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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **­­­** | **Canvas Discussions(Ungraded)** | **Canvas Discussions(Graded)** | **Canvas**(Checkpoints) | **YellowDig Engage(Ungraded)** | **YellowDig Engage(Graded)** | **Feedback Fruits (on Topic) Discussions** | **Feedback Fruits (on Work) Discussions** | **Ed Discussion** | **Kialo** | **Poll Everywhere** |
| Organizational style(Thread- new posts @bottom)Feed- new posts @ top) | **Thread-based** | **Thread-based** | **Feed-based** | **Feed-based** | **Feed-based** | **Feed-based** | **Feed-based** | **Folders &****Feed-based** | **Pro/ Con Decision Tree** | **N/A** |
| Board format | **Multi** | **Multi** | **Multi** | **Single** | **Single** | **Multi** | **Multi** | **Multi** | **Multi** | **N/A** |
| Due dates | **No** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **N/A** |
| Multiple due dates | **No\*** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **N/A** |
| Peer Review | **N/A** | **No** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **N/A** |
| Auto-grading | **N/A** | **No** | **No** | **N/A** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **N/A** | **No** | **N/A** |
| Grade pass back | **N/A** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **N/A** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **N/A** |
| Who can prompt/ drive discussion | **Instructor and students** | **Instructor only** | **Instructor only** | **Student** | **Instructor only** | **Instructor only** | **Instructor only** | **Instructor and students** | **Instructor only** | **Instructor only** |
| Respond privately | **No** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **No\*\*** | **No\*\*** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **N/A** |
| Optional anonymity | **No** | **No** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **No** | **No** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** |
| Media file embed | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **N/A** | **N/A** |
| Supports LaTeX | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **No** | **No** | **Yes** | **N/A** | **N/A** |
| Search and filter | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **N/A** |
| Export or print board posts and comments | **No** | **No** | **No** | **Yes****.csv** | **Yes****.csv** | **Yes****.csv** | **Yes****.csv** | **No** | **Yes.txt** | **Yes****.csv** |
| Example use case recommendations | **Community building, check your understanding,****Q & A** | **Community building, work shopping, weekly reflections** | **Ensure "x" number of students posts and replies, instructor comments per post and reply** | **Community building with social media features** | **Community building, social media features, word count minimums, topic and tagging, gamification** | **Case studies, workshopping, and virtual poster board session** | **Ensure "x" number of students posts and replies with word count minimums. Nuanced grading.** | **Q & a with instructor answer or endorsed student answer, good for posting code and math** | **Debates, critical thinking, collaborative decision-making** | **Live or remote in real time or asynchronous polling, analytics** |



DISCUSSION

TOOLS

@ THE HARVARD EXTENSION SCHOOL

v. 2025. 01.14

\*Add to Student to-do list

\*\* Canvas SpeedGrader can be used to privately respond to the student’s discussion board activity