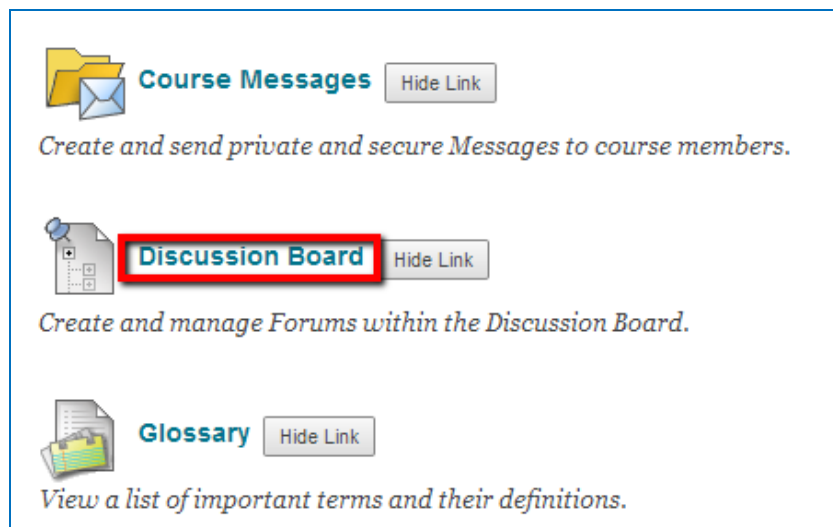
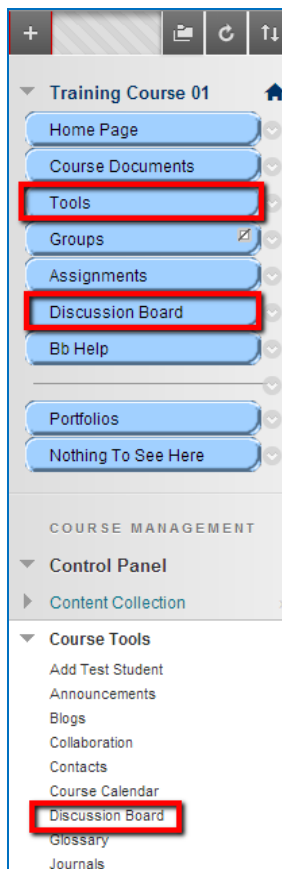


## Accessing the Discussion Board

The main Discussion Board page displays a list of forums. A *forum* is an area in which participants discuss a topic or a group of related topics. Within each forum, participants can create multiple threads. A *thread* includes the initial post and all replies to it.

Each course has only one main Discussion Board for the entire class. Groups created within the course may each have one discussion board as part of their group tools.

You can access the Discussion Board in several ways, such as adding a customized link to the Course Menu or in a Content Area. When you provide a link to the Discussion Board in a Content Area, students can access the tool alongside other course content.



- On the Course Menu, create a tool link to the Discussion Board. (See the tutorial on *Adding a Discussion Board Link*.)
- On the Course Menu, click the default **Tools** link. Then, on the Tools page, select **Discussion Board**.
- On the Control Panel, expand the **Course Tools** section and select **Discussion Board**. From this link, access the course's Discussion Board as well as the Group Discussion Boards for the groups in your course.