



**UNIVERSITY OF THE  
INCARNATE WORD®**

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INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

**DISCUSSION**

# Discussions

- Discussions forums provide some unique benefits. Students can take time to ponder before posting ideas, you may see more thoughtful conversations play out. You can observe as students demonstrate their grasp of the material and correct misconceptions.
- Building a sense of community among students is crucial. With the discussion board tool, students can replicate the robust discussions that take place in the traditional classroom.

# Discussions can serve a range of purposes:

- An online meeting place for social interaction among peers.
- An additional medium for collaboration and the exchange of ideas.
- A medium to pose questions about homework assignments, readings, and course content.
- A way to demonstrate the understanding or application of course material.
- A record of discussion that members can review at a later point.
- A graded activity that demonstrates understanding or application of course material.

# Discussion Topics

- Create a dialogue.
- Active participation.

# Example of Discussion Instructions

- This course will have five online discussions on Blackboard. For these online discussions, all initial posts will need to be posted on 'Tuesdays before midnight.' Then students will read their classmates posts and pick two classmates to pose a substantive question or comment on 'Thursdays before midnight,' and respond to questions or comments on 'Saturdays before midnight.'



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