

## Check it out: Discussion Checkpoints are here!



CHECKPOINT

Over the weekend, Canvas finally released a feature in discussion boards that users have been asking for: Checkpoints!

When creating a graded discussion, instructors can set multiple due dates or checkpoints to accommodate different stages of the discussion process, such as the initial post and follow-up replies. This feature allows for more structured participation, ensuring students meet deadlines for each required step in the discussion.

**Anonymous Discussion**

- Off: student names and profile pictures will be visible to other members of this course
- Partial: students can choose to reveal their name and profile picture
- Full: student names and profile pictures will be hidden
- Disallow threaded replies
- Participants must respond to the topic before viewing other replies
- Enable podcast feed
- Graded **1**
- Assign graded checkpoints **2**
- Allow liking
- This is a Group Discussion

To create Discussion Checkpoints, instructors must select the **Graded** checkbox [1] and then the **Assign graded checkpoints** checkbox [2] when creating or editing a discussion.

**Checkpoint Settings**

- 1** Points Possible: Reply to Topic: 10
- 2** Additional Replies Required: 2
- 3** Points Possible: Additional Replies: 1
- 4** Total Points Possible: 11

Instructors must include the possible points for the initial reply to topic [1], the number of additional replies required [2] and the possible points for additional replies [3]. All points are calculated automatically and listed as the Total Points Possible [4].

When a discussion is added to a module, students can view all due dates and the number of replies required for a discussion. As a student on the Discussion page, click the View Due Dates link to view all due dates.

In the Gradebook, discussion checkpoints display as a single item. Instructors can update a student's grades and assignment status using the Grade Detail tray.

**DISCUSSION POSTS**

- DISCUSSION #1: WHY DO YOU WRITE? (D-1) Jan 19 20 pts
- DISCUSSION #2: COMPLICATIONS EVEN AMONGST BEST FRIENDS (D-2) Jan 22 20 pts
- DISCUSSION #3: WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE? (D-3) Apr 22 20 pts
- DISCUSSION #4: WHAT ARE THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF YOUR STRUGGLES/SUCCESSES? (D-4) Jul 9 20 pts
- Grammar Pet Peeves 15 pts
- Reply to Topic Oct 22 at 11:59pm
- Required Replies (5) Oct 29 at 11:59pm

If you want to read more about the new feature, check out this [Tutorial from another Canvas school](#). Reach out to your Instructional Designer if you have questions.