Discussion Forums –
How to monitor engagement and learning in these spaces

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Why? The importance of monitoring online engagement and learning

- Real time feedback from students
- Real time feedback from staff
- Identifying students at risk
- Ongoing evaluation of course learning
- Student retention and success
When? The key points for monitoring engagement

• General Discussion Forum
• Content Based Discussion Forums
• Regularly
  o 30 min each day
  o 1 hour every 2 days
  o Alternate between tutors
What? The avenues for monitoring online engagement and learning

General Discussion Forum

What general questions are your students posting?

- Are they asking where they can find particular resources?
- Are they asking for clarification or additional resources related to assessment tasks?
- Are they asking what group they are in and how to access the group activity?
What? The avenues for monitoring online engagement and learning

Content Based Discussion Forum

Do students understand the purpose of the discussion for learning?

How are you encouraging depth of discussion?

How are they responding? Text, video, audio?

Are they conversing with each other, or just with the question?
What? The avenues for monitoring online engagement and learning

**Tips and Tricks**

- Open ended questions
- Acknowledging posts, with extension questions
- Groups and sharing
- Teacher/Student summaries
- Conditional release or grades
- What are you trying to achieve?
How? Tools available for monitoring and reporting access of learning

- Progress Bar
- Logs
- Activity Report
- Participation Report
- Activity Completion
- Gradebook
Where to from here?

SHORT COURSE (online)
BOLD Short Course 5 – Monitoring BOLD engagement
• Monitoring engagement in online learning
• Ongoing evaluation of BOLD learning design
• Maintaining online motivation
• Keep you eye out in FedNews for details of when this course is offered

WORKSHOPS (online via Adobe Connect)
• Keep you eye out in FedNews for details of when these workshops are offered

RESOURCES (online & self-paced)
• Learning and Teaching Website
• FedStaff – Moodle Ready
• Staff eLearning Hub