

Board

The Moodle Board activity creates a Trello board within your Moodle class. You or students can define vertical columns and then add comments beneath them with text, images, links or video. The comments are moveable both vertically and across columns. There are several ways that you can use this, either synchronously or asynchronously. See the links at the bottom of this guide will discuss other uses.

Here is an example. This is a SWOT Analysis activity where a team will use a Board to outline the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to a fictional product called the Thing-a-Majig.

As a team, do a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) Analysis for the Thing-a-Majig product that we have created.

Think about the product, its design, its markets, its price, and its suitability for coming to market.




Add your title under the appropriate column.

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Thing-a-Majig is the greatest product ever conceived of by humankind ✕	Not yet approved by Consumer Products Safety Commission ✕	If we work with the design, it might not be as likely to explode at odd times. ✕	It is rumored that a firm in Singapore has a similar product. ✕
Essential for everyone ✕	May explode under the wrong circumstances ✕	Can we add wheels to make it more mobile? ✕	Is this technology becoming outdated? ✕
Multitude of uses ✕	Quite heavy and bulky ✕	May have strong appeal to some domestic and overseas markets. ✕	
Priced at \$19.95 ✕	Limited color availability ✕	Create Deluxe Thing-a-Majig to appeal to status hungry teens on that overuse Tik Tok and want to be influencers. ✕	
Retro-cool design ✕	Name does not translate favorably in the language of certain essential markets. ✕	Product placement in the next Marvel film to promote product launch? ✕	
+	+	+	+

This is another view of what a board might look like. In this example, the Board was used for student introductions – they added their name and a selfie, and the prompt asks them to tell the class where they are from, what year they are, what they are majoring in, and a fun fact.

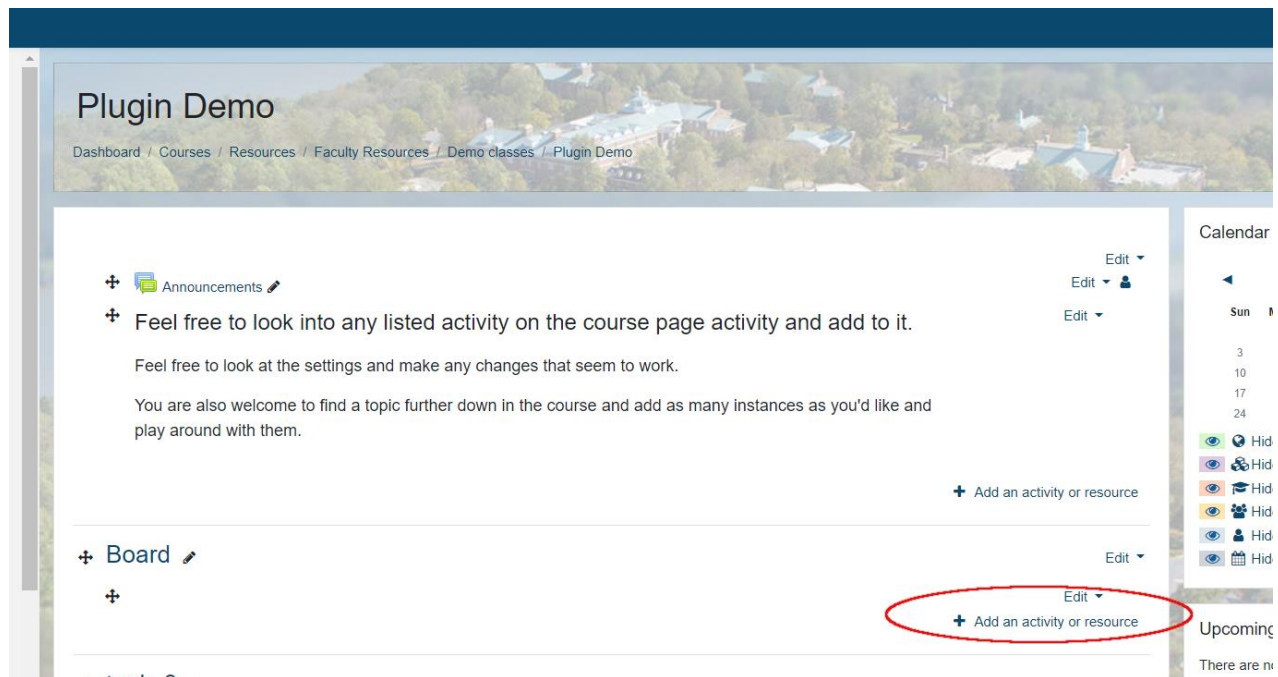
Introduce yourself to the class and upload a selfie. Click on the Plus sign to the right to create a tile for you. Tell us:

- Your name and hometown
- What you are majoring in or why you are taking this class
- Some fun fact about you that we wouldn't know.

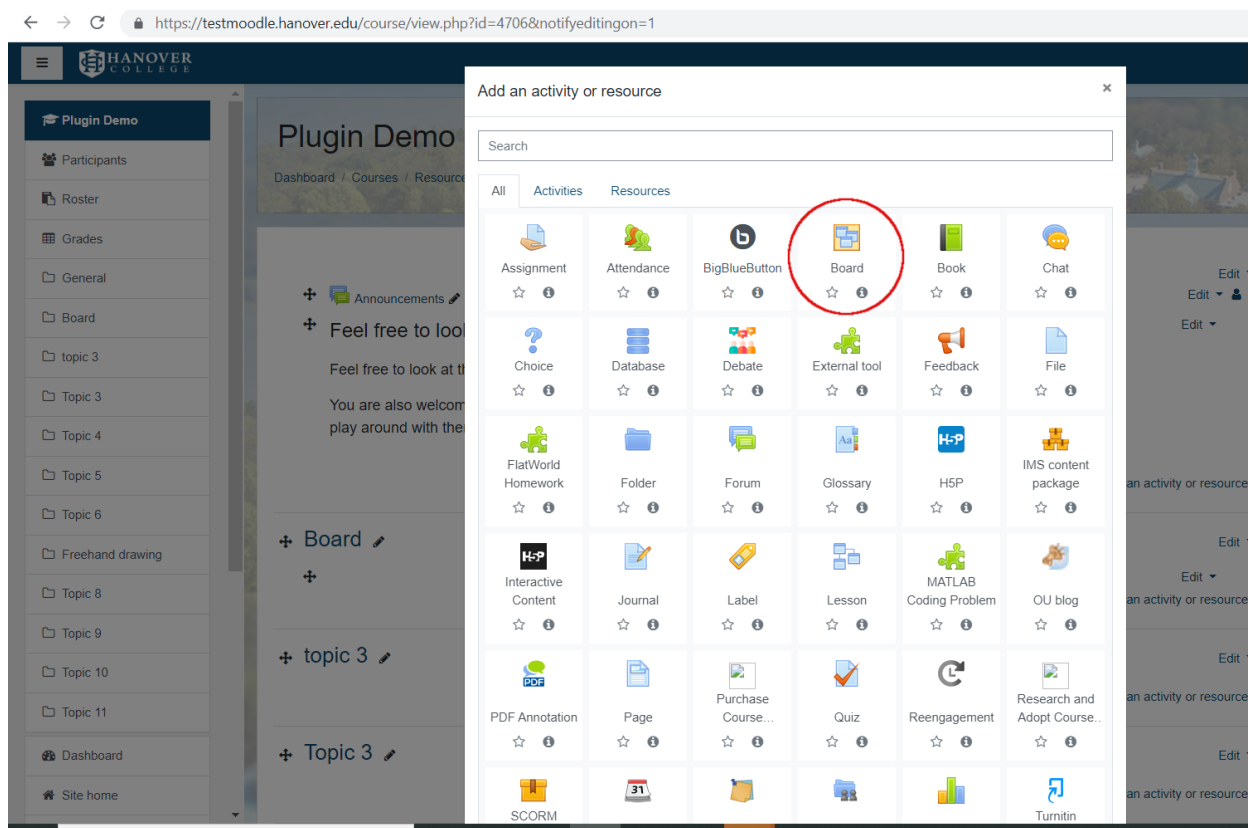
Ted Mulaney	Trisha Zorn	Tony Dawson	Gio Sutcliffe
I'm Ted Mulaney. I'm a Sociology major from Shelbyville Indiana and I'm on the football team. I took this class because I took Dr. Evil's seminar and I loved it. He's the best. ✕	 ✕	Tony Dawson here. Theater major. I'm really into the subject. I learned a lot about this in high school and I wanted to take it in college. So here we are! Fun fact -- I can juggle blindfolded. ✕	My name is Giovanni Sutcliffe, but call me Gio. I'm from Louisville. I'm undecided about what I want to major in. I like to hike and I like Spanish. Fun fact. My brother does voiceover work for the Simpsons and I helped voice a character once. ✕
 ✕	Trisha Zorn here. I'm a business major from a farm near Akron, Ohio. My fun fact is that our sheep dog will round up the barn cats after she's done herding ✕	 ✕	+

How to set up a Board

1. Turn on your editing button. Click on the Add an Activity or Resource link.



2. Select Board in the menu of resources and activities.



3. Name the Board activity. Add a prompt into the description so that students know what they need to do.

Updating Board in Board ?

Expand all

General

Name Making the Thing-A-Majig Corporation Name it

Description

List everything that we're going to need to start up the Thing-A-Majig Corporation?
What are some steps that we have to do to start up this company?
Add tiles as they become apparent to you or your group. Add instructions: tell them what you want them to do.

☐ Display description on course page ?

Board settings

Background color ?

4. You can prescribe a color background or use an image for the background. More on that later. You can also set up ratings for a post by either the student or teacher. To do so, just use the dropdown menu under Rating Points.

Display description on course page ?

Board settings

Background color ? More on Background colors and Background images later in the screenshots

Background Image

Maximum file size: Unlimited, maximum number of files: 1

Files

You can drag and drop files here to add them.

Accepted file types:

Image (BMP) .bmp
Image (JPEG) .jpeg .jpg
Image (PNG) .png

Rating posts

by Teachers
Disabled
by Students
by Teachers
by All
None

Sort by

Limit students posting by date

Allow all users to edit the placement of their own posts

Common module settings

Restrict access

5. You can hide the headings on the columns from student view by ticking a tick box; Similarly, you can tick on a tick box to create a due date for posts, or to allow all users to edit the placement of their own posts either within a particular column or in between columns. Click one of the Save buttons when done.

Accepted file types:
Image (BMP) .bmp
Image (JPEG) .jpg
Image (PNG) .png

Rating posts
by Teachers

Sort by
None

☐ Hide column headers from students

☐ Limit students posting by date

☐ Allow all users to edit the placement of their own posts

Common module settings

Restrict access

Activity completion

Tags

Competencies

Save and return to course Save and display Cancel

There are required fields in this form marked

Can hide headings from student view

Can limit posting up until a due date

Can allow users to move their own posts or tiles across columns

Save when done

Using Board

6. When the activity populates, then you will see headings arrayed horizontally across the board. You can add more headings by clicking on the plus sign to the far right. If you add more than a few, a slider will populate at the bottom of the screen that will allow you to access all of them.

Click on the word 'Heading' and you will see a text box that will allow you to input the name of the heading. When you finish naming a heading, click Enter and the name will be saved on the column. To change it, just click on the text again and a new text box will allow you to make changes.

Plugin Demo

Dashboard / Courses / Resources / Faculty Resources / Demo classes / Plugin Demo / Board / Muddiest Point

Muddiest Point

Please add a short note in each of the three columns

- List the 'muddiest point' or most confusing thing you've encountered this week in the readings, activities or lecture.
- List something that you learned this week that you thought was particularly interesting. Add a link from a popular website that talks about it.
- List some sort of practical application of something that you learned for a person or an organization

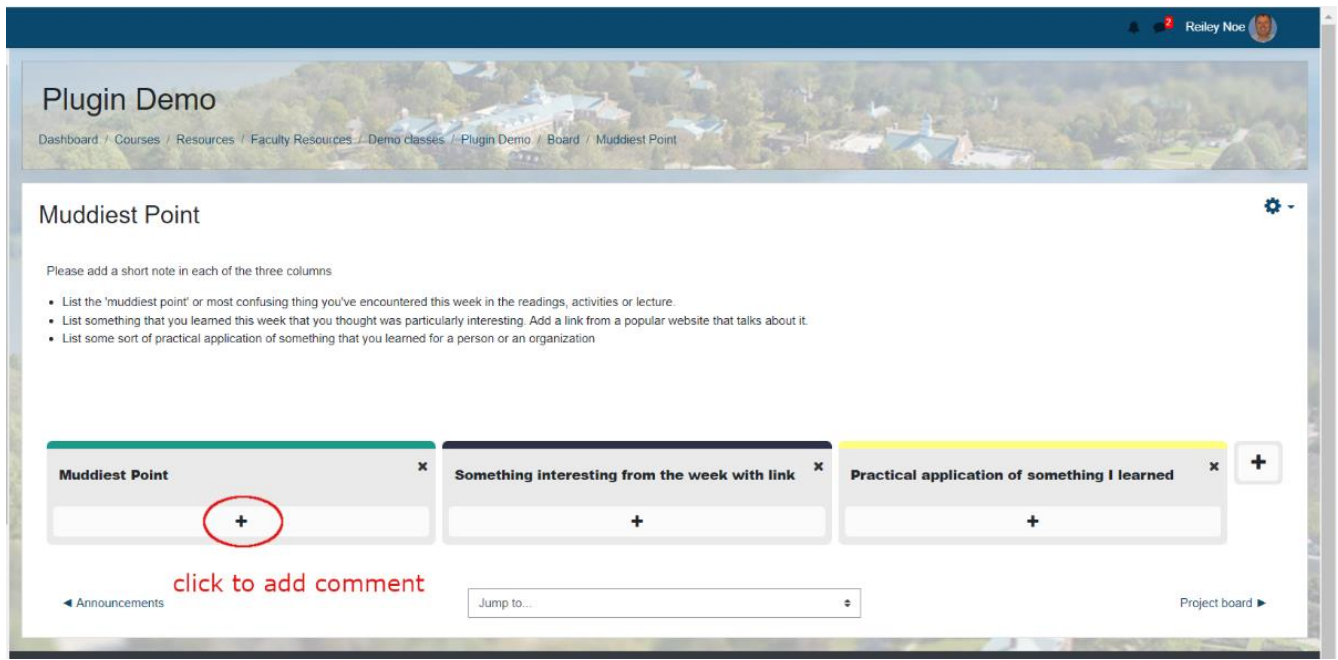
Click on Heading to type heading text

Muddiest Point Heading Heading

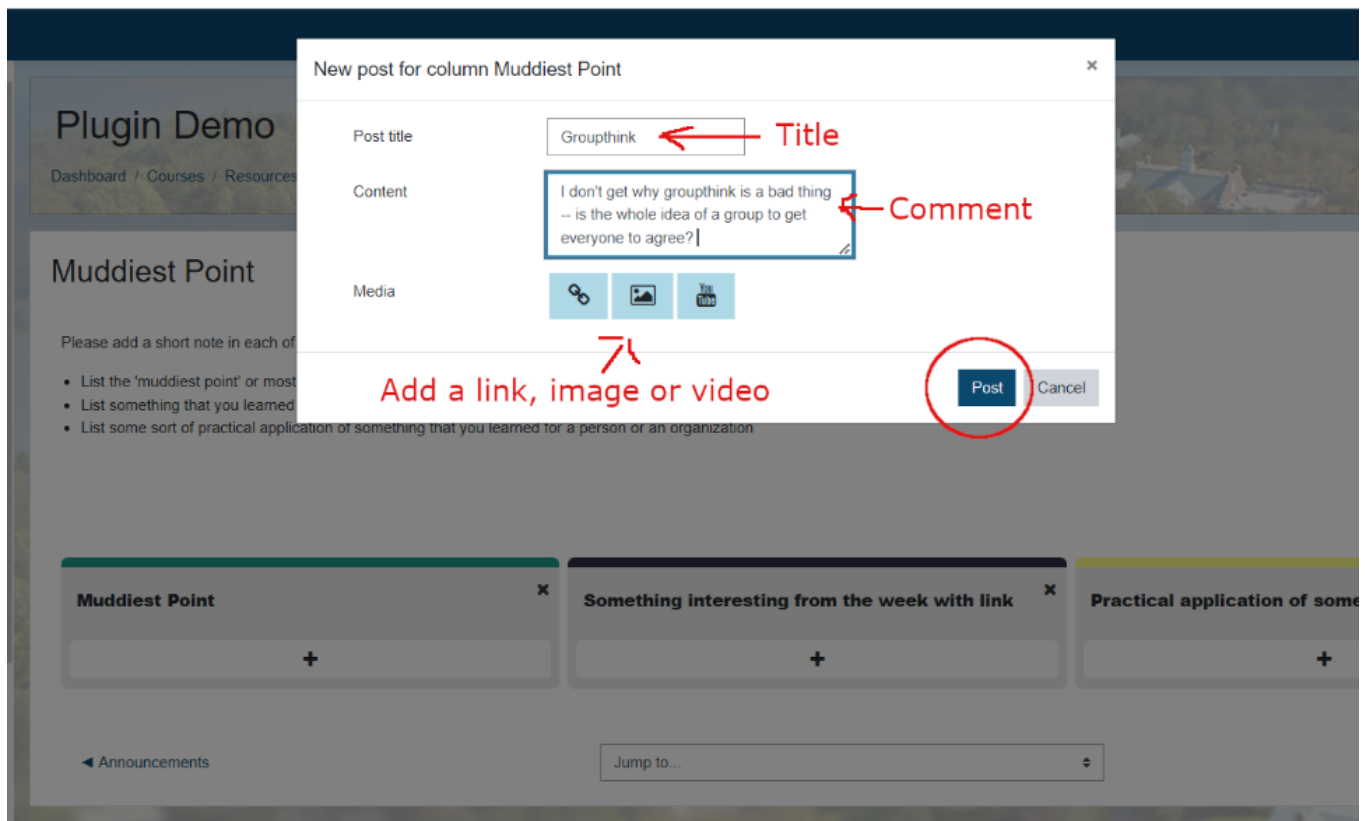
Jump to... Project board

7. We added the headings for three columns 1) **Muddiest point**, where students will add anything, they are confused by, 2) **Something Interesting from the Week with a Link** where students can talk about what they learned and add a link to an online resource, and 3) **Practical application of something that I learned**, where a student can talk about connections they made.

Just click on the plus sign below a column to add a comment underneath a heading.



8. Students can type in a Post Title, their content – up to 250 characters - and add a link, an image or a video by clicking on an icon below the text box. They can post by clicking on the Post button.



9. This is what the three columns might look like.

Please add a short note in each of the three columns

- List the 'muddiest point' or most confusing thing you've encountered this week in the readings, activities or lecture.
- List something that you learned this week that you thought was particularly interesting. Add a link from a popular website that talks about it.
- List some sort of practical application of something that you learned for a person or an organization

The image displays three columns of a discussion board interface. The first column, titled 'Muddiest Point', contains two posts: one about 'Groupthink' and another about the 'Halo Effect'. The second column, titled 'Something interesting from the week with link', contains two posts: one about the 'Halo Effect' and another about 'Milgram's lost letter experiment' which includes a video player. The third column, titled 'Practical application of something I learned', contains one post about 'Groupthink and Devil's Advocate' which includes a graphic titled 'Put some 'devil' in your decision-making.'.

10. You can change the settings by clicking on the gear in the upper right side of the screen and then selecting Edit Settings from the menu. In the Board Settings area, you'll see a drop down that will enable ratings for posts to be done either by students or teachers. You can also allow all users to move around their own posts within and between columns.

The image shows the 'Board settings' interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with 'Board settings' and 'Common module settings'. The main area contains settings for 'Background color', 'Background Image', 'Rating posts', 'Sort by', and 'Restrict access'. The 'Rating posts' section has a dropdown menu set to 'by Students', which is circled in red. To the right of this dropdown, the text 'Enable rating by students' is written in red. Below the dropdown, there is a checkbox for 'Hide column headers from students' and another checkbox for 'Limit students posting by date'. The 'Restrict access' section has a checkbox for 'Allow all users to edit the placement of their own posts.', which is also circled in red. To the right of this checkbox, the text 'Allow all users to move their comments' is written in red. The 'Background Image' section shows a file upload area with a blue arrow pointing down and the text 'You can drag and drop files here to add them.'

11. When you add ratings to the activity, then numbers appear next to the stars denoting the number of positive ratings.

Please add a short note in each of the three columns

- List the 'muddiest point' or most confusing thing you've encountered this week in the readings, activities or lecture.
- List something that you learned this week that you thought was particularly interesting. Add a link from a popular website that talks about it.
- List some sort of practical application of something that you learned for a person or an organization

Muddiest Point

Groupthink

I don't get why groupthink is a bad thing -- is the whole idea of a group to get everyone to agree?

★ 0 ✕

Halo Effect

I don't get why the halo effect is that big of a deal.

★ 0 ✕

+

Something interesting from the week with link

Halo Effect

I thought that the information on the halo effect was really intriguing. It explains why good-looking people seem to unfairly get all the advantages.

What is the halo-effect and how can it impact interviews?

★ 0 ✕

Milgram's lost letter experiment

The lost letter experiment was intriguing. I can see people more easily sending a lost letter to an individual to help them out than to a group as awful as the Nazi party.

Experiment- Milgram Lost Letter Technique

Watch on YouTube

Practical application of something I learned

Groupthink and Devil's Advocate

I think that the idea of groupthink and the Devil's Advocate has made me re-think how I get advice. I should try to listen to people that I disagree with (like my Dad) and weigh their advice instead of just jumping to conclusions about their ideas.

Put some 'devil' in your decision-making.

To improve the effectiveness of your team's decision-making take steps to encourage debate and critical challenge.

- Assign someone the role of Devil's advocate.
- Focus less on convincing and more on sharing alternative views.
- Challenge ideas and assumptions, not people.
- Try low-key phrasing, such as, "Shouldn't we also consider..."
- Flag it if the group jumps straight to solutions.

Source: "Devil's Advocate" and "Groupthink" by Wendy Hirsch, Ph.D. (2017) WendyHirsch.com

12. Users can rate posts that are not their own. In the image below, you can see some posts are unrated, while others have one- or two-star ratings.

HANOVER COLLEGE

Susan Student

Muddiest Point

Groupthink

I don't get why groupthink is a bad thing -- is the whole idea of a group to get everyone to agree?

★ 0

Halo Effect

I don't get why the halo effect is that big of a deal.

★ 2

+

Something interesting from the week with link

Halo Effect

I thought that the information on the halo effect was really intriguing. It explains why good-looking people seem to unfairly get all the advantages.

What is the halo-effect and how can it impact interviews?

★ 2

Milgram's lost letter experiment

The lost letter experiment was intriguing. I can see people more easily sending a lost letter to an individual to help them out than to a group as awful as the Nazi party.

Experiment- Milgram Lost Lett...

★ 0

Stanford Prison Experiment

Practical application of something I learned

Groupthink and Devil's Advocate

I think that the idea of groupthink and the Devil's Advocate has made me re-think how I get advice. I should try to listen to people that I disagree with (like my Dad) and weigh their advice instead of just jumping to conclusions about their ideas.

Put some 'devil' in your decision-making.

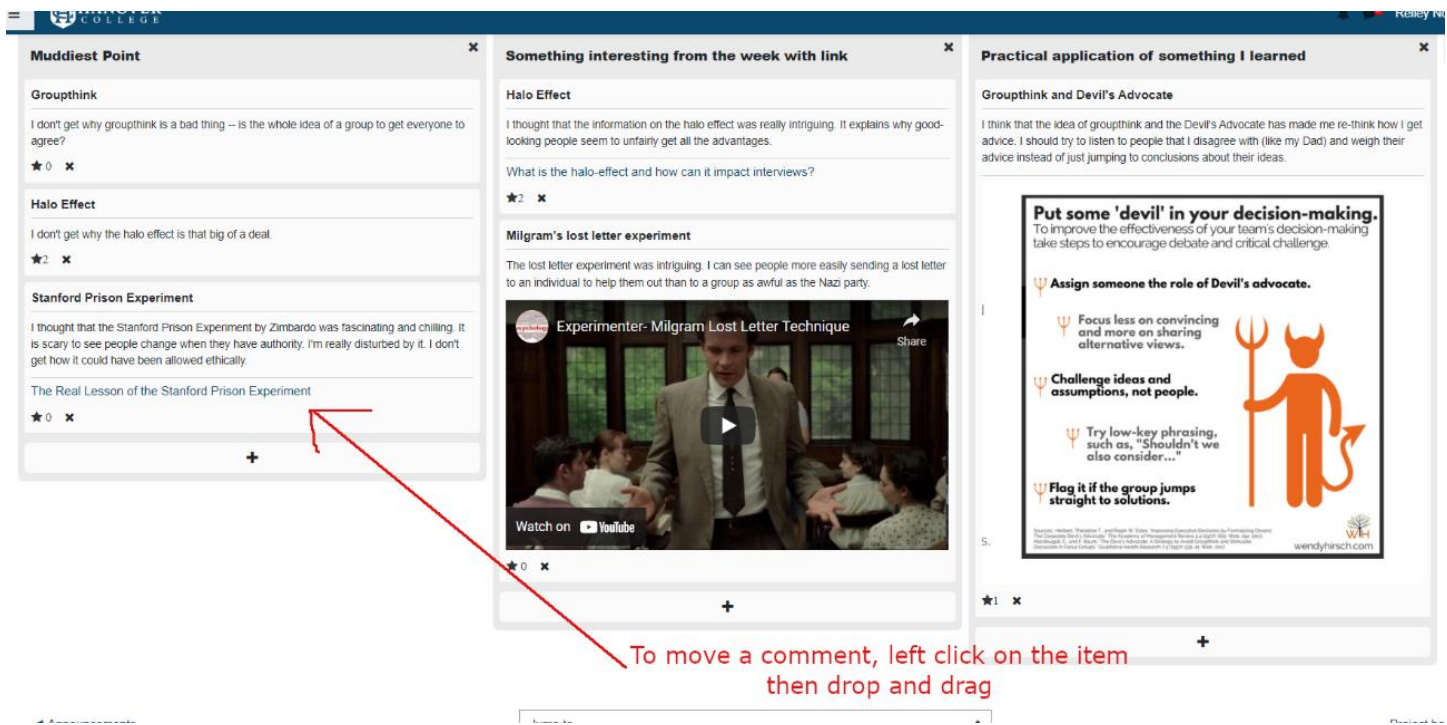
To improve the effectiveness of your team's decision-making take steps to encourage debate and critical challenge.

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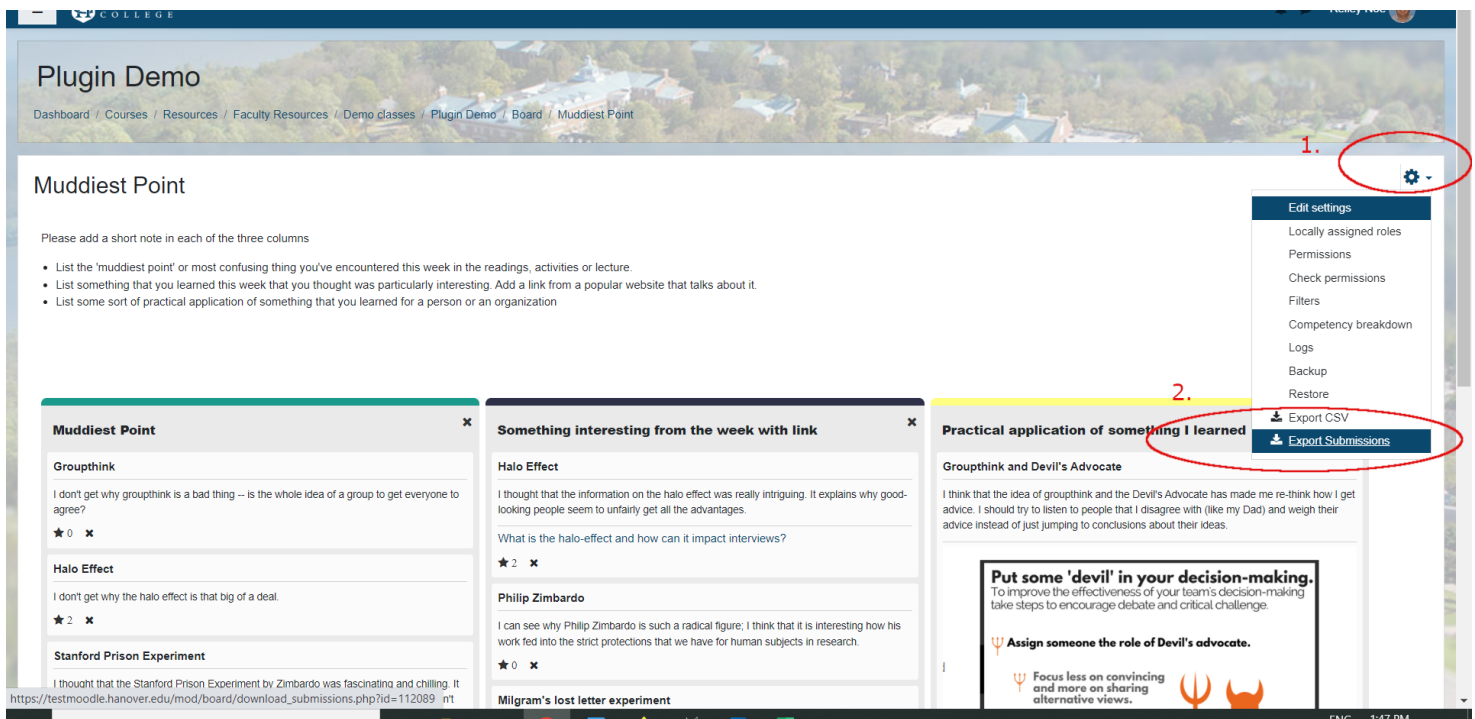
Source: "Devil's Advocate" and "Groupthink" by Wendy Hirsch, Ph.D. (2017) WendyHirsch.com

★ 1

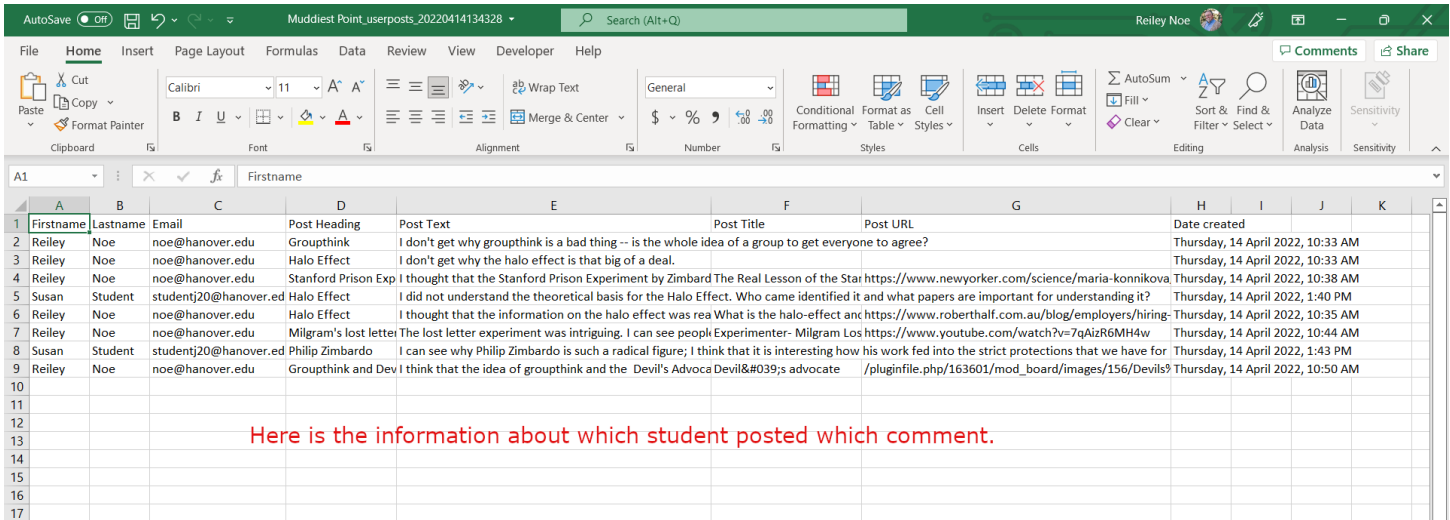
13. You can left click on a comment and while holding the key, you can drop and drag a comment to another column or to another area within the same column.



14. Notice that the posts are all anonymous. As a teacher you can see who posted which item by clicking on the gear and then selecting Export Submissions at the bottom of the menu.



15. This will allow the instructor to download an Excel sheet for the board activity and see who posted which comment. As you can see, I made up the bulk of the social psychology board, but Susan Student had a few things to say, too.

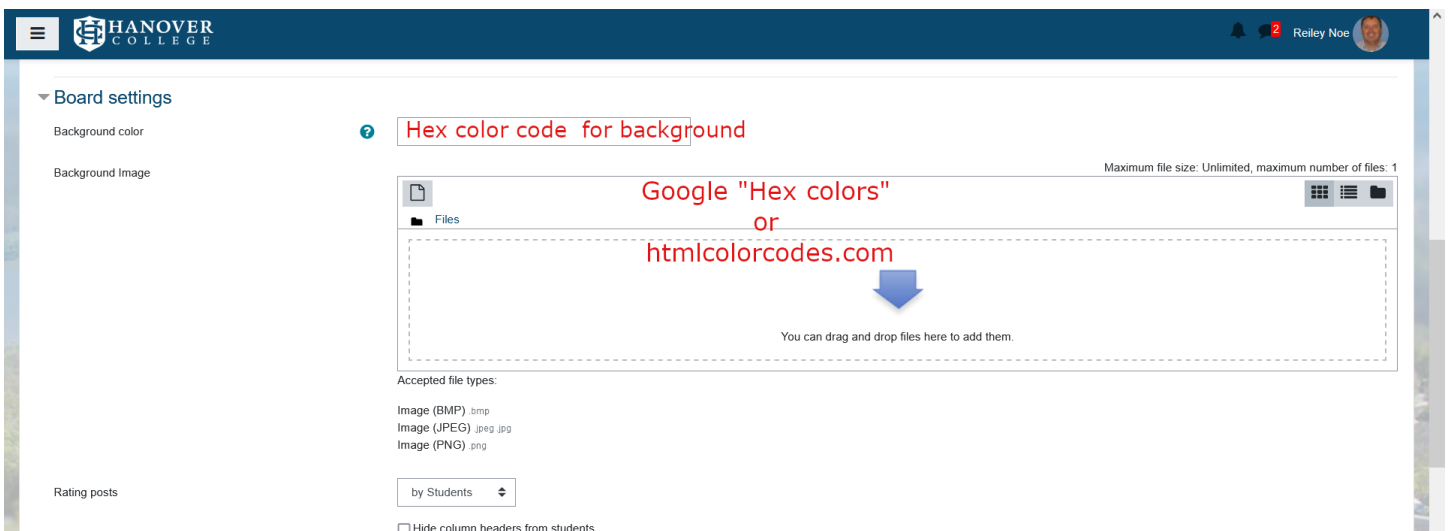


Firstname	Lastname	Email	Post Heading	Post Text	Post Title	Post URL	Date created
Reiley	Noe	noe@hanover.edu	Groupthink	I don't get why groupthink is a bad thing -- is the whole idea of a group to get everyone to agree?			Thursday, 14 April 2022, 10:33 AM
Reiley	Noe	noe@hanover.edu	Halo Effect	I don't get why the halo effect is that big of a deal.			Thursday, 14 April 2022, 10:33 AM
Reiley	Noe	noe@hanover.edu	Stanford Prison Exp	I thought that the Stanford Prison Experiment by Zimbard	The Real Lesson of the Star	https://www.newyorker.com/science/maria-konnikova	Thursday, 14 April 2022, 10:38 AM
Susan	Student	studentj20@hanover.edu	Halo Effect	I did not understand the theoretical basis for the Halo Effect. Who came identified it and what papers are important for understanding it?			Thursday, 14 April 2022, 1:40 PM
Reiley	Noe	noe@hanover.edu	Halo Effect	I thought that the information on the halo effect was rea	What is the halo-effect and	https://www.roberthalf.com.au/blog/employers/hiring	Thursday, 14 April 2022, 10:35 AM
Reiley	Noe	noe@hanover.edu	Milgram's lost letter	The lost letter experiment was intriguing. I can see people	Experimenter- Milgram Los	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7qAizR6MH4w	Thursday, 14 April 2022, 10:44 AM
Susan	Student	studentj20@hanover.edu	Philip Zimbardo	I can see why Philip Zimbardo is such a radical figure; I think that it is interesting how his work fed into the strict protections that we have for			Thursday, 14 April 2022, 1:43 PM
Reiley	Noe	noe@hanover.edu	Groupthink and Dev	I think that the idea of groupthink and the	Devil's Advocate Devil's advocate	/pluginfile.php/163601/mod_board/images/156/Devils9	Thursday, 14 April 2022, 10:50 AM

Here is the information about which student posted which comment.

Adding Colors

16. You can add a hex color code for a background. Hex codes are away to classify colors that are used in web development. You can google "hex colors" to find many websites that will give you particular hex colors, but we'll use htmlcolorcodes.com in this example. We'll search for this in another tab in our browser. The Background Color field is where you will add a hex code once we find it.



Board settings

Background color

Background Image

Maximum file size: Unlimited, maximum number of files: 1

Files

Google "Hex colors" or htmlcolorcodes.com

You can drag and drop files here to add them.

Accepted file types:

- Image (BMP) .bmp
- Image (JPEG) .jpg .jpeg
- Image (PNG) .png

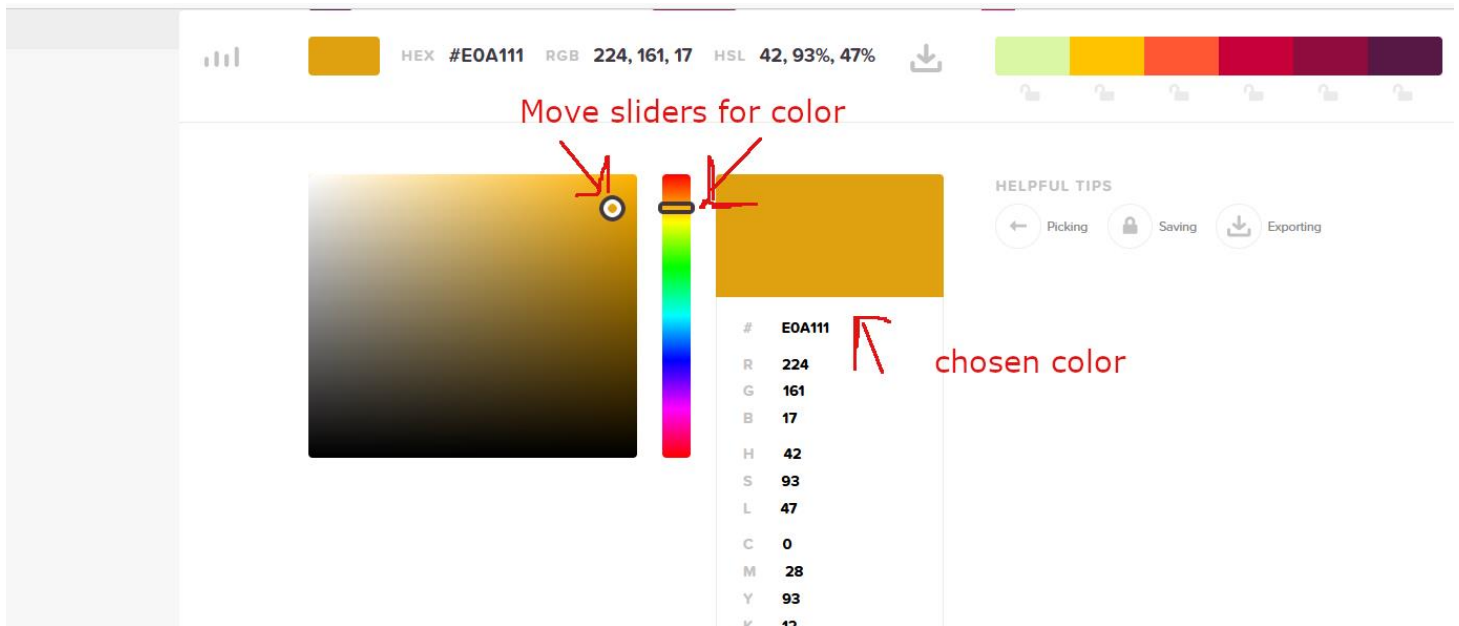
Rating posts

by Students

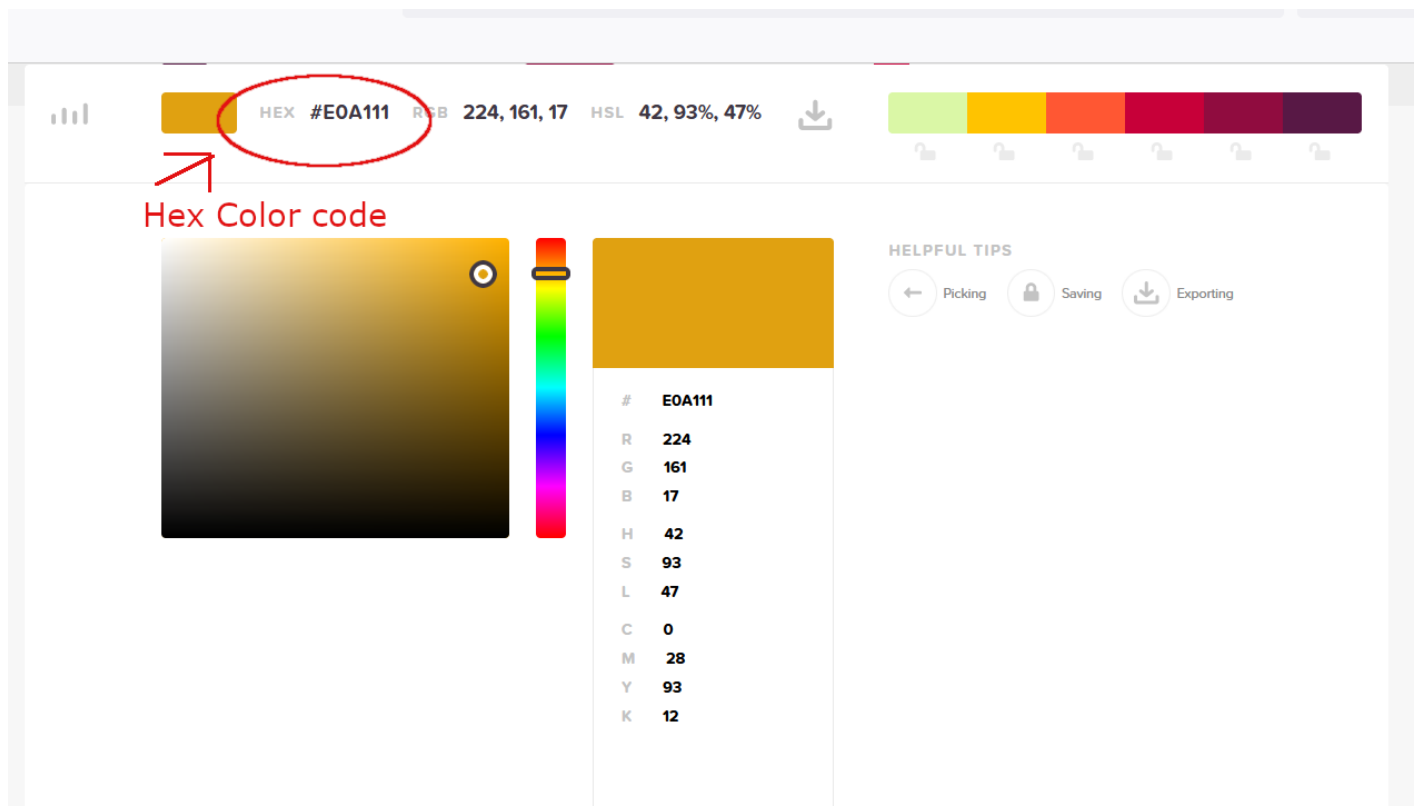
☐ Hide column headers from students

17. Here we are on htmlcolorcodes.com. On this website, you can move the slider down the vertically arrayed spectrum in the center of the screen. The placement of the slider determines the shade of the box to your left. You can move that small circle around within that box on the left to get a specific color, which will be shown on the block to the right and in the small color box in the upper left.

Next to the color in the upper left is the hex code. Hex codes begin with a # sign and have a combination of 6 letters or numbers. We are going for this cool shade of burnt orange -- #EOA111.



18. We'll just copy the code #EOA111 from the website. It is just after the Hex label at the top.



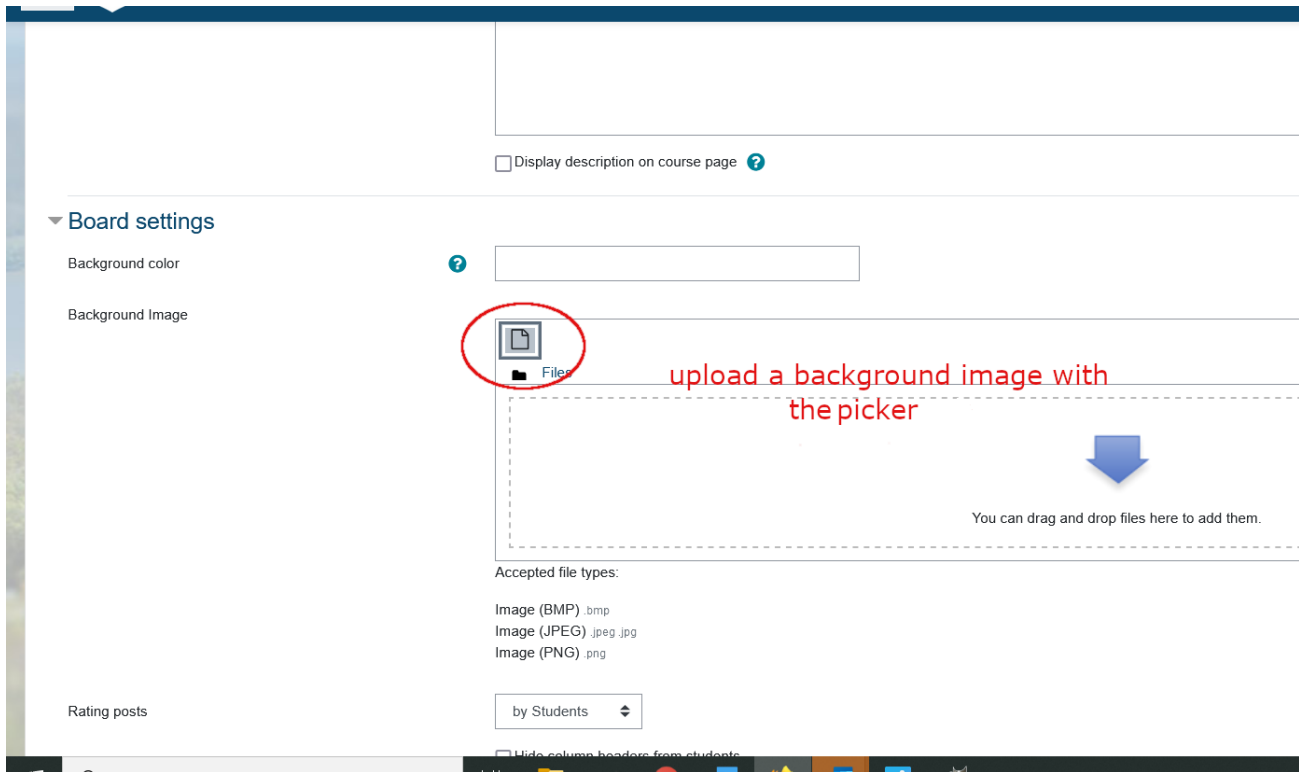
19. When we toggle our browser back to Moodle where the tab is set to the Board Settings in the Moodle course. We'll add that hex color code into the field across from Background Color. The code begins with the '#' sign. We'll click one of the blue Save buttons at the bottom.

The screenshot shows the Moodle Board settings page. The header includes the Hanover College logo and a hamburger menu icon. The left sidebar has a 'Board settings' section with 'Background color' and 'Background Image' options. The 'Background color' field contains the hex code '#e0a111'. A red arrow points from the text 'color code copy and pasted' to this field. Below the color field is a 'Files' section with a dashed box for file uploads and a blue arrow pointing down with the text 'You can drag and drop files here to add them.' Accepted file types are listed as Image (BMP) .bmp and Image (JPEG) .jpeg .jpg.

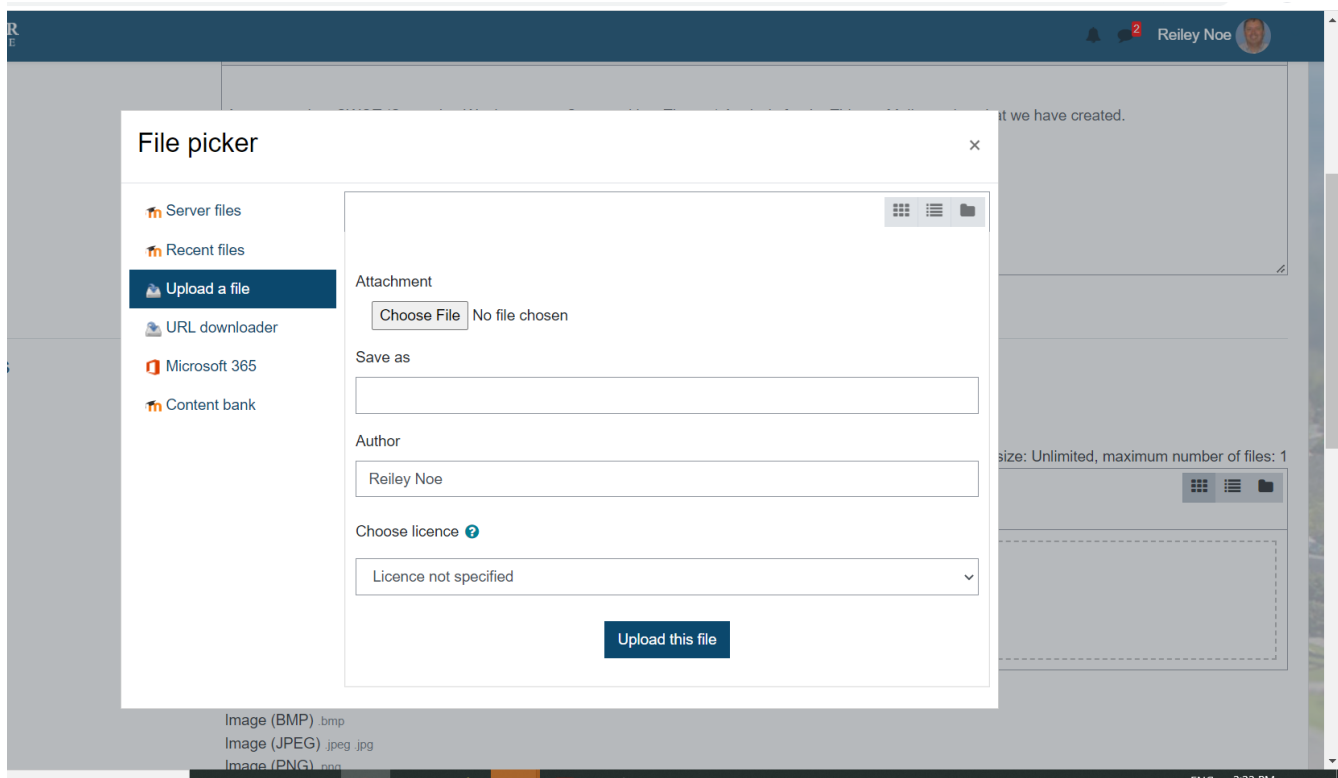
20. And we see the very swank burnt orange background from the hex color code that we selected.

The screenshot shows a business plan canvas board with a burnt orange background. The board is divided into six main sections, each with a title and a list of tasks. Each task has a star rating and a close button (X). The sections are: Legal, Supply, Labor, Product and distribution, Capital and finance, and Marketing. A plus sign (+) is visible in the top right corner of the board. The tasks listed are: Legal (Hire a lawyer, Draw straws for C-suite jobs, Make sure that the Thing-a-majig is safe for children, incorporate with the state of Indiana, LLC, S - Corp., or Sole proprietorship, find a board), Supply (get a supplier network, Figure out what sort of raw materials do we need to make the thing-a-majig - fescue grass? Titanium? Plastics? Finished mahogany? topsoil? Corn Syrup?), Labor (Find a place from which to wok, Outsource it all, or do it under our roof?, Figure out how many people to hire, Hire People), Product and distribution (patent the Thing-a-majig before anyone else does., prototype the thing-a-majig., Figure out what we are going to make, What distributors would help us sell the Thing-a-majig, Patent the Thing-ap-Majig before any competitors do.), Capital and finance (What sort of money do we have access to?, Get more money, Hire an accountant, Get another line of credit, Go public, Make a budget), and Marketing (Make some crazy ads for social media, Find a target market for this thing?, Figure out the look for our packaging.).

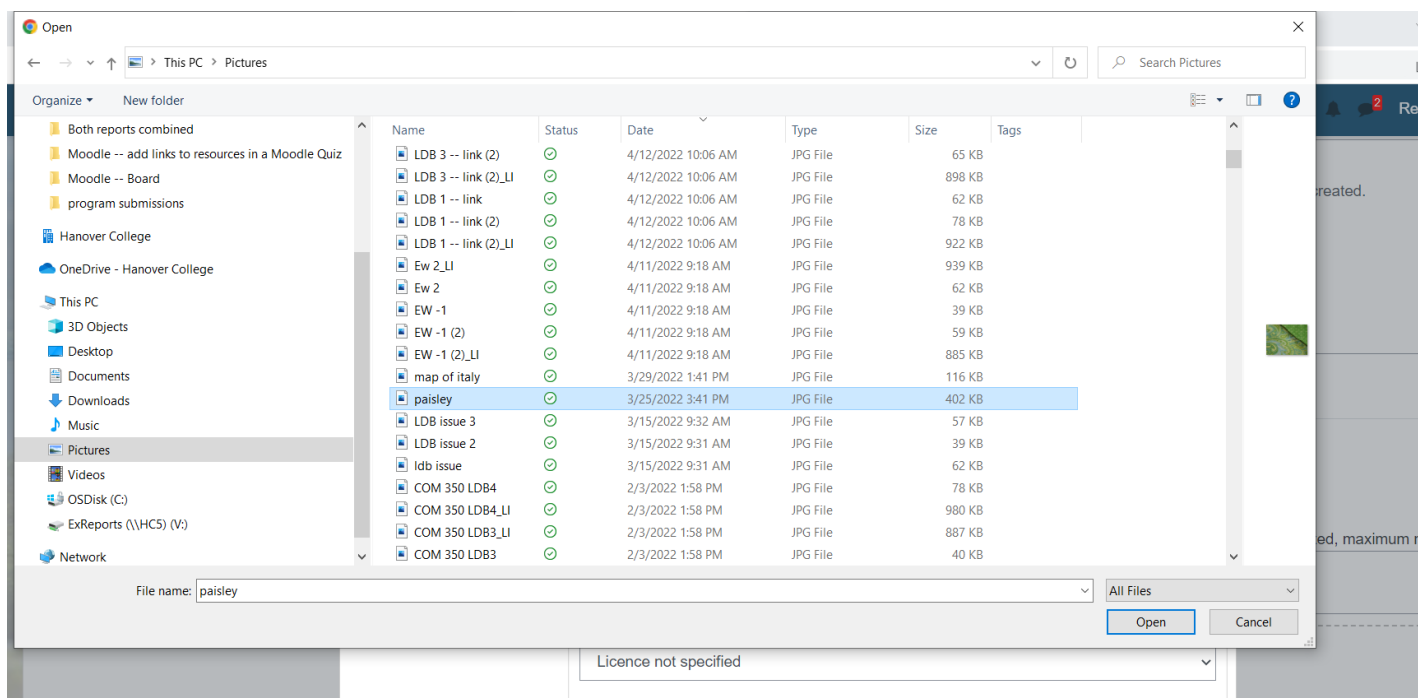
21. You can also add a background image if you'd like – just use the item picker to upload the background image into Moodle. Click on the dog-eared icon in the upper right corner of the box next to Background Image.



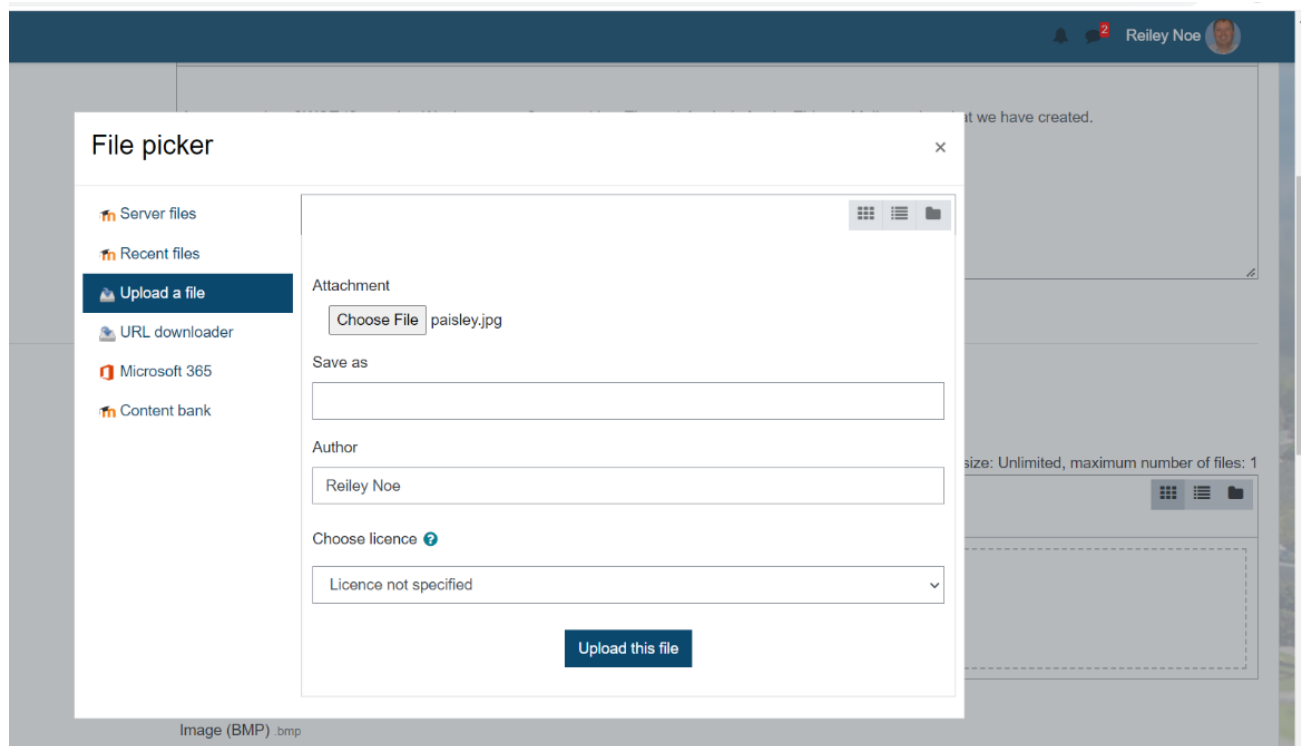
22. We will click on the Choose File button in the middle of the screen.



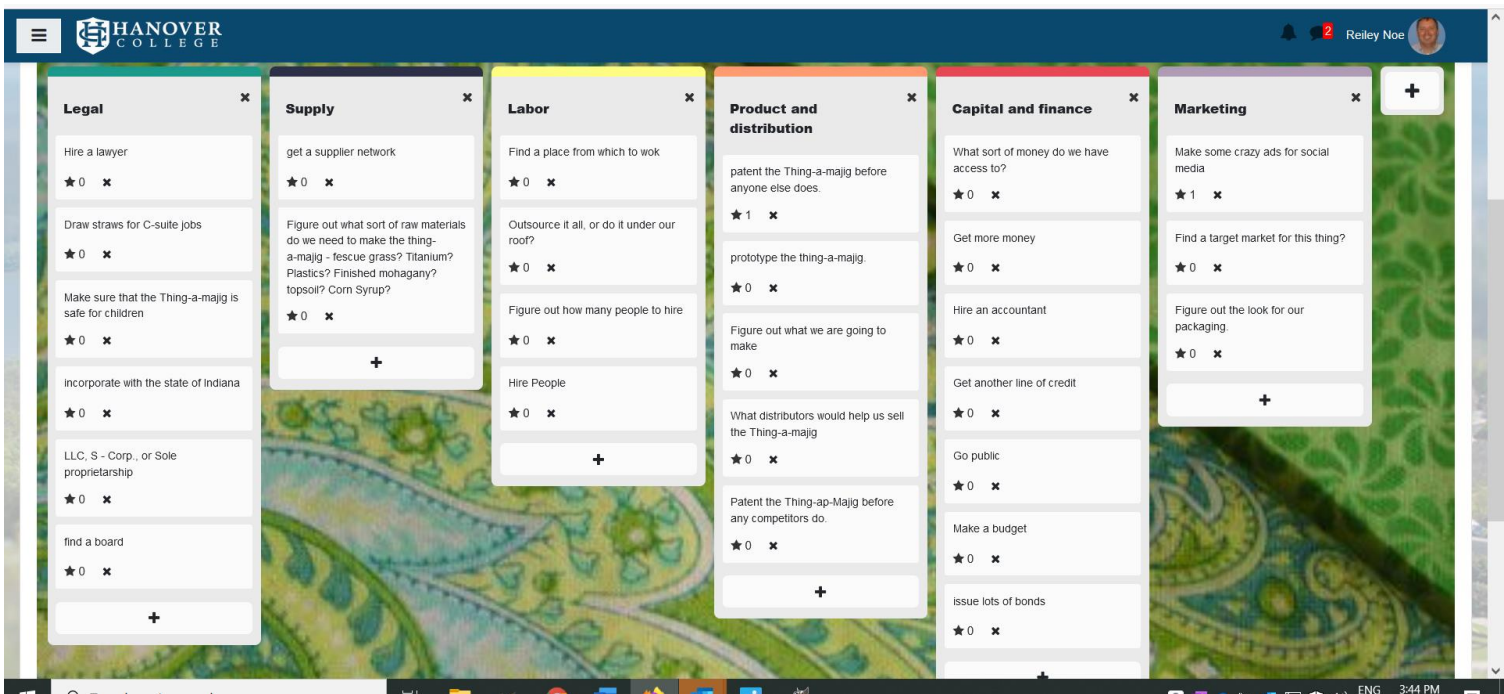
23. We will click on the Paisley image file in the Pictures area of this hard drive. When we do, it populates in the File Name bar of this dialog box and then when we click Open, it will populate this image in the background of our Board.



24. A popup appears. The file name appears next to the Choose File button. Just click the Upload this File button at the bottom of the popup.



25. And here it is – a ‘swinging 60s-style’ green paisley background appears behind our board.



Further Reading:

[Board](#) by Moodle Organization. This summarizes the basics of Board.

[Moodle Much Webinar – Initial Experiences of Board](#). Dublin City University Teaching Enhancement. This section of a longer webinar – going from 2:56 – 14:56 gives many ideas for how to use Board from faculty members at Dublin City University.

[5 Uses of Moodle Board to Engage Students](#). Technology Enhanced Learning Blog.