



Harassment Prevention in Online Communication

Blackboard allows access to a number of tools, such as discussion boards, which enable text-based communication.

1. Postings should not be offensive, inflammatory, racist / sexist or abusive in any other way.
2. Remember that textual interaction takes place without normal visual / verbal clues, which help to interpret meaning.
3. Your posts will be visible to all students registered within the course, as well as instructors and system administrators and will be eventually archived for future reference.
4. Your posts should be related to the topic of the discussion and the tone of the posts should be in accordance with the discussion. Excessive use of obscenities could be considered offensive and are strongly discouraged.
5. The laws of copyright apply so users should not copy other user's posts / information without permission.
6. If Blackboard discussion board postings count towards a grade, precautions against plagiarism should be taken, the same as with written material.

If you are offended by a posting, please consider the following before replying:

1. Will your post contribute positively to an academic discussion?
2. How would you respond if you were in a face-to-face situation?
3. Would this issue be best dealt with by contacting your instructor rather than the individual concerned?
4. In the case of an offensive post, you may wish to contact your instructor privately rather than escalate the situation in an online and public environment.

File a complaint

A student may file a complaint using the following [form](#) or by contacting Vice-Presidency of Enrollment Management and Student Services Office at (787) 622-8000 x. 270.

Updated by: Vice-Presidency of Academic Affairs
Vice-Presidency of Enrollment Management and Student Services Office
Virtual Education – Assessment, Accreditation and Compliance Office on 2019

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