Canvas – Creating discussions

**Discussions**

Canvas provides an integrated system for class discussions, allowing both instructors and students to start and contribute to as many discussion topics as desired. Discussions can be used for: (i) assignment for grading purposes (and seamlessly integrated with the Canvas Gradebook), (ii) as a forum for topical and current events and (iii) can also be created within student groups.

You can use Discussions to:

* Help students start thinking about an upcoming Assignment or class discussion.
* Follow-up on a conversation or questions that began in a face-to-face classroom.
* Test student comprehension of important points made in class.
* Debate contradictory ideas.
* Brainstorm different approaches to a class problem.

The difference between discussions and conversations is that discussions are used for formal dialogue (graded/ungraded) and conversations are used for an informal dialogue (like a chatbox conversation).

**Video**

Watch the following [video](https://vimeo.com/108385146) to learn more about discussions in Canvas.

To learn more about Discussions take a look at the following guides:

Creating and editing (group) discussions

* [How do I create a discussion as an instructor? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-1977" \t "_blank)
* [How do I create a group discussion in a course? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2769" \t "_blank)
* [How do I edit a discussion in a course? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-1978" \t "_blank)

Graded discussions

* [How do I assign a graded discussion to an individual student? (Links to an external site.)](https://guides.instructure.com/m/4152/l/101243-how-do-i-assign-a-graded-discussion-to-an-individual-student" \t "_blank)
* [How do I assign a graded discussion to a course section? (Links to an external site.)](https://guides.instructure.com/m/4152/l/669143-how-do-i-assign-a-graded-discussion-to-a-course-section" \t "_blank)
* [How do I assign a graded discussion to a course group? (Links to an external site.)](https://guides.instructure.com/m/4152/l/49999-how-do-i-assign-a-graded-discussion-to-a-course-group" \t "_blank)

Peer review discussions

* [What is a peer review discussion? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-1944" \t "_blank)
* [How do I create a peer review discussion? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2812" \t "_blank)
* [How do I manually assign peer reviews for a discussion? (Links to an external site.)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2824" \t "_blank)
* [How do I automatically assign peer reviews for a discussion?](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2826)