



## MOODLE FORUMS GETTING YOU FRAZZLED?

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Website:** [writingcentre.ecuad.ca](http://writingcentre.ecuad.ca)

**Instagram:** [ecu.writingcentre](https://www.instagram.com/ecu.writingcentre)

**Facebook:** [ECUADWriting](https://www.facebook.com/ECUADWriting)

# WRITING FORUM POSTS

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Forums are a fairly new, mostly informal space to interact and continue conversations with classes about specific readings but how do we approach them?

### @THE WRITING CENTRE

#### Have fun with it!

Write a paragraph!  
Write a poem!  
Share a memory!  
Post a photo!

However you relate to the conversation in your class!

#### set a timer and write!

Forum posts shouldn't take hours to complete,

You can use language you're comfortable with. They should be more about understanding and communicating than "sounding fancy".

Forums, unless specified by your instructor, don't typically require formal citations.

### TAKE IT EASY!

- Start with **key words!** Sometimes responding to a series of keywords can help form your thoughts!
- **Archive or save your forum posts in another application.** Writing them in Word or in Notes avoids any Moodle time-outs that could lose all your writing!
- Forums are typically **conversational**— don't feel like you have to have distinct answers, think about how you might reply in person or between classmates.
- **Read others peoples responses!** Even if you aren't required to respond to other posts, it can help to understand and contextualize the discourse of your post.

### ★HOT TIPS!★

# HOW TO WRITE FORUM POSTS

## GETTING STARTED

**Write a brief synopsis** of the reading/reflection material

**Ask yourself...**

1. How does this affect me and my practice?
2. What feelings or thoughts does it bring up?
3. How does it relate it to the class content?

**Write a question** about the content or a question that comes up while you read the work, artwork, or view the material you are writing about.

## QUICK FORMAT?!

What did you enjoy about the work?

What did you not enjoy, or even disagree with?

What is a question you could ask to find out more?

What other work does this relate to?

## FORUM DISCUSSIONS

- Many instructors, online, hybrid or even in person have adopted the forum post.
- Often an informal place to express reflections and thoughts
- Can be difficult to start with loose parameters

## RESPOND....?

- Responding to a text, or artwork can be daunting!
- What specific expectations does your instructor have?
- If none, start with a brief description of what you understand the work to be, or even a brief formal description of the work.
- Describing it can be a first step to organizing your thoughts on your response.

## REFLECT

Sometimes we're asked to reflect on a work!

Think about how it makes you feel, what a work reminds you of, or other readings or sources you may want to share.

It's ok to reflect that the work is confusing or hard to follow! This is the place to work through with your classmates.

