



## 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

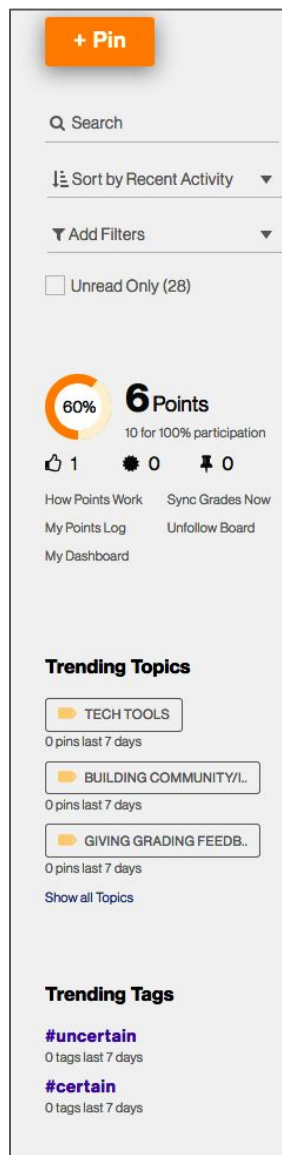
## What if a student posts something irrelevant?

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.

Students see a dashboard that increases motivation to complete discussions.



The screenshot shows a user interface for a discussion dashboard. At the top, there is an orange '+ Pin' button. Below it is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and the text 'Search'. Underneath the search bar are two dropdown menus: 'Sort by Recent Activity' and 'Add Filters'. A checkbox labeled 'Unread Only (28)' is positioned below the filters. The main section features a progress indicator with a circular gauge showing '60%' and '6 Points' next to it, with a subtext '10 for 100% participation'. Below the progress indicator are three icons: a thumbs up icon with '1', a gear icon with '0', and a pin icon with '0'. There are four links: 'How Points Work', 'Sync Grades Now', 'My Points Log', and 'Unfollow Board'. At the bottom of this section is a link for 'My Dashboard'. The 'Trending Topics' section contains three topic cards: 'TECH TOOLS' (0 pins last 7 days), 'BUILDING COMMUNITY/L...' (0 pins last 7 days), and 'GIVING GRADING FEEDB...' (0 pins last 7 days). A link 'Show all Topics' is below these cards. The 'Trending Tags' section shows two tags: '#uncertain' (0 tags last 7 days) and '#certain' (0 tags last 7 days).

Posts called Pins can be easily searched and filtered.

Topics and Tags are used to organize discussions.