Setting Dates for Discussions

Start/End Dates can be added to both discussion forums and topics.

Important: If date restrictions are added to a forum, the restrictions will impact all topics within the forum.

Date Restriction Options

The following settings determine how the discussion topic appears to learners before the start date and after the end date.

- **Visible with access restricted**: Students can see that the discussion exists and view its title, but they cannot access posts or prompts outside the specified date window.
- **Visible with submission restricted**: Students can view the discussion prompt and existing threads but cannot create new threads or replies outside the set date window. After the End date, the discussion becomes read-only.
- **Hidden**: The discussion remains completely inaccessible to students until the Start date. It will not appear in the calendar or generate notifications until it becomes available.

Add Date Restrictions to a Forum

1. Click **Discussions** in the course navigation bar.
2. Click the dropdown arrow beside the forum.
3. Select **Edit Forum**.
4. Click the **Restrictions** tab.
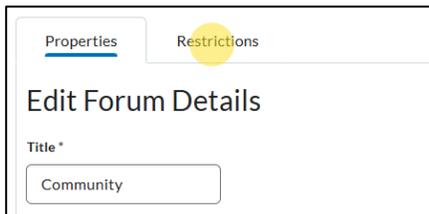
Figure: Restrictions Tab on Edit Forum

5. To add a Start Date
   - Click the checkbox next to "Has a Start Date," then select the date and time to open the discussion board in the text boxes [1].
   - Select the radio button for the date restriction setting to be applied [2].
6. To add an End Date
   - Click the checkbox next to "Has an End Date," then select the date and time to close the discussion board in the text boxes [3].
   - Select the radio button for the date restriction setting to be applied [4].
7. Click the checkbox next to "Display in Calendar" [5] to display the Start and/or End Dates in the course calendar. (This will also push to the Pulse App)

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Figure: Forum Settings for Start/End Dates

8. Click **Save and Close**.

Add Date Restrictions to a Topic

1. Click **Discussions** in the course navigation bar
2. Click the dropdown arrow beside the topic.
3. Select **Edit Topic**.
4. Select **Availability Dates & Conditions**
5. To add a Start Date
   - Select the date and time to open the discussion board in the corresponding boxes [1].
   - Select the type of date restriction to be applied "Before start" [2].
     Default: Visible with access restricted

Figure: Add Start Date to a Topic

   - Click the checkbox next to "Add availability dates to calendar" to display the Start and/or End Dates in the course calendar. (This will also push to the Pulse App

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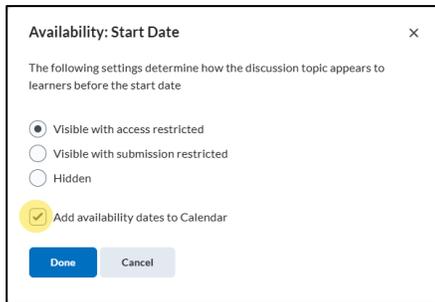
Figure: Availability Settings for Start/End Dates in a Topic

- Click **Done**.
6. To add an End Date
    - Select the date and time to close the discussion board in the corresponding boxes.
    - Select the type of date restriction to be applied "After End."
    Default: Visible with access restricted
    - Click the checkbox next to "Add availability dates to calendar" to display the Start and/or End Dates in the course calendar. (This will also push to the Pulse App)
    - Click **Done**.
7. Click **Save and Close**.

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