DMU Replay title: **Discussion Board (July 2018)**

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Total length of audio: 00:03:59,967

In Blackboard, Discussion board allows students to carry on discussions with each other ­ and sometimes with your tutors – but without the need for participants to all be logged on at the same time.

If your tutor has set up a Discussion Board for one of your modules you’ll find it in the Blackboard area for that module. Here is an example Discussion Board.

A discussion board can consist of one or more Forums. Each forum contains threads for different topics or questions. Within each thread you’ll find the individual posts.

To add your own post select one of the available posts and click reply.

Here the Forum with the title Social Media has two threads. Here we’ll have a look at the Introductory Task thread.

This thread currently contains only one post. To add our own post we click ‘Reply’ to the post we want to reply to.

To return to the Discussion Board overview click on ‘Discussion Board’ in the bread crumb trail at the top-left of the screen.

Here, you can see the number of postings that have been made in each forum and how many participants there are in each forum.

Showing posts in a simple list can make it easier to navigate around the thread. To do this, go to the top of the page. Click the ‘Collapse All’ button. Now only the participants’ names and the subject line of their posting are display.

To see the full posting just click on any of these.

To expand all the posts, go back to the top of the page and select ‘Expand All’.

An even more concise view is given by selecting ‘Tree’ view at the top right hand side of the screen. It’s quite hard to spot this button so you need to look quite carefully for it.

If you want to do a text search you can use the Search button at the top right of the screen.

Students aren’t usually able to delete a post once it’s been added (though your tutors can). That’s one reason you may feel you want to draft it in a word processor first.

But you also have lots of editor options in Discussion board itself. You can, for example attach a file or document. Or insert an image.