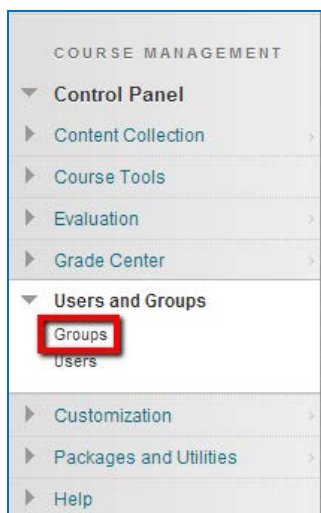


Enabling Group Discussion Boards

If you create groups in your class, each group is entitled to whatever Blackboard communication tools you elect to provide, including Discussion Boards. In Group Discussion Boards, students may create their own forums and otherwise customize the discussion environment. (*See the tutorials on Group Management.*)

When you create or modify a course group, select the Discussion Board tool to help groups collaborate and communicate.

1. In a course, under Control Panel, click **Users and Groups**, and select **Groups**.



2. Point to the **Create** button, and select the type of group you are creating (e.g., **Single Self-Enroll**). For existing groups, click the contextual arrow next to the group name, and select **Edit Group**.
3. On the Create Group page, in the Tool Availability section, make sure that the checkbox for **Discussion Board** is checked. Decide whether to allow members of the group to create forums, and click the appropriate option button.

TOOL AVAILABILITY

- Blogs
 - No grading
 - Grade: Points possible:
- Collaboration
- Discussion Board
 - Allow any group members to create forums.
 - Do not allow student group members to create forums.
- Email
- File Exchange
- Journals
 - No grading
 - Grade: Points possible:
- Tasks
- Commercial Content Tools
- Course Materials
- Wikis
 - No grading
 - Grade: Points possible:

4. Click **Submit**.

Students access their Group Discussion Boards by expanding the My Groups course menu item or on the group homepage. Students click the right-pointing arrows in the My Groups section to access the group homepage.

The screenshot shows the Blackboard interface. On the left, under the 'My Groups' section, there is a dropdown menu for 'Group 1'. A red box highlights a right-pointing arrow next to 'Group 1'. Below this, 'Group Discussion Board' is also highlighted with a red box. On the right, under the 'Group Tools' section, 'Group Discussion Board' is highlighted with a red box. Other tools listed include Collaboration, File Exchange, Group Blog, Group Journal, Group Tasks, Group Wiki, and Send Email. Below that is the 'Group Assignments' section.