ENGAGING DISCUSSION

Discussion boards are one way to promote student engagement and interaction in an online class. Planning and feedback from the instructor help to make this more meaningful than a monotone task that students check off their to-do list each week.

Use **Discussion Boards to**
- Ensure active participation
- Scaffold assignments
- Create a sense of community and belonging
- Promote engagement

Create **Prompts** that
- Have connection to course content
- Are open-ended
- Encourage reflection
- Promote variation in responses

Consider
- Creating **groups** in large classes
- Incorporating audio or video
- Selecting discussion leaders
- Modeling a discussion post and response

Make Sure to
- Require students to use proper netiquette
- Ask students to respond to at least one of their peers to encourage interaction
- Send check-in emails to non-participating students
- Summarize ideas at the end of discussion

Use a **Rubric** that Measures
- Relevance to course concepts and theories
- Collaboration between classmates
- Application outside the class
- Use of evidence to support position

**Resources**
- Discussion Boards: Valuable? Overused? Discuss
- Beyond the Discussion Board
- The Secret Weapon of Good Online Teaching
- How to Write Discussion Questions

CLICK THIS LINK TO VIEW THE GRAB-N-GO VIDEO