

# Reading a Discussion Board

Once you have entered a forum, you will see a listing of threads available within that forum.

The screenshot shows a forum interface for 'Class Introductions'. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Create Thread', 'Grading Information', 'Subscribe', 'Search', and 'Display'. Below this is a table of threads. The table has columns for 'DATE', 'THREAD', 'AUTHOR', 'STATUS', 'UNREAD POSTS', 'UNREAD REPLIES TO ME', and 'TOTAL POSTS'. There are four threads listed, each with a checkbox on the left and a 'Thread Actions' button. The threads are:

DATE	THREAD	AUTHOR	STATUS	UNREAD POSTS	UNREAD REPLIES TO ME	TOTAL POSTS
10/7/20 3:50 PM	<a href="#">Eve Thomas</a>	<b>Eve Thomas</b>	Published	0	0	1
10/7/20 3:03 PM	<a href="#">I'm Brian!</a>	<b>Brian Brown</b>	Published	1	0	1
10/7/20 2:57 PM	<a href="#">Laura Jones</a>	<b>Laura Jones</b>	Published	2	0	2
10/7/20 2:50 PM	<a href="#">Hi, I'm Fay!</a>	<b>Fay Hill</b>	Published	0	0	2

Each line represents a unique thread that someone has created. A thread represents a series of posted messages strung together, similar to a conversation.

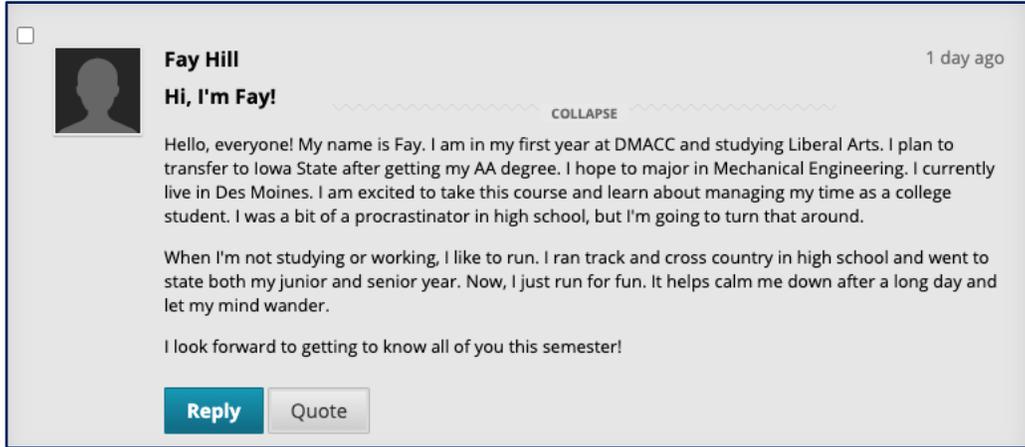
As more posts are added, the thread becomes longer. Each thread listed on the forum page is like an opening line to a discussion from a person.

From this page, you can also see the total number posts within a thread, posts you haven't read, and the replies to you that you haven't read.

This screenshot is identical to the one above, but with a red rectangular box highlighting the 'UNREAD POSTS', 'UNREAD REPLIES TO ME', and 'TOTAL POSTS' columns for all four threads. The data in these columns is: (0, 0, 1) for Eve Thomas; (1, 0, 1) for Brian Brown; (2, 0, 2) for Laura Jones; and (0, 0, 2) for Fay Hill.

The thread title of unread posts and replies appear in bold. The number of unread posts you have in a thread will appear in a red circle.

To read an individual post within the discussion forum, click the thread title.



A screenshot of a forum post. On the left is a small square icon with a white checkmark. Next to it is a grey silhouette of a person's head and shoulders. To the right of the silhouette, the name "Fay Hill" is written in bold, followed by "Hi, I'm Fay!" in bold. To the far right, "1 day ago" is written. Below the name and title, there is a dashed line with the word "COLLAPSE" in the center. The main text of the post is in a standard font. At the bottom of the post, there are two buttons: "Reply" in a blue box and "Quote" in a grey box.

**Fay Hill** 1 day ago  
**Hi, I'm Fay!** COLLAPSE

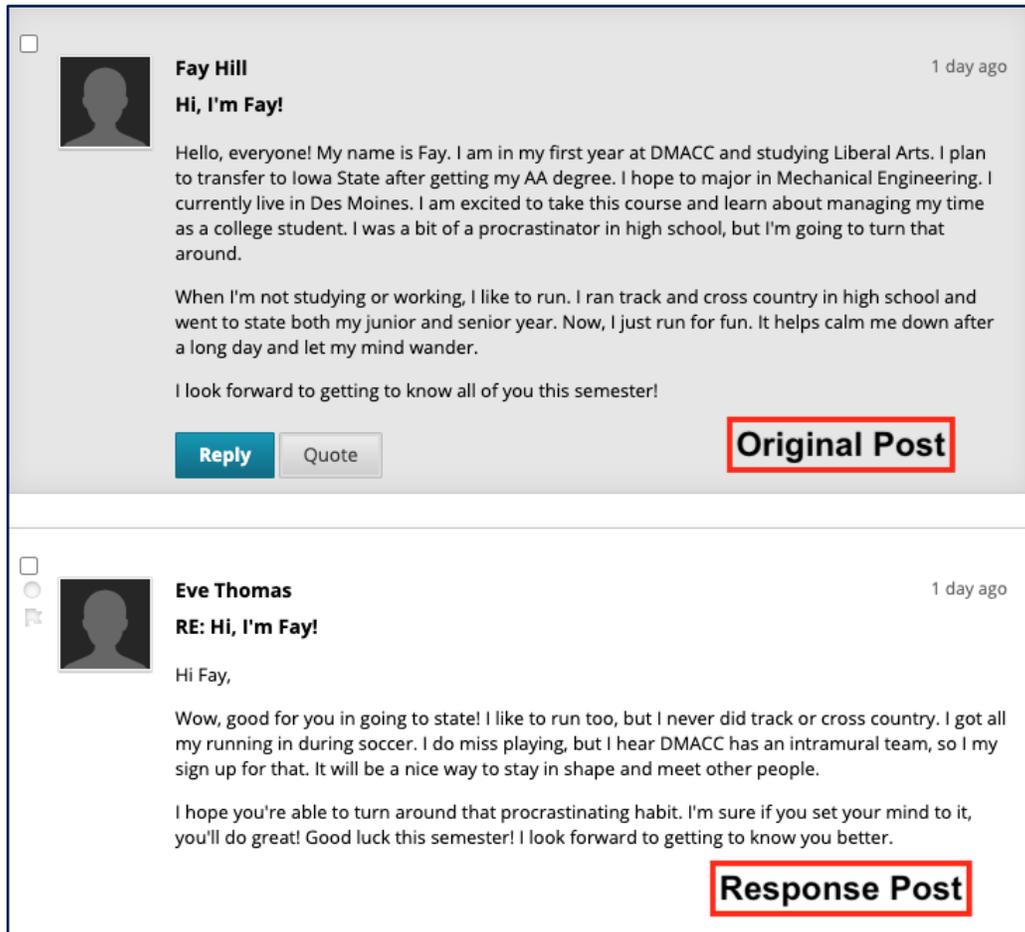
Hello, everyone! My name is Fay. I am in my first year at DMACC and studying Liberal Arts. I plan to transfer to Iowa State after getting my AA degree. I hope to major in Mechanical Engineering. I currently live in Des Moines. I am excited to take this course and learn about managing my time as a college student. I was a bit of a procrastinator in high school, but I'm going to turn that around.

When I'm not studying or working, I like to run. I ran track and cross country in high school and went to state both my junior and senior year. Now, I just run for fun. It helps calm me down after a long day and let my mind wander.

I look forward to getting to know all of you this semester!

[Reply](#) [Quote](#)

If there are additional posts or responses in the thread, you will see them below the original.



A screenshot of a forum thread. The top post is by Fay Hill, with the same header as in the previous screenshot. The text is the same. At the bottom right of this post, the words "Original Post" are written in bold and enclosed in a red rectangular box. Below this post is a second post by Eve Thomas. To the left of her name is a small square icon with a white checkmark and a small grey silhouette of a person's head and shoulders. Her name "Eve Thomas" is in bold, followed by "RE: Hi, I'm Fay!" in bold. To the far right, "1 day ago" is written. The text of her response is in a standard font. At the bottom right of her post, the words "Response Post" are written in bold and enclosed in a red rectangular box.

**Fay Hill** 1 day ago  
**Hi, I'm Fay!**

Hello, everyone! My name is Fay. I am in my first year at DMACC and studying Liberal Arts. I plan to transfer to Iowa State after getting my AA degree. I hope to major in Mechanical Engineering. I currently live in Des Moines. I am excited to take this course and learn about managing my time as a college student. I was a bit of a procrastinator in high school, but I'm going to turn that around.

When I'm not studying or working, I like to run. I ran track and cross country in high school and went to state both my junior and senior year. Now, I just run for fun. It helps calm me down after a long day and let my mind wander.

I look forward to getting to know all of you this semester!

[Reply](#) [Quote](#) **Original Post**

**Eve Thomas** 1 day ago  
**RE: Hi, I'm Fay!**

Hi Fay,

Wow, good for you in going to state! I like to run too, but I never did track or cross country. I got all my running in during soccer. I do miss playing, but I hear DMACC has an intramural team, so I my sign up for that. It will be a nice way to stay in shape and meet other people.

I hope you're able to turn around that procrastinating habit. I'm sure if you set your mind to it, you'll do great! Good luck this semester! I look forward to getting to know you better.

**Response Post**

To switch threads, click  **OK** at the bottom of the page. This will return you to the main forum page. You can click on another post at that time to read the thread.

You can add your thread to the discussion by clicking the  button.

Some discussions will require that you add your own thread before you can view your classmates' threads. They are often called post-first discussions.

## Forum: Class Introductions

*Organize Forum Threads on this page and apply settings to several or all threads. Threads are listed in a tabular format. The Threads can be sorted by clicking the column title or the caret at the top of each column. [More Help](#)*

**This is a 'post-first' discussion forum.**

There are currently 0 threads in this forum. Create a thread to help start the conversation!



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FORUM DESCRIPTION

To read a brief biography about me, please see the "Your Instructor" section.

Let's get to know one another. **Please create a thread and use your name as the Subject of the thread.** Feel free to include any information you'd like to share about yourself with the class, but at a minimum I'd like you to include the following:

1. The name by which you prefer to be called

Next, refer to the document on [Participating in a Discussion Forum](#) to learn about adding threads and replies.