What is Yellowdig?

Yellowdig is a social media platform for online discussions designed for higher education.

Why would I want to use it?

Yellowdig is best for low-stakes discussions to meet participation requirements or as a general space for students to share links, resources, and questions. It is especially useful for high-enrollment courses because it has automatic grading that integrates with Blackboard. Compared to Blackboard discussions, most students find Yellowdig engaging and easy to use because of its similarity to other modern social media platforms.

Automatic Grading? How does that work?

The instructor determines the Yellowdig grading settings for the course, based on word count, comments to other students, and receiving upvotes & instructor badges. Points autosync to the Grade Center every night at midnight, which means less work for you!

### Earning Points

- Creating a new **Pin** with a minimum of **40** words earns **5** points.
- Adding a new **Comment** with a minimum of **40** words earns **5** points.
- **Upvoting** a Comment or Pin (Like or Love) earns author **1** points.
- Receiving an **Instructor Badge** earns **5** points.
- Receiving a **Comment** on a Pin will earn Pin author **0** points.
- **100%** participation achieved after earning **10** points (passed back to gradebook if enabled).

### Weekly Point Maximum

- Enable weekly maximum point setting
What if a student posts something irrelevant?

The instructor or teaching assistant can easily revoke points on “pins” and “comments”. One common challenge of replacing Blackboard discussion with Yellowdig is implementing personalized feedback on student posts. Because all posts in Yellowdig automatically accumulate towards a point goal, providing feedback and allotting less than full credit to a low quality post is more difficult, which is why Yellowdig is recommended for general questions, resource sharing, and low-stakes assignments.

How do I get Yellowdig in my course?

Contact your Instructional Designer to enable the tool in your online course. Only O-courses (and I-courses that are crosslisted with O-courses) can use Yellowdig under the current license. If you would like to use the tool for a ground or I-course, contact your department lead.