# Message Board

One of the built-in social tools is the message boards. This is an area where conversation on any topic can be held through a series of message posts from site members.

Clicking the **Message Board** link in the navigation menu will display the Message Boards Home page (example below):

Message Boards Home	Recent Posts M	y Posts My Subscriptions	Statistics	Banned Users		Sei	arch	Search
dd Category Post New Thr	ead Permissions							
						6	RSS (Opens New Windo	w) 🛞 Subs
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Category				Categories	Threads	Posts		
Curriculum Post here with any curriculum di	scussion or questions.			0	0	0	🕶 🥜 Actions	
hreads								

The top menu bar has a variety of useful features:

- Recent Posts Show all recent posts in a given time frame
- My Posts Shows all posts written by you
- My Subscriptions Shows all threads in which you requested notification on new posts
- Statistics Shows general user statistics in the message forum
- Banner Users Shows all users that are banned from posting and/or interacting with other members

Message Boards Home	Recent Posts	My Posts	My Subscriptions	Statistics	Banned Users	Search	Search
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orem Ipsum			1	1	Date: 8/4/17 5:40 PM By:	🕶 🌽 Actions	

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Subscribe to recent posts. (Opens New Window)

#### Post New Thread

To start a new forum thread (or discussion topic), click on the **Post New Thread** link underneath the top menu bar. The next page will display the new message thread settings and content page.

#### Message Boards

	Message Boards Home	Recent Posts	My Posts	My Subscriptions	Statistics	Banned Users	Search	Search
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- 1. Type in a descriptive title for the message thread in the **Subject (Required)** field
- 2. Type the message content in the **Body** area. A formatting menu bar is also available to customize the appearance of the message or insert other media from another source.

🔲 Mark as a	Question 🦚			
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Subscribe	Me 🦚			
Priority	٣			
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Permissions				
Viewable by	Site Members	<ul> <li>More Options » </li> </ul>		
Attachments	5			
Categorizati	on			
Related Ass	ets			
Save as Dra	aft Preview Publish (	Cancel		

- 3. Check the Mark as a Question option to make all replies to the message are marked as answers
- 4. Check the **Anonymous** option if the message is posted anonymously
- 5. Check the **Subscribe Me** option to be subscribed to the thread and receive notifications
- 6. If the message is of importance, select the appropriate level in the **Priority** drop-down box. The available levels are *Urgent*, *Sticky*, or *Announcement*.
- 7. Check the **Allow Pingbacks** option to receive notification if the message has been linked by another myGateway site
- 8. Set the permissions on which users can view the message by selecting an option in the **Viewable by** dropdown box. The available options are *Site Members* (default), *Anyone/Guest*, or *Owner*. If necessary, click the **More Options** link for additional permission settings.

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- 9. A message thread can support up to five (5) file attachments. Click on the **Choose File** button to bring up the file manager, navigate to the file, and select for upload/attachment.
- 10. To make searches for the message more efficient, click the **Add** link in the Tags area and type in relevant search terms for the message. To review and/or select previously used tags, click the **Select** link. Suggested terms based on the thread may also be available using the **Suggestions** link.
- 11. If there are existing assets somewhere on the site that is relevant to the message thread, click the Select button in the Related Assets section and choose from the options available (see below). Another window will appear displaying the available assets that can be selected and attached to the message.

	Related Assets			
Elogs Entry	▼Q Select			
ஒ Message Boards Message				
Web Content Article	Save as Draft	Proviou	Dublich	Cancel
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- 12. If the message cannot be created in a single session, click the **Save as Draft** button to continue later
- 13. To view the message as it will appear to other users, click the **Preview** button
- 14. When the message content and settings are final, click the **Publish** button to post the message to the forum

# Add Category

Categories can be added to organize and group message threads. Click on the **Add Category** link underneath the top menu bar. The next page appearing will be the new category setup page.

Name (Required) Academics  Post any academic related discussion here.  Display Style Default  Permissions  Viewable by Site Members  More Options »	Required) Academics   Post any academic related   discussion here.   * Style Default     Default      sions   le by Site Members     More Options » @    rg List   tive tow Anonymous Emails	G Add Car	tegory	
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Allow Anonymous Emails		Allow Ar	nonymous Emails	

- 1. Type in a descriptive title for the category in the Name (Required) field
- 2. Describe the category more fully in the Description box
- 3. Select the type of category in the Display Style drop-down box. The available options are *Default* and *Question*.
- 4. Set the permissions on which users can access the category by selecting an option in the **Viewable by** drop-down box. The available options are *Site Members* (default), *Anyone/Guest*, or *Owner*. If necessary, click the **More Options** link for additional permission settings.
- 5. If desired, the message thread can also serve as a mailing list of sorts. All activity in the message thread will generate email notification to each subscribed member. Each member can respond to an email notification directly bypassing the need to log into myGateway to respond. Click the **Active** option under the *Mailing List* heading to configure the message thread in a mailing list manner. If desired, click the **Allow Anonymous Emails** option to allow members to respond by email anonymously.

Click the **Save** button to confirm the settings and create the message category. The Message Boards Home page will appear with the newly created category displayed (see below using the above example).

Categories				
Category	Categories	Threads	Posts	
Academics Post any academic related discussion here.	0	0	0	🕶 🥜 Actions
Curriculum Post here with any curriculum discussion or questions.	0	1	1	🕶 🥜 Actions

### Reply To Forum Message

All members with access to the message forum can also reply to posted threads and/or responses. The options for replying appears in the top right corner of the message.

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Clicking on the **Reply** option will open up the message setup page with the original message appearing at the bottom for reference. Follow the directions in the Post New Thread section to complete your reply.

Clicking on the **Reply with Quote** option will open up the message setup page and insert the original message at the top of the Body area. Follow the directions in the Post New Thread section to complete your reply.



Clicking on the **Quick Reply** option will open up an editing area at the bottom of the message thread page, but with fewer features than the standard message setup page.



## Edit Message

Forum messages can also be edited once posted. The change will be reflected in the activity history area on the post, as well as notifications sent to any member that is subscribed to the message thread. Click on the **Edit** button located at the bottom right of a posted message to bring up the message setup page for editing.



### Delete Message

Forum messages can be deleted as well. A confirmation box will appear before the deletion occurs. Click the **Delete** button located at the bottom right of a posted message. The message thread will be updated after the deletion process has completed.

Note: Deleting a message that has replies will not delete the replies, but rather move them up the hierarchy.

#### Move Thread

Once a message has been posted, an admin user has the authority to relocate the thread to a different category, usually a more appropriate one based on topic. Follow the steps below to complete this action:

1. Navigate to the desired message thread, click on the **Actions** button beside it, and select the **Move** option



2. Click the **Select** link in the *Move Thread* setup page. Choose the destination from the category list that appears.

Message Boards G Move Thread	Choose This Category				
Category Curriculum	Category	# of Categories	# of Threads	# of Posts	
Select	Academics Post any academic related discussion here.	0	0	0	Choose
Add explanation post.      Move Thread     Cancel	Curriculum Post here with any curriculum discussion or questions.	0	1	1	Choose

3. Verify the category listed is the correct destination. If necessary, check the **Add explanation post** option to type in a detailed explanation for the move. Click the **Move Thread** button to complete the process.

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