






Discussion Boards, Chats, Journals, Blogs, and Wikis in Blackboard 9.1

	Discussion Board 	Chat* 	Journal 	Blog 	Wiki 
Structure:	Highly structured, hierarchical with forums → threads and replies	Collaborative synchronous open environment	Private and individual communication environment between student and instructor	Shared space for all students and instructors. Participants may view but not edit other entries.	Collaborative environment. All users can edit THE SAME content.
Suggested use:	Open discussions with multiple original posts and replies. Students post comments on readings or simulate class discussion	Online office hours, study groups, Q&A, fast exchange of ideas for projects, brainstorming	Personal diary or reflective journal, use to express concerns, document experiences, things learned.	Chronological open communication between all students and instructor on related topics, share knowledge share.	Research, group projects, any shared collaborative activity
Setting Tips:	Searchable; Collect Tool allows instructor to read and print selected posts	Supports typing only	Defaults to monthly entries	Instructor specifies how many entries are need for grading if any, can add a rubric	May be closed or open for editing

*Grading can be added to all tools except Chat.