

Sample instructions

Path: p Words:2



Voicethread Options

ATTACHMENTS

Select **Do Not Attach** to remove a selected file.

Attach File

Browse My Computer

Browse Content Collection

GRADING

Enable Evaluation

☒ Yes ☐ No



Creates a Grade Center column

To set additional evaluation options, use the Column settings in the Grade Center

* Points Possible

Visible to Students

☒ Yes ☐ No

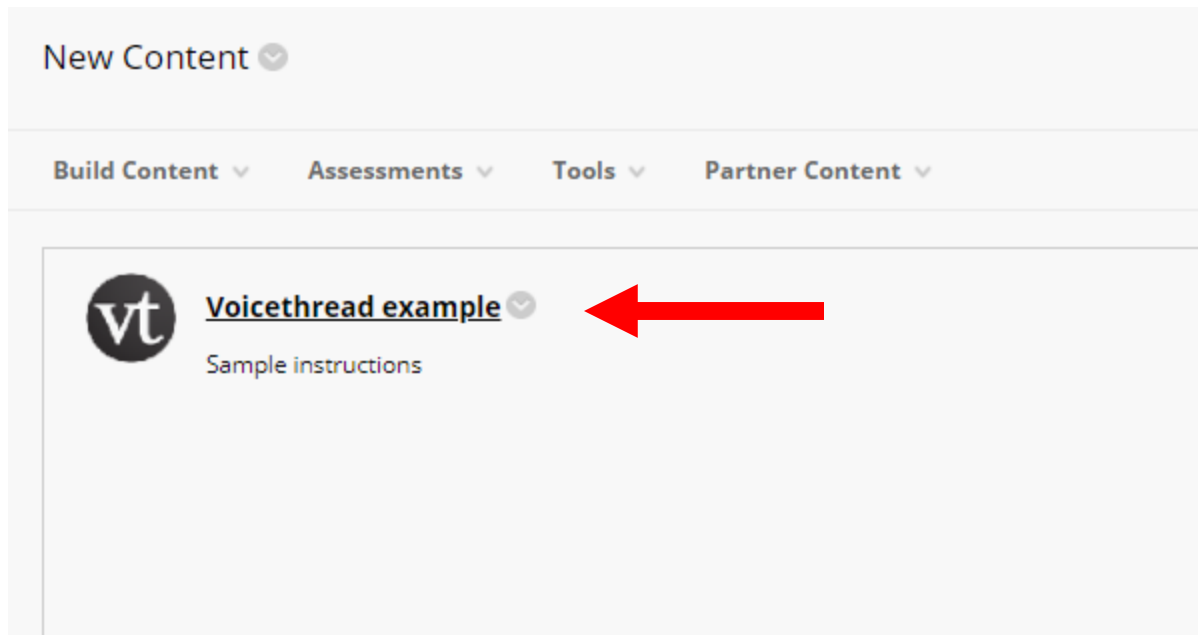
Due Date

☐  

Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Time may be entered in any increment.



Click this Link



Every VT link must be initialized to indicate what function it will have.



Individual VT Button

VoiceThread Setup

 Course View ⓘ

 Individual VT ⓘ

Takes user to the Voicethread you will choose.

Assignment Builder ⓘ



Assignment Builder Button

VoiceThread Setup

 Course View 

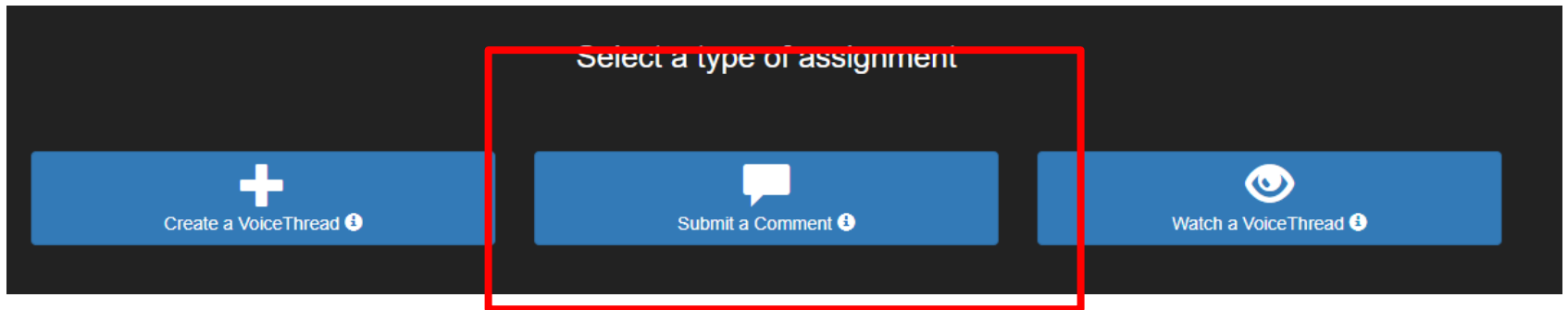
 Home 

Only appears if you Enable Evaluation but you don't have to use it in order to Grade.
Checks for submission of criteria

Assignment Builder 



Comment on a Voicethread Assignment



Students get credit for
COMMENTING on a Voicethread
Note that you provide a number
of comments to make



YELLOWDIG DISCUSSION



Yellowdig

- Facebook-like
- Gamified through points-based interactions
- Badges and Reactions
- Topics and Tags
- Grade passback to Blackboard



Online Teaching and Learning -
SPRING2021WSE



Community



My Participation



Activity



Members



Data



Community

University of Rochester / Online

Building Commun

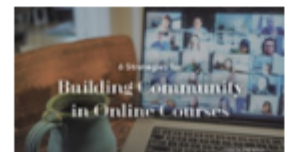


[Redacted]n
Today at 3:49 PM EDT ✓

<https://kpcrossacademy.o>



THE K. PATRICIA CROSS AC



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UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER



Online Teaching and Learning – SPRING2021WSE



Community



My Participation

11



Activity



Members



Data



Community



+ CREATE

University of Rochester / Online Teaching and Learning – SPRING2021WSE

Building Community in Online Courses

MODULE 3 - COMMUNITY



EDIT

<https://kpcrossacademy.org/building-community-in-online-courses/>

THE K. PATRICIA CROSS ACADEMY Jul 26, 2020



6 Strategies for Building Community in Online Courses – The K. Patricia Cross Academy

Sometimes, a group of students in a given class just seems to gel. They connect, work well together, and encourage and support each other. Sometimes a group of

Points Earned

4225

My Period Max

5225

Total Goal: 8400

How to earn points My participation

My grade

Sort By Recent Posts or Comments

Collapse

Title your Post

Help?

Normal

Add a note, web links, @ to mention members, # to create hashtags, and : to add emojis



Poll



File



Video



Image



Audio



Pin to Top



Topics



Emoji



Draw



Record Video



Formula

0 POINTS EARNED +200



POST



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Post Types

Melisa Brown OWNER Today at 9:00 PM EDT

This is my text. It can be many colors. It can be large or small.
We can add links

We also have **bold**, *italic*, and underline

We can quote something

We can change the style

We can write math equations
 $e = mc^2$

Read 😊 Comment

POLL

Melisa Brown OWNER Today at 8:37 PM EDT

Milky Way

Snickers

M&Ms

0 votes cast

Read 😊 Comment

Text

File

Video

Poll

handouts

Melisa Brown OWNER Today at 8:54 PM EDT

handouts_blooms_cognitive.pdf
PDF 173.8 KB

Read 😊 Comment

Melisa Brown OWNER Today at 8:51 PM EDT

0:01 / 0:08

Read 😊 Comment



More Post Types

Blooms Taxonomy

Melisa Brown **OWNER** Today at 8:48 PM EDT

Active verbs developed based on Bloom's Taxonomy

Knowledge	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
define identify describe label list name state match recognize select examine locate memorize quote recall reproduce tabulate tell copy discover duplicate enumerate	explain describe interpret paraphrase summarize classify differentiate discuss distinguish extend predict associate contrast convert reproduce estimate express identify indicate infer relate	illustrate apply illustrate modify use calculate compare choose demonstrate discuss extend predict associate contrast convert reproduce estimate express identify indicate infer relate	analyze compare classify contrast distinguish infer calculate compare choose demonstrate discuss extend predict associate contrast convert reproduce estimate express identify indicate infer relate	reframe criticize evaluate order appraise judge support compare decide discriminate recommend summarize construct show generalize convince defend estimate interpret grade measure predict rank	design compose create plan combine formulate invent hypothesize substitute write complete construct develop generalize integrate modify organize prepare produce rearrange rewrite role-play
Knowledge	Application	Synthesis			

Read



Comment

Drawing

Melisa Brown **OWNER** Today at 8:50 PM EDT



Read



Comment

Image

Title your Post

Normal



Add a note, web links, @ to mention members, # to create hashtags, and : to add emojis

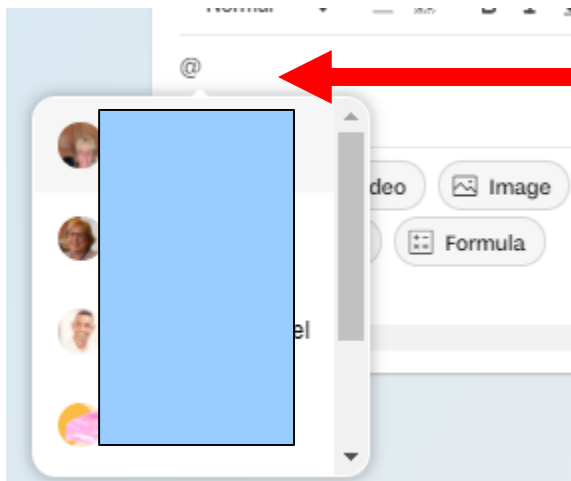
Recording

Video



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Make A Comment



@mentions

A screenshot of a social media comment input area. The input field contains the text "Add a note, web links, @ to mention members, # to create hashtags, and : to add emojis". Below the input field are buttons for "File", "Video", "Image", "Audio", "Emoji", "Draw", "Record Video", and "Formula". At the bottom right, there is a "POST COMMENT" button and a "0 POINTS EARNED + 125" indicator.

4 Community-Building Strategies

MODULE 3 - COMMUNITY



03/25/2021

...

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/4-relationship-building-strategies-help-finish-school-year-strong> 2



EDUTOPIA Mar 25, 2021



4 Relationship-Building Strategies to Help Finish the School Year Strong 2

Students still have time to make connections with their classmates, and projects that require teamwork are a great place to start.

This article provides 4 relationship-building methods for online courses. I think the second method is very interesting, and author lists some examples of big-idea proposal which we could reference and apply in our future online learning. Moreover, these 4 strategies could be helpful for us to building the community.



Comment



Last Sunday at 10:20 AM EDT

...

Hi Yuzhou,

I am catching up on all the great posts here on Yellowdig, as I have been busy with our group project! Thank you for this great post- we often don't talk about or learn too much about the school year or class ends. I have one great article that I did get on preparing for your last class of a semester, I'll have to find that and post as well!

Thanks again - Joyce



Reply



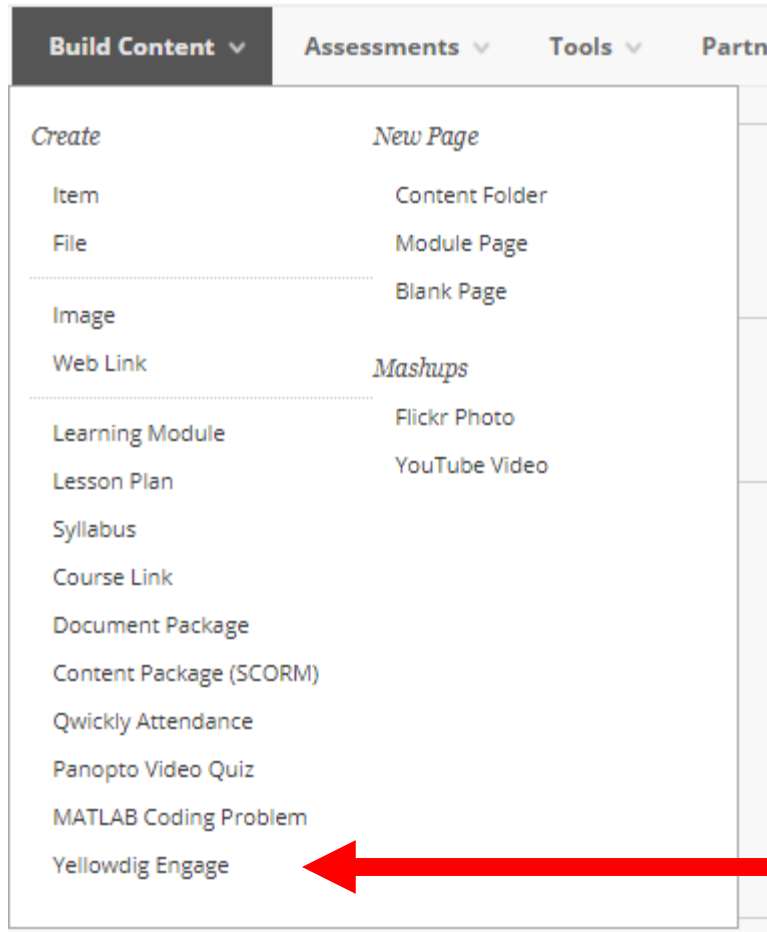
Last Sunday at 1:05 PM EDT (Edited Last Sunday at 1:06 PM EDT)

...



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Choose Tool



Setting up the Link

Edit Yellowdig Engage: yellowdig

* Indicates a required field.

INFORMATION

* Name

Color of Name Black

Description

A rich text editor toolbar with various icons for text formatting, alignment, and insertion. The icons include bold, italic, underline, strikethrough, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink, insert link, insert image, insert video, insert audio, insert code, and a 'Mashups' dropdown menu. The toolbar is located below the 'Description' label and above the main text area.

Path: p

Words:0



Grade Passback?

ATTACHMENTS

Select **Do Not Attach** to remove a selected file.

Attach File

Browse My Computer

Browse Content Collection

GRADING

Enable Evaluation ☒ Yes ☐ No

To set additional evaluation options, use the Column settings in the Grade Center

* Points Possible

10

Visible to Students ☒ Yes ☐ No

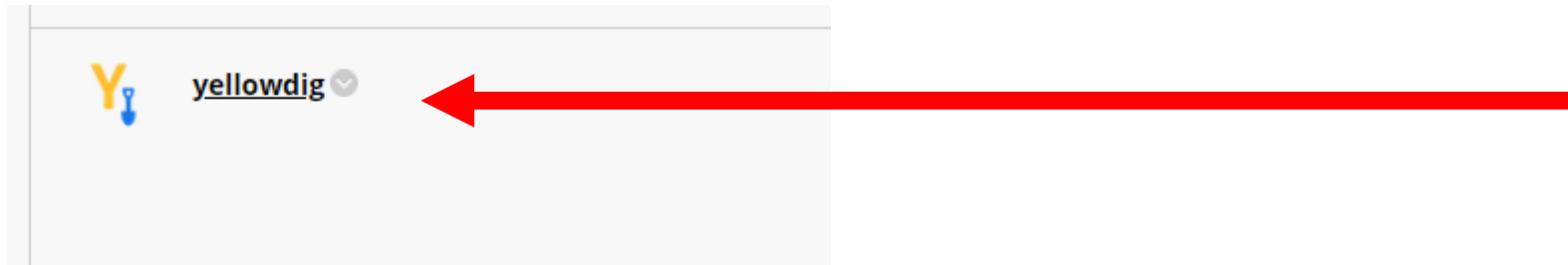
Due Date

☐  

Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Time may be entered in any increment.



Click to Initialize



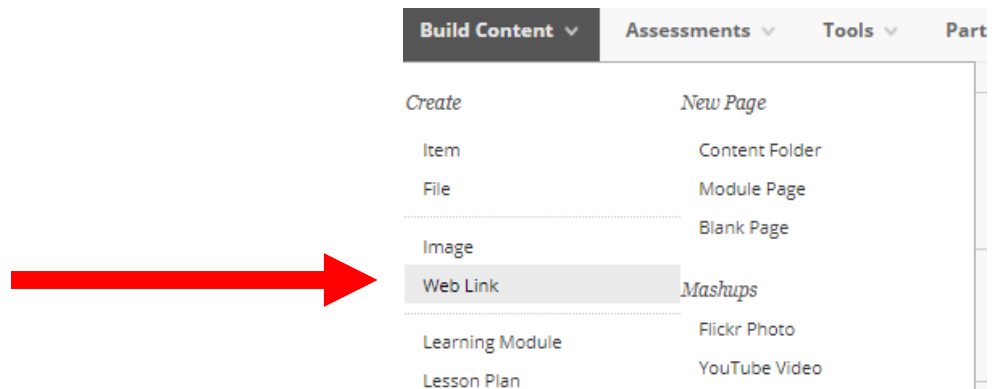
Launches Yellowdig and creates
your Board.



NOTICE

Only place ONE original Yellowdig tool link in your Blackboard course.

Make additional links using Web Link and copy the original link into these.



COMPARISONS



Technical Features

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



Pros



Blackboard

- Gathers student submissions together for grading
- Excellent for textual summaries
- Grading with rubrics



Voicethread

- Uses student voice and video
- Casual interactions



Yellowdig

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



Cons



Blackboard

- Less friendly
- 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



Practical Uses



Blackboard

- Formal Discussion
- Written language skills



Voicethread

- Conversational Discussion
- Language learning



Yellowdig

- Information sharing
- Casual conversations
- Social interactions



**THANK YOU
QUESTIONS?**



More Workshops

<http://rochester.edu/online-learning/index.html>

- **Learn more about Padlet**
 - Dates: *Friday, April 9, 12 noon*
- **Course Organization with the Blackboard Template**
 - Dates: *Tuesday, April 13, 12noon*
- **Learn more about Perusall**
 - Dates: *Friday, April 16, 12 noon*
- **Voicethread Assignment Feature Changes**
 - Dates: *Friday, April 30, 12 noon*



Video Tutorials

- <http://rochester.edu/online-learning/disruption/index.html>

