



## Discussion Board

Type	Learning Curve	Blackboard Gradebook Integration	Cost
Online or Face-to-Face	Low	Yes	Free

### What?

Discussions are a good way to encourage students to think critically about your coursework and interact with each others' ideas. You can create discussions around individual course lessons or for your course in general. As the instructor, you own the discussions. After you start a discussion, you can post comments of your own to guide students.

### When?

- To mimic discussion in online courses
- To document discussion in face-to-face courses
- When you want to observe how multiple students articulate, debate and collaborate in the context of conversation.
- When you want to access critical thinking skills
- When you want to provide a place for students to build relationships and intellectual comradery.

### How?

- Create Discussion Forum: [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Interact/Discussions/Create\\_Forums](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Interact/Discussions/Create_Forums)
- Create Discussion Thread: [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Interact/Discussions/Create\\_Threads](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Interact/Discussions/Create_Threads)
- Learn more: <https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Interact/Discussions>

### Tips

- Create prompts for your students that have more than one correct answer.
- Require students to respond to at least two of their peers.
- Connect the Discussion Board to the Blackboard Grade Book to track student engagement.

### Suggested Activities

To learn about these activities and how to implement them, see the [Student Engagement Strategies Toolbox](#).

- Think Pair Share
- What's the Principle?
- Case Study

For more information or to schedule time with an instructional designer or emerging technologist, contact [aoi.li@wsu.edu](mailto:aoi.li@wsu.edu) or visit [li.wsu.edu](http://li.wsu.edu) You can also visit the Spark Faculty Innovation Studio (SPARK 102) any time from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday.