**Forum**

The forum activity in Course Site allows participants in a course site to exchange ideas and have discussions.

To create a forum, follow the same steps you would to [add an activity](#).

There are 5 types of forums, each designed with a very specific educational purpose.

Here is an excerpt from the Moodle documentation for [Forum Settings](#):

---

**Standard Forums**

### Standard Forum for General Use

These are the directions for the forum.

- **Standard forum for general use** - An open forum where anyone can start a new topic at any time; this is the best general-purpose forum.

---

**Discussion**

- **Please introduce yourself to the class.**
  - Started by: Holly Zakos
  - Replies: 4
  - Last post: WP1 Student
    - Fri, 5 Jan 2018, 1:50 PM

- **This is a new topic for discussion that is related**
  - Started by: Undergrad Student
  - Replies: 0
  - Last post: Undergrad Student
    - Fri, 5 Jan 2018, 1:43 PM

---

**Special Purpose Forums**

---
Single Simple Discussion

Friday, January 5, 2018, 1:18 PM

This is where the question prompt or topic would appear.

- A single simple discussion - A single topic discussion developed on one page, which is useful for short focused discussions (cannot be used with separate groups)
  - NOTE- In a simple discussion, a student cannot post new threads, but can only respond to post started by the instructor.
  - In Moodle 3.2 onwards, the author of the first post in a simple, single discussion is not displayed.

Q and A Forum

These are the directions:

- Q and A Forum - A question in the initial post, answer in the answers, but they will post in that discussion of the discussion.

Re: Single Simple Discussion

by Moodle Student - Friday, January 5, 2018, 1:38 PM

This is response from Moodle student.

Permalink | Show parent | Edit | Delete | Reply | Export to portfolio

Re: Single Simple Discussion

by Undergrad Student - Friday, January 5, 2018, 1:46 PM

This is my reply to Moodle student.

Permalink | Show parent | Edit | Delete | Reply | Export to portfolio

Please Note:

There is a slight time delay until students can see each other's post after they post – in some cases, it might be up to one hour.
Here is a link to help determine the correct forum type to use in your course: https://docs.moodle.org/32/en/Forum_activity

You may also choose to use an OUBlog as it has some additional functionality not offered in the coursesite forums.

**Note:** Announcement forum is a special type of forum that is automatically created with a new course.

Here is a link to General information about Forums.

If you would like to discuss the use of Forums in your course site, please contact an Instructional Technologist.