Estimated reading time: 2 minutes, 30 seconds

BerkeleyHaas | **TEACHING TIP OF THE WEEK**
Online Teaching Strategies

Tip of the Week: Supporting Effective Asynchronous Discussions for Your Classes

Elevate your remote course engagement by providing an asynchronous discussion space for students' to interact, create, and provide feedback to one another outside of your live Zoom sessions.
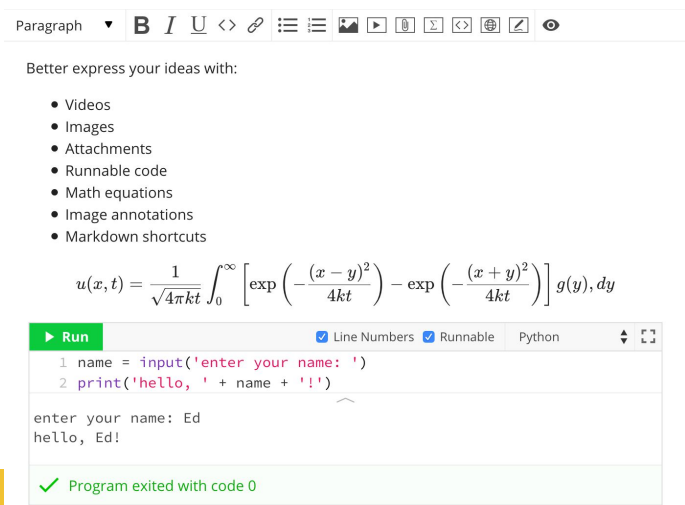
Here at Haas, we have two asynchronous discussion platforms, Harmonize and Ed Discussion, that you can integrate directly into bCourses. These discussion tools are for those looking for enhanced functionality outside of the default bCourse discussion board experience.

- **Harmonize replicates the social experience students are accustomed to on platforms like LinkedIn.** With drag-and-drop simplicity and design cues taken from popular social networks, Harmonize offers a fast, fluid experience fostering communication between instructors and students in a remote learning environment.

- **[Ed Discussions](#) works well for quantitatively oriented courses.**

  Embed equations and runnable code with Ed Discussions. If your course focuses on quantitative skills, Ed Discussion allows students to share and embed equations, using LaTeX or the visual math editor. For courses that teach programming skills, Ed Discussion also allows students to share code snippets in a variety of languages (including Julia, Python, and R) that they can execute directly in the browser. [Learn more about how to add Ed Discussion to your bCourse site to try it out for yourself.](#)

- [Learn more about Harmonize or Ed Discussion forums, including how you can add it to your bCourse site today](#).

Better express your ideas with:

- Videos
- Images
- Attachments
- Runnable code
- Math equations
- Image annotations
- Markdown shortcuts

$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi kt}} \int_0^\infty \left[\exp\left(-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4kt} \right) - \exp\left(-\frac{(x+y)^2}{4kt} \right) \right] g(y), dy$$

▶ Run   ☑ Line Numbers ☑ Runnable   Python

```
1 name = input('enter your name: ')
2 print('hello, ' + name + '!')
```

```
enter your name: Ed
hello, Ed!
```

✓ Program exited with code 0

What topics should we cover next? Fill out [this form](#) to let us know what else you'd like to learn about or to share tips that you think your fellow faculty members could benefit from.

Want to review previous teaching tips? Check out [the archive](#).

The Online Teaching Tip of the Week is a series produced for Haas Faculty by the Associate Dean for Learning Strategies' Online Teaching Tips Team.