Facilitating Engaging Discussions

VoiceThread

distancelearning@louisiana.edu
Agenda

• VoiceThread Discussions
• QM Standards and Alignment
• Discussion Guidelines
• Discussion Management
• VoiceThread Settings
• Mobile Device Tips
VoiceThread Discussions

- Introductions
- Forums
- Case Study Discussions
- Lectures
- Student Presentations
- Quizzes
Sherlock Holmes: Judge and Jury?

At the end of "The Blue Carbuncle," Holmes says to Watson "I am not retained by the police to supply their deficiencies" before letting James Ryder go. And in "Charles Augustus Milverton," Watson excuses their actions by saying what happened "was no affair of ours."

Do Holmes' actions in these stories ("The Blue Carbuncle," "Charles Augustus Milverton," "The Priory School" and "The Abbey Grange,") invalidate the notion that he is a force for justice? Or do they emphasize that he is a force for justice? Be sure to look up the highlighted words before answering, and speak to each story for full credit.

As with most of our forums, you should make your initial post and reply to two (2) other people. Be sure to consult the Discussion Rubrics for the fundamentals of making and replying to posts.

In replies, participants can politely

- ask a question of another participant about something he or she said
- agree with another participant and point out another example
- disagree with another participant by explaining why he or she disagrees with the other person's position
- speculate on reasons why the characters act as they do and make the choices that they do

Be sure to back up any and all claims with examples from the text.

Permission from Denise Rogers, https://moodle.louisiana.edu/course/view.php?id=46291
URL for VoiceThread: https://louisiana.voicethread.com/myvoice/thread/12652946
QM Standards

General Standard 1.9
Learners are asked to introduce themselves to the class.

General Standard 5.2
Learning activities provide opportunities for interaction that support active learning.

General Standard 5.4
The requirements for learner interaction are clearly stated.
Alignment

• Appropriate Level of Bloom’s Taxonomy?

• Activity supports course or module objectives?

• Assesses course or module learning objective?
Purpose of Online Discussions

• Student engagement
• Check for understanding
• Assure assignments are completed
• Build sense of presence and community
Promote thoughtful discussion with:

- Ethical Dilemmas
- Case Studies
- Scenarios
- Role Playing
- Prioritizing Challenges
Discussion Guidelines
Effective Instructions

Sherlock Holmes: Judge and Jury?

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Instructions for Discussion

• Nature of the assignment
• Content expectations
• References to include
• Grading rubric
Establish Guidelines

- Frequency of posts
- Timing and deadlines
- Length of post and responses
- Netiquette
- Debate vs. argument
VoiceThread Tutorial

Ask DL to import into your course:

- Introduction to VT
- Links to examples
- Instructions for commenting
Managing Discussions

- Monitor conversations
- Keep focus on topic
- Provoke deeper responses
- Respond to clarification questions
VoiceThread Settings
VoiceThread Setup

Which do I choose?

VoiceThread Setup

Course View

Individual VT

vt Home

Assignment Builder
Grading thru VoiceThread Interface

Grading for group discussion available in “Submit a Comment”
Creating Your Discussion

Options for media

• Webcam video
• Audio
• Pre-recorded video
• PDF documents
• PowerPoint slides
• Images
VoiceThread: Asynchronous Conversations

Month of August 2019

- **Video**: 473
- **Text**: 252
- **Audio**: 1,086
Playback Settings

Options

Thread Settings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Playback Options</th>
<th>Cover Art</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enable threaded commenting</td>
<td>Allow commenters to add slides to this VoiceThread</td>
<td>Allowed Comment Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allow others to download original media</td>
<td>Allow others to export</td>
<td>Microphone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start playing when opened</td>
<td>Allow others to make a copy</td>
<td>Webcam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enable Comment Moderation</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
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<tr>
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<td>File upload</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Text</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mobile Device Tips
Mobile Device Tips

• Install mobile VoiceThread app
• Use lower camera resolution
• Limited response types:
  ➢ Webcam
  ➢ Audio
  ➢ Text
Q & A
Upcoming Events

- Basic Online Assessment Strategies (Moodle); 9/30/19, 10-11 am
- Web-conferencing as an Instructional Tool (Zoom); 10/7/2019, 10-11 am
- Moodle User Group (MUG) Meeting; 10/11/19, 9-10 am
- Advanced Online Assessment Strategies (Moodle / Turnitin); 10/17/19, 10-11 am
- Designing a Hybrid Course; 10/18/19, 10-11 am
- Engaging Students with Interactive Video (Panopto); 11/4/19, 11 am -12 pm
- Best Practices for Forum Discussions (Moodle); 11/7/19, 10-11 am
- Let’s Talk Video: Choosing the Right EduTool for the Job; 12/16/19, 2-3 pm
- Best Practices for Learner-Centered Course Design; 12/17/19, 10-11 am
- Gradebook Strategies and Options (Moodle); 12/17/19, 1-2 pm

Register Today
Contact Us

Instructional Support Centralized
Phone Number 337-482-1246

“Did You Know?”
Video Series

Virtual Office Hours
Fridays, 10:00-11:00 am
https://ullafayette.zoom.us/my/distancelearning
Thank you for your participation!

Please send questions and comments to distancelearning@louisiana.edu