

Canvas Discussions/Announcements Redesign Fact Sheet

Use cases

Discussions assist instructors who want more peer-to-peer engagement opportunities and interaction in hybrid or fully online environments. Announcements assist instructors with notifying students about upcoming changes or significant course items.

Why are Canvas Discussions and Announcements getting redesigned?

On July 20, 2024, Canvas Discussions and Announcements will get an enforced redesign of certain features and updated functionality. Instructure, Canvas' parent company, has redesigned these features to enhance peer-to-peer interactions, provide a more accessible design, and improve functionality and usability on existing features and functions.

Which features will still be available and what is new?

You will see an updated interface for both Announcements and Discussions, but Discussions will also get new features. The table below shows which Discussion features will remain and what will be new after the redesign.

Features	Original Discussions	Discussions Redesign
Graded and ungraded discussions	✓	✓
Group discussions	✓	✓
Peer-review discussions	✓	✓
Student App (iOS and Android)	✓	✓
"Users post before seeing replies" option	✓	✓
"Add to student to-do" option for ungraded discussions	✓	✓
Add a rubric to graded discussions	✓	✓
View deleted posts	✓	✓
See time stamp of edited posts	✓	✓
See post and reply authors	✓	✓
Search and filtering options	✓	✓
Full and partial anonymity for graded, non-group discussions	✗	✓
Split view on threaded replies	✗	✓
Report Discussion posts	✗	✓
Quote and @ mention other users	✗	✓

Learn more about the Discussions Redesign

Canvas will release more updates to Discussions and Announcements in the future. Be on the lookout for announcements from IDD throughout the academic year. In the meantime, watch [Instructure's Discussions Redesign Q1 2024 video](#) for an overview of the Discussion Redesign.