

Facilitating Formal and Informal Discussions

How do you create space for students to informally engage with your course while also taking care of business? Read on for a few ideas on how to use existing tools provided by Academic Innovation.

Two types of conversations take place online in BBL 7213 Ethnological Theory:

Discussion Board		FORMAL DISCUSSION - BLACKBOARD
FORUM	DESCRIPTION	As part of a formal discussion in Blackboard, the conversation focused on content.
How to manage the conversation:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Openly discuss student challenges in a 2nd thread. 2. Deepen the knowledge of concepts and foster collaborative learning. 3. Openly discuss student contributions at UTSA. 	
Q&A	Please use this public space to post course-related questions that you think	

As part of an informal discussion in Padlet, the conversation focused on the learning experience.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION - PADLET

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A more informal, student-led discussion (although instructors can get the ball rolling by suggesting topics and responding in the tone they want to cultivate in the discussion). Question and Answer (Q&A)

This is a public space provided for content-and-course-related questions when the answer can benefit the entire class. Everyone can see the questions and answers posted here.

Humanize discussions, academically and socially.

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Openly discuss student lives outside the classroom to create a student- Instructor connection.

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Readdress topics from the lesson.

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Visit the ODL page to learn more about Blackboard and Padlet.