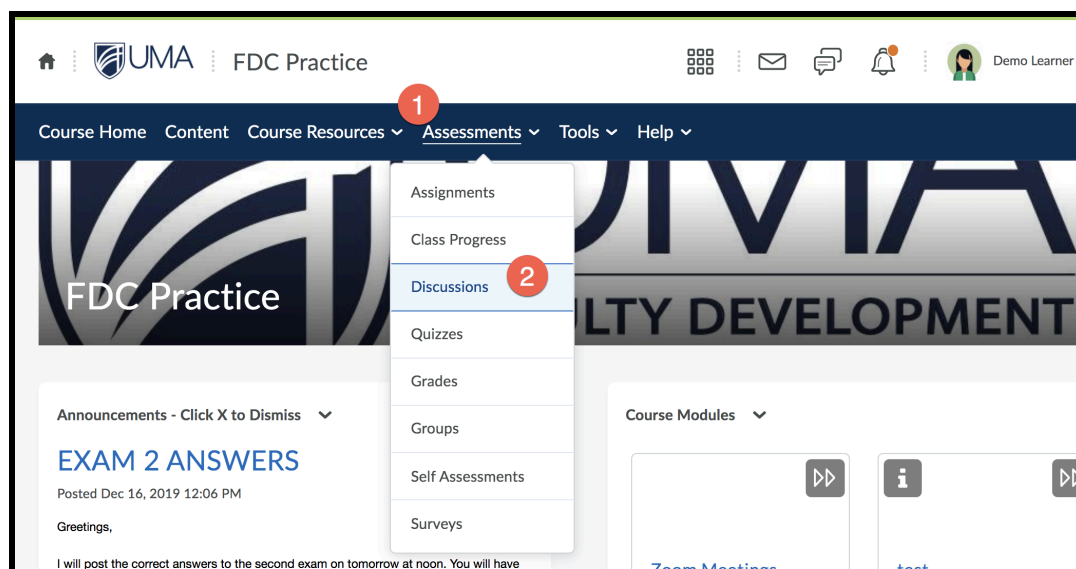# How do Discussions work?

Instructors can create a discussion forum within a course. As a student, you have the opportunity to submit assignments, to consult, to ask questions, and to discuss with your fellow students.

Access Discussions

1. Navigate to **Assessments** in the navbar of your course.
2. Click **Discussions**. You land on the Discussions homepage.

Discussions homepage

- On the **Discussions** homepage you will see an overview of all forums and related topics that the teacher has created for the course. This is the **Discussions List** .
- Under **Subscriptions** you select how you want to receive notifications (e-mail messages) from discussion forums, topics and threads for which you have registered.

Discussions List

In the **Discussions List** you will find all forums, topics and threads created by a teacher or students. Under Posts you can see how many messages have been posted in that topic. A blue number in brackets after the number of posts indicates how many posts you have not yet read.

Subscriptions

Under **Subscriptions** you will see a list of the forums, topics and threads that you have signed up for to receive notifications.

1. Select whether you want to see all your subscriptions (**All Subscriptions**), or only those from the forums (**Forum Subscriptions Only**), the topics (**Topic Subscriptions Only**) or the threads (Thread Subscriptions Only). Click on **Apply** .
2. Under **Default Notification Method** you select whether you receive messages by default in the minibar, directly as e-mail or in your daily summary of activity .
3. You can also specify for each forum, topic and thread how you want to receive **Notifications**.
4. Click on **Subscribed** to unsubscribe from a forum, topic by thread. A window will appear asking you to confirm that you want to stop following a forum, topic or thread.

You can indicate in a topic or thread whether you want to receive notifications. You do this by clicking on Subscribe at the topic or thread.