



# FACILITATING PEER-TO-PEER INTERACTION USING SLACK OR DISCORD

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# HIGH-LEVEL THOUGHTS

- Slack is a useful platform for communication and asynchronous assignments.
- A fantastic tool for groupwork or collaborative final assignments.
- A way of cutting down on emails for information and file sharing.
- An effective way of having para-academic or off topic discussions in class.
- Also, you can share GIFs...



SLACK NEED NOT REPLACE  
CANVAS

# COMMUNICATION: SLACK, DISCORD, GROUPME, AND EVEN CANVAS

The screenshot shows a Slack workspace interface. At the top, a blue banner reads "Slack needs your permission to enable desktop notifications." Below this is the channel header for "#general", which includes a search bar, a list of icons (phone, info, settings), and a search input field. The chat history shows several messages:

- Patrick Jagoda** (1:05 PM): "For today, does any group feel strongly about going first?"
- Kuba Sokołowski** (1:08 PM): "We'd be happy to go first!" (with 1 thumbs up)
- Patrick Jagoda** (1:11 PM): "So, VR Hub first. I also believe Kellie, Jaire, Gayathri, and Nicho will now be in our classroom, rather than the game studio, for their session."
- Beatrice Del Negro** (2:27 PM): "Please bring your phones along with you today! Thank you!"
- Kuba Sokołowski** (2:57 PM): "@channel We're excited to open doors for tonight's deposit ceremony! Please feel free to file in, grab your name tags, and a drink!" (with an image from iOS)

The bottom of the screen shows a message input field with a placeholder "Message #general" and a rich text editor with icons for bold, italic, link, and other formatting options. The Windows taskbar is visible at the very bottom, showing the search bar and several open applications.

# SLACK VS. DISCORD

The screenshot displays a Discord chat window with a dark theme. On the left is a sidebar with a list of channels: # announcements, # GENERAL, # join-history, # general, # pic-vids, # idiot-bots (selected), # music, # BOOP, # boss-schedule, # boss, # bolds-cool-pics, and # VOICE CHANNELS (General). The main chat area shows a conversation in the #idiot-bots channel. Messages include:

- WohWill (03/18/2019): Next week ez 😊
- ohviviho (03/18/2019): He only wanted the new hair and shirt for this event Ended up changing the whole look
- WohWill (03/18/2019): --
- Wuba (03/18/2019): -stats arbo
- BooperBot BOT (03/18/2019):  
© GENERATED BY BOOPERBOT  
Arbo LV. 165  
Paladin  
Guild: Promise  
Fame: 38  
XP: 33.93% / 100%  
Cards: 168 Quests: 118

At the bottom, there is a message input field with the text "Message #idiot-bots" and icons for attachments, GIFs, and emojis. On the right side, a user list is visible, showing online users like BUG, duckduckno, jamie0515, LurkinShadow/Muis/A..., Monkeymouse1, Plumpewe, and -Sean-, and offline users like Aaron, AcSeann, benj, and boldaslove.



# BOTH SLACK AND DISCORD

- Public channels
- Private messaging
- Calls
- Mobile apps

# DISCORD > SLACK

- Unlimited Free Messages
- Text-To-Speech Notifications
- High control to invite people

# SLACK > DISCORD

- Easier integration of apps (e.g., Google Drive, Trello, or Giphy)
- Course-appropriate style
- Discord is one account for everything, Slack offers unique workspaces per application
- File Sharing: In Slack, you get 1 gb file sharing of any type. In Discord, you get only 8 mb.



# BRIEF DEMO

# HOW TO GET STARTED

- Download Slack's desktop and mobile apps (notifications)
- Create/Join a Slack workspace
- Set up your profile
- Create channels
- Invite students
- Integrate into class

# LANGUAGE FROM SYLLABUS

**Slack:** We will use Slack for ongoing conversations with both shared channels for informal conversations about games and private channels for communication with the instructors, TAs, and peers. For all course related questions, you should contact us or the TAs via Slack **INSTEAD** of email.

# IN-CLASS USAGE OF SLACK

- Students can share questions about assignments
- Instructors and students can share current event articles about the course topic
- A good way to build community
- Student teams can meet to work on assignments in real-time



Slack has a “Do Not Disturb” that activates automatically at 10pm, but you can change that time.

QUESTIONS?

