Discussions – Grid View is back!!

Brightspace by D2L has reintegrated the grid view in the Discussions tool after receiving feedback from users indicating that this view is essential for easily identifying learner and instructor participation, unread content, new content, and themes within Discussion topics. Users can now easily switch between Grid View and Reading View.

**Grid View – Threaded (with show Discussion List pane)**

![Threaded Grid View](image1)

**Grid View – Unthreaded (with show Discussion list pane)**

![Unthreaded Grid View](image2)
Reading View (with show Discussion List pane)

Users can now set their preference to use grid view as default instead of reading view when viewing topics in the Discussions tool. The ability to select grid view as their default view for topics is located in Account Settings as well as in the Discussions Settings area.

Account Settings

Discussions Settings
Previously, users did not have the ability to switch between views easily and had to edit their Discussions Settings in order to switch views. Now, users can access discussion topics using either view, regardless of their default settings, without needing to edit their Discussions settings.

Both views of Discussions offer different strengths (for example, an intuitive way to navigate threads is in reading view and a better assessing experience is in grid view) and this new functionality allows users an easier method to switch views depending on what activity they want to do.

For example, if a user selects grid view as their default view, but wants to view a topic using reading view, they can select View Topic in Reading View from the context menu of the topic. Selecting View Topic or clicking on the topic name will allow the user to view the topic using grid view.

Similarly, if a user selects reading view as their default view, but wants to assess a topic using grid view, they can select View Topic in Grid View from the context menu of the topic they want to assess. They can also select View Topic or click on the topic name to assess the topic using reading view.
Discussions – Grid view settings

Users can customize their Discussions settings for using grid view. They have the ability to set whether they can see descriptions for discussion topics and if posts appear as threaded or unthreaded, among other settings.
Discussions – Ratings made in reading view are retained in grid view

You can now use the Up Vote/Down Vote rating scheme and Up Vote Only rating scheme in grid view, and the scores will be retained when you switch views.

**Important Technical Details**

When adding Discussions as a new or existing activity in Content, currently users can only access those discussion topics in reading view style through Content. If you need to give users access to grid view through Content, Brightspace by D2L encourages you to utilize HTML Editor’s Insert Quicklink to insert a discussion, and direct the link to open in a new window.