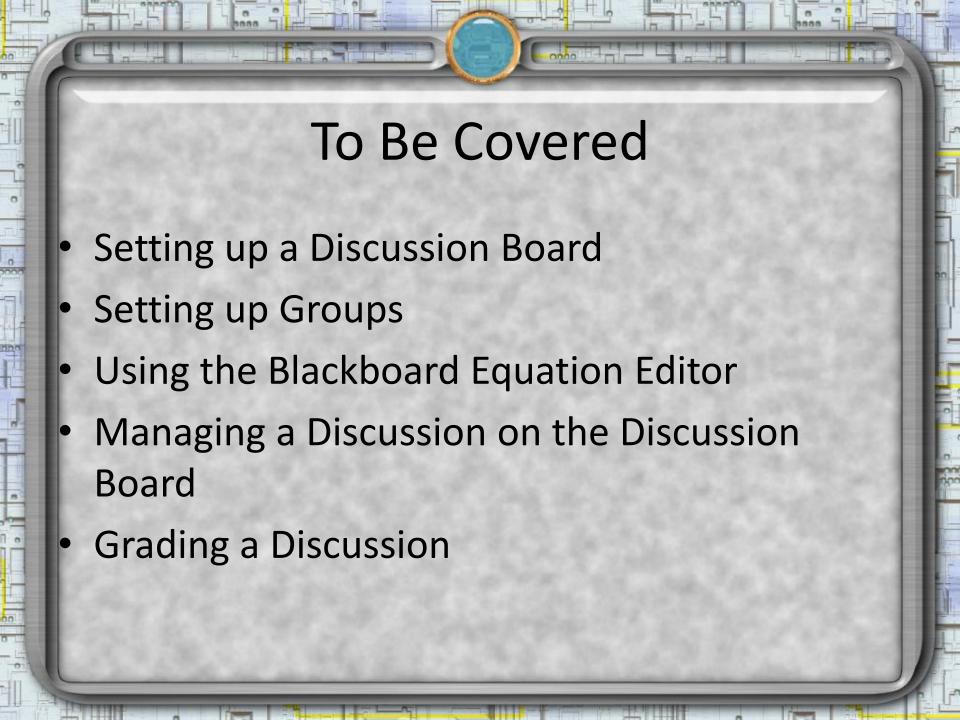
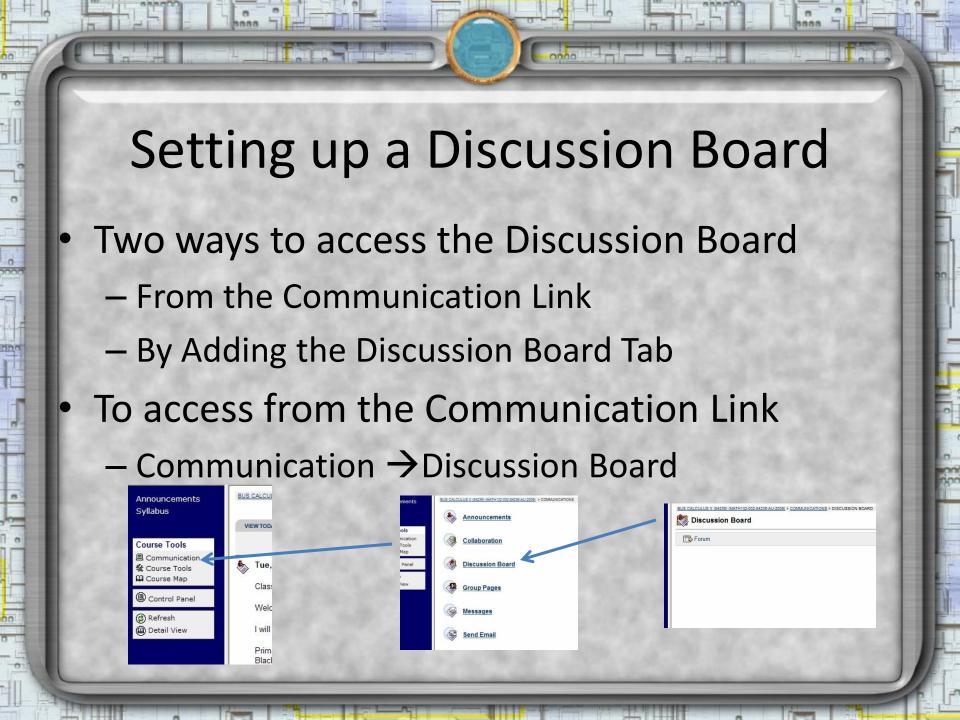
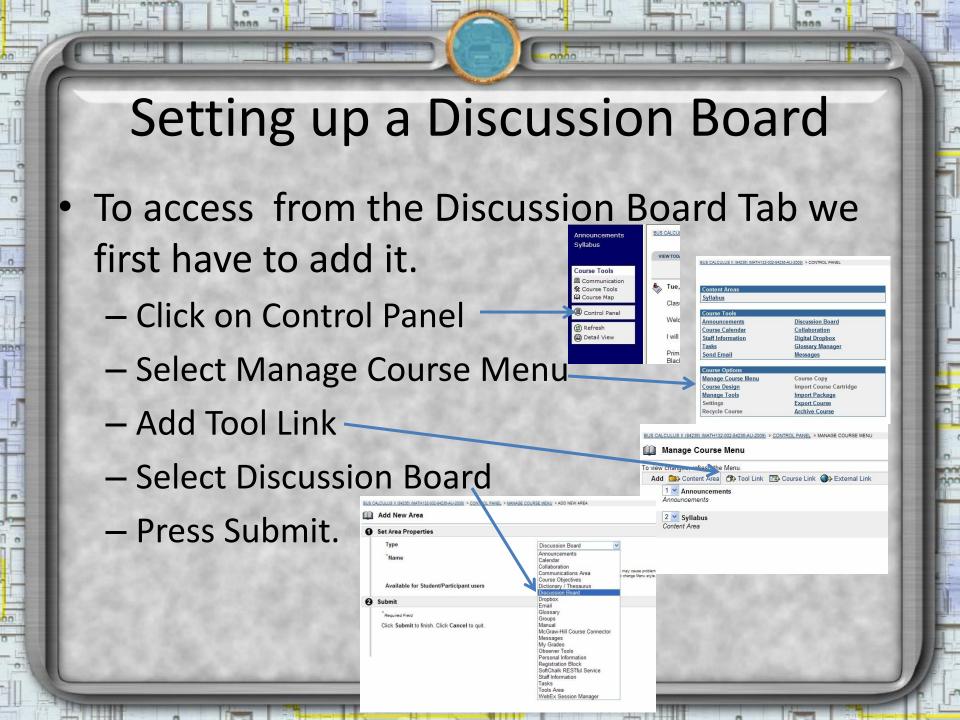


- Uploading Files
- Posting text-only Announcements
- Accessing the Gradebook and Adding Assignments
- Emailing Students
- Customize Course Shell







Discussion Board

Communication

Course Tools

🥾 Tue, S

Class

Course Tools

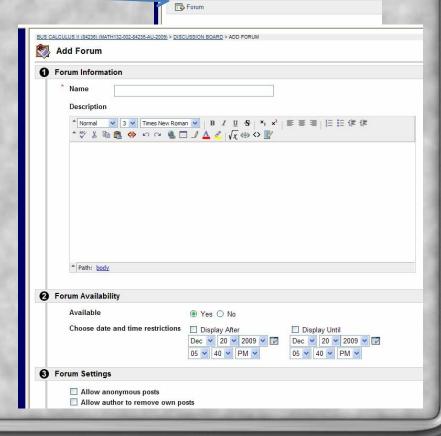
- Returning to the main page you can see the
 change

 Announcements Syllabus
- Click on the new Discussion
 Board link to return to the
 Discussion Board page.
- Making the Discussion Board accessible is required if you want the students to use it.
- Next, we need to add a Forum so that students can post.



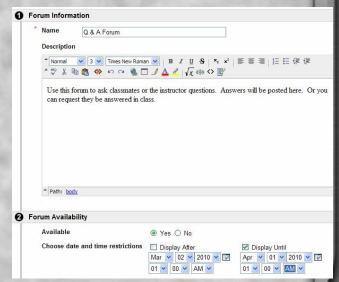
• From the Discussion Board page, select Add Forum.

- Three sections
 - Information for name& description
 - Availability
 - Settings

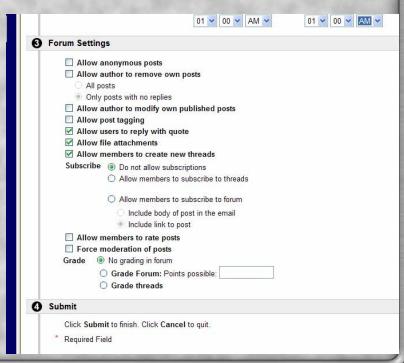


- Choose a name and describe the purpose of the forum.
- Set availability dates. Do you want to delay opening? Do you want to close it before the

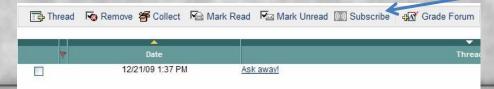
final exam? You can specify date and time. Check the boxes you want to apply. Check nothing, it will remain open until course deletion.



- Forum Settings allow you a number of customizable options.
 - Deletion?
 - Quote feature?
 - Attachments?
 - Student created threads
 - Receive email on posts?
 - Moderation?
 - Grading?



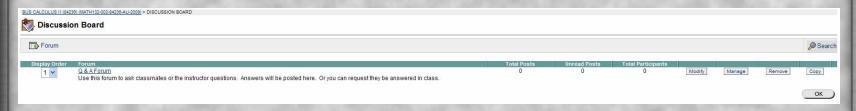
- For discussion boards with little traffic, it is wise to allow subscriptions and to subscribe yourself, especially Q&A discussions.
- It will prevent you from having to check into the board frequently.
- The system will email you when there is a post.
- If you receive the text of the post, you will know whether you need to respond.
- If you activate the subscription feature, a link for subscribing will appear at the top of the forum once you enter it.



- Some useful features are:
 - Attach graphs, equations, etc. in files rather than attempt to reconstruction on board
 - Subscribe to posts if you don't check frequently to get an email anytime someone does ask a question (low traffic boards only!)
 - Are students required to post, have a word count, or some other easily graded feature? The computer can do this for you.
 - Do you want to read a post before it goes live?



 After you submit, your board will be added to the list.



- Modify allows you to change the settings
- Manage to allow others to change the settings
- Remove to delete everything
- Copy to duplicate this forum exactly

- Click on the name to enter the forum.
- You will usually want to add at least one thread to get the students started or to further explain the assignment they are to submit here, or whatever the general purpose is. Remind students often!
- Adding a thread very much like adding a forum, but with fewer options (no date or settings).

Ideas for Using the Discussion Board

- Submitting assignments for which there is no one right answer
- Assignments that need to be done together or in groups
- Review for final. Perhaps have each student post a detailed solution to one or two problems per section/from the review guide.
- Students won't do it if it's not required!



To set up Groups, click on the Control Panel.

On the right, select
 Manage Groups.

 In the beginning no groups are defined. So click on Add Group.



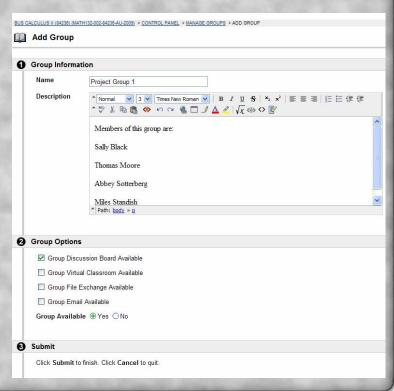




- Enter a name for the group & description.
- It helps to list the group members (we will add

these later).

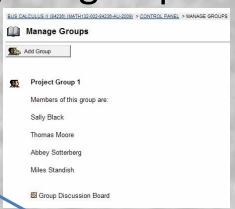
- Check on the options you want to activate.
 - Discussion Board!
 - Virtual Classroom is online white board
 - Email at minimum.





Continue until you've added all your groups.

 To change the default settings of any group click on Modify.





 From the Modify screen you will be able to add members, and change settings on the features you installed in the group, like the

discussion board.

 Group Properties takes you back to the screen you created the group ALCULUS II (84238) (MATH132-002-84238-AU-2009) > CONTROL PANEL > MANAGE GROUPS > MANAGE GROUP

Manage Group - Project Group 1

- Group Properties
- Add Users to Group
- List Users in Group
- Remove Users from Group

created the group with. Change those things there, for instance, if you later want to add a discussion board.

- The other three commands allow you to see or modify the users in each group, either to list, to add, or subtract.
- We will select Add Users to Group.
- You can search for individual students by name or see the entire

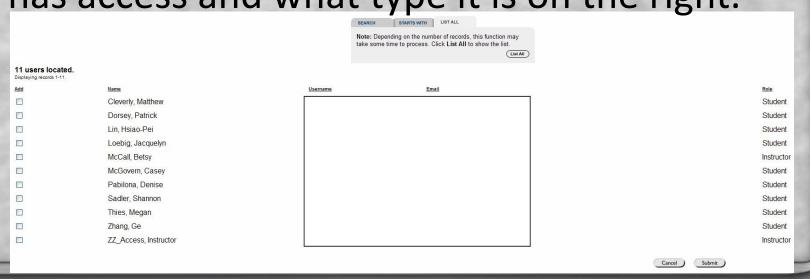
SEARCH STARTS WITH LIST ALL

Search

Search by:
Last Name Username Email Address

name, or see the entire list. For that option, select List All. You may be warned about the number of records, but continue.

- Btw, this is a great place to print a roster that included email addresses (censored!)
- Just click in the boxes to the left of who you want to add to the group. You can see who has access and what type it is on the right.

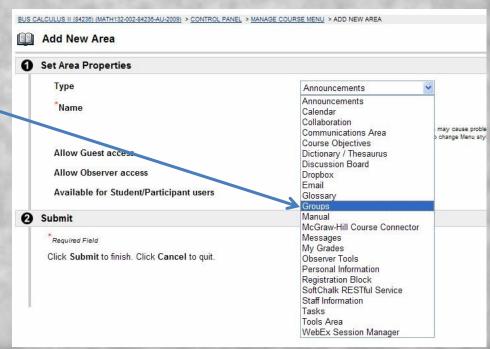


- When you've selected everyone to add, hit
 Submit or OK. Then click on List Users in
 Group to see the complete list. You will have
 to go through the same search feature to see
 the complete list.



- As with adding the Discussion Board click on
 - Control Panel
 - Manage Course Menu
 - Add Tool Link
 - Select Groups

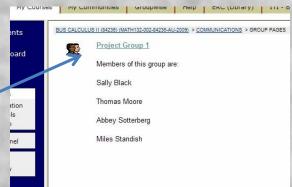




- If you added a discussion board or other features, additional setup may be needed before the students can use it.
- Click on the Groups link and you will be taken to the list of Groups. All those with Instructor access can see any group without explicit

access.

Choose a group & click on it.



Group Page looks like this:

BUS	CALCULUS II (84236) (MATH132-002-84238-AU-2009) > COMMUNICATIONS > GROUP PAGES > PROJECT GROUP 1 > GROUP TOOLS				
Group Page: Project Group 1					
•	Group Discussion Board				
•					
	Name			<u>Email</u>	
	Betsy McCall				
	Casey McGovern				
	Shannon Sadler				
				2	

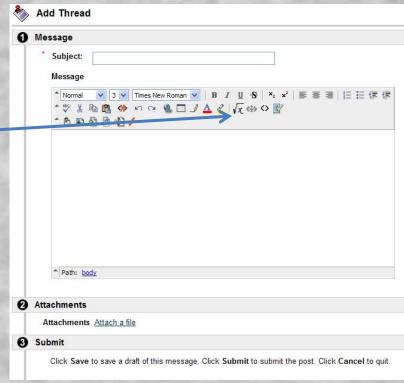
- Features accessible by the group are listed (here, just the discussion board was activated)
- And the list of group members, together with their emails (censored!)
- The Discussion Board is partially set up, with a default forum available.



Ideas for Using Groups

- Groups can be as small or as large as you like.
- Groups of faculty & student can be used for secure, archived communication (compliable with FERPA) or assignment submission.
- Group projects or assignments
- Student-led study groups
- Communication among adjuncts or faculty within the department

- The Equation Editor in Blackboard can be accessed from most dialogue boxes (though not all).
- The Equation Editor icon is here.
- It is NOT compatible with MathType or Word's Equation Editor.



- The Equation Editor is point and click, but it has some quirks.
- Equations can be named.
- You can specify size.
- Templates must go down first, even for exponents.
- Blank boxes on the template bar have things in them as well.
- Equations always appear on new line.

WebEQ Equation Editor

Equation Name:

lodo lodo Σodo Σo

Font Size: 12 V Adjust Width: 120% V Adjust Height: 120% V

÷x <> ∈⊂

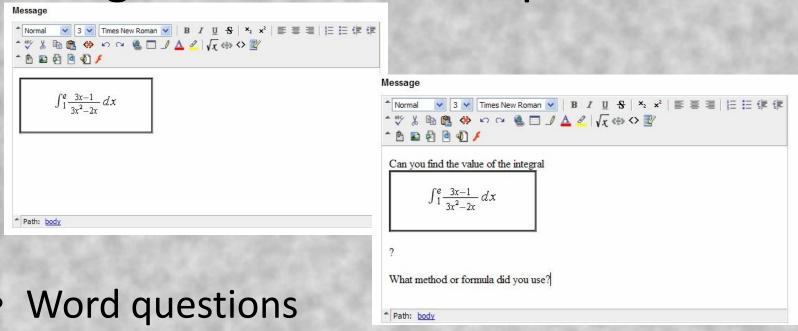
Type an equation.

$$\int_{1}^{e} \frac{3x-1}{3x^2-2x} dx$$

It's similar to

WebEQ Equation Editor MathType, except for the exponent template. Delete by backspacing. Then hit submit.

Unlike MathType, the equation cannot appear in-line.



- Word questions appropriately to avoid the line breaks.
- Error messages in copying are frequent, and these can't be copied into Word without screen shots.

- When do I have to use the installed Equation Editor?
 - Necessary to post online quizzes with formulas
 - Can be used on the discussion board or in group or forum descriptions
 - Can be use in Announcements
- When can I avoid it?
 - When you can post a Word document as an attachment

Ideas for Using the Blackboard Equation Editor

- Generating online quizzes and practice tests that students can take at home
- Discussing difficult concepts in a discussion board. For example:
 - in a calculus class, when to use substitution and when to use by parts.
 - Or in an algebra class on which kinds of decimals are rational and which irrational.
- Require students to use it to post a problem.

- Having an online discussion is not just for online classes. You can use it to supplement classroom activities and let students talk directly to each other
- Have a single discussion that lasts all quarter, one per exam, or one per week, depending on how much online involvement you expect.
- Have students post problems and explain them to their classmates.

- Clearly spell out what your requirements for the discussion are, both in terms of points, and type & frequency of posts expected.
- Ask students questions to get them started, and encourage students to ask questions of their own.
- Have students do problems together, each student taking one or two steps at a time and then passing it on. Explain their steps.

- Depending on the kind of discussion you want, and how fast you expect it to evolve, faculty will want to participate as well.
- Respond to each student at least once, and always to any question asked of you directly.
- Remember that all comments can be read by everyone.
- For a course with a traditional class, remind students frequently to login and participate.

- Encourage participation by putting topics from the discussion board on in-class quizzes or tests.
- Did you run out of lecture time to get to an inclass assignment? Send it home and let them discuss it online.
- Require good spelling and grammar. There is a spell checker for Blackboard too.
- Discussion concepts students frequently miss.

- Two types of grading.
- Use manual grading if:
 - The discussion grade comes from more than one forum
 - The forum has more than one thing going on in it, maybe there is some graded & not, or two different grades.
- If relationship is 1-to-1, you can use "forum grading" setup under Forum Settings (Add or Modify)



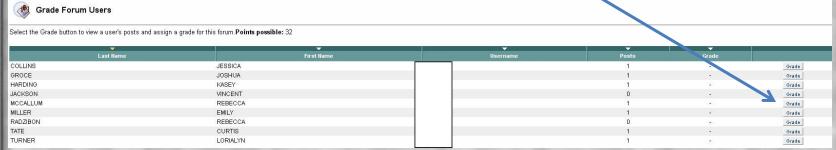
- To use the grade in forum feature, from the discussion board, select Modify next to the
 - forum you wish to grade.
- Under Settings, select Grade Forum and enter the number of points possible.
- Result is grade icon on forum.
- Forum Settings Allow anonymous posts Allow author to remove own posts All posts Only posts with no replies Allow author to modify own published posts Allow post tagging Allow users to reply with quote ✓ Allow file attachments Allow members to create new 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 Allow members to rate posts Force moderation of posts No grading in forum 🔌 🍥 Grade Forum: Points possible: 30





 Click on the grade icon to get a list of students and the number of posts.

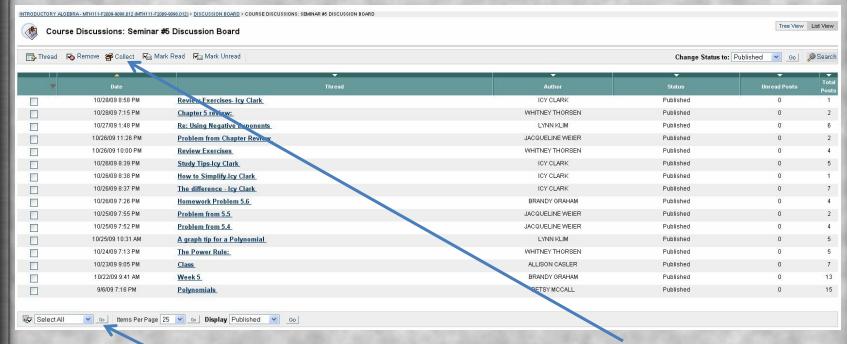


- To enter grades, and see a list of posts for that student, click on the grade icon next to their names.
- Students with more than one post will be collected in one place.

- Review posts and enter grade at top.
- Score will appear in gradebook with name of forum.

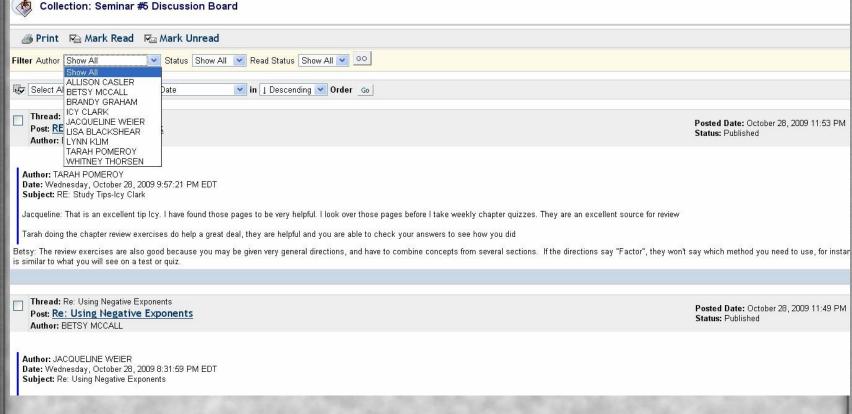
111043 5/1461 <u>2</u> 1111 12111						
Grade: Submit Points possible: 30						
⊕ Print √a Mark Read √a Mark Unread						
Filter Author ShowAll V Status ShowAll V Read Status ShowAll V 00						
Select All So Sort by Date In ↑ Ascending Order Go						
Thread: Quadratic Functions Post: RE: Quadratic Functions Author: LYNN KLIM	Posted Date: October 30, 2009 10:15 AM Status: Published					
Author: BETSY MCCALL Date: Sunday, September 6, 2009 7:14:58 PM EDT Subject: Quadratic Functions What are quadratic functions? Give some examples. What kinds of problems tend to generate quadratic functions? What are some solution methods for quadratics? Lynn: A quadratic function is one containing a term with an exponent of two and no term with a higher power. Example X*2-7X+ 10 = 0. A solution would be the Zero Product Principle, If the product Principle is the product Principle is the pr	uct of two algebraic expressions is zero, then					
Thread: Question about Exam? Betsy Post: RE: Question about Exam? Betsy Author: LYNN KLIM	Posted Date: October 31, 2009 9:20 AM Status: Published					
Author: BETSY MCCALL Date: Thursday, October 29, 2009 8:56:35 PM EDT Subject: RE: Question about Exam? Betsy Author: BRANDY GRAHAM Date: Thursday, October 29, 2009 12:25:40 PM EDT						

 To grade manually, click on the forum you wish to grade. The list of threads appears:



Press Go next to Select All and Collect.





- Sort in ascending or descending order.
- Collect all the posts, or collect posts by author.
- For grading, collect posts by author.

- The Collect feature can work in individual threads (just check one thread instead of Select All).
- Repeat for each thread that needs graded, and combine the scores into a single grade.
- Add these scores to the gradebook as usual.
- You will need to create your own gradebook item.

Criteria to use in Grading a Discussion

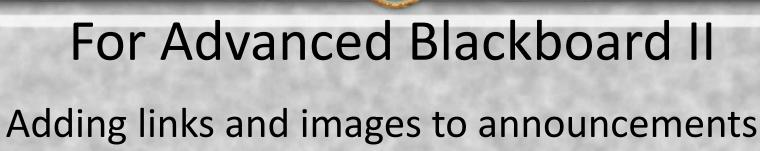
- Have a minimum number of posts required
- Set a deadline for when the first post needs to be made (to get the discussion started)
- Require posts be spread out over a certain number of days (too keep the discussion going)
- Require a minimum content standard (more substance, than "thanks" or "I agree").
- Establish a grading rubric based on quality

Tips for Grading Discussions

- Establish your grading rubric early and highlight requirements for the discussion
- Provide suggestions on the type of posts that will score highly on the rubric
- Provide examples of the type of posts that will score poorly
- Establish policy about attachments & use of the Equation Editor (for math/sci courses)
- Expect students to proof before posting

Practice Your Skills!

- If you don't feel confident working with your live courses, try playing with your Blackboard courses that are already closed.
- Keep your skills up! If you don't use them now, you will forget them by next quarter.
- Review! I will post this presentation online at <u>http://www.betsymccall.net</u>. Click on Presentations for the list.



- Online tests and quizzes
- Assignment links (for secure assignment submissions)
- Virtual classroom: white board and chat.
- More