## Luma Connections #26: Managing Discussion Posts

## **Teaching Tool: Discussion Board**

This is an online tool that allows learners to interact with each other to explore a topic and to discuss key concepts and concerts, share experiences, interact with each other, and to ask questions. Interactions are not in real-time and can be mentor-learner and learner-to-learner.





## **Tip: Managing Discussion Posts**

Reading and responding to discussion posts can feel overwhelming, especially with larger groups. However, there are strategies for managing responses to avoid burnout, while still building community and relationships with learners.

Here are some tips for managing discussion board posts:

- Be strategic. Rather than aiming for one discussion board post a
  week, focus on creating one relevant and engaging post per
  eNugget®. This will also allow learners time to process, post, and
  respond to peers. Note: for class building posts, focus on creating a
  few worthwhile posts and spreading them throughout the timeline of
  the course to maintain engagement and avoid discussion fatigue.
- 2. **Use groups.** Divide learners into discussion groups and have learners collaborate within their groups on a message to post to the main discussion board. You can keep the groups the same throughout or change up. You can also assign randomly or by project groups.
- 3. **Post discussion summaries.** Rather than respond to individual posters, create a post that summarizes the discussion and acknowledge learner contributions.







