

Discussion Questions for Week 1

A "threaded discussion" is a discussion forum that allows students to respond to questions posted by the professor (original responses), which can then be read by other users who add their own comments in response (secondary postings). Unlike chat rooms and other "real-time" interaction forums, threaded discussions do not require different users to be logged on at the same time.

*Discussion questions are assigned each week. **Original responses to these questions must be posted by Thursday at 11:59PM.** Original responses must be at least **250 words** and must incorporate concepts from the lectures and assigned readings.*

***Secondary Responses/Postings:** Each student must post **two or more** secondary responses to other students' postings **for each discussion question.** Secondary responses are due by **11:59PM on the Monday following the week in which the questions were assigned.** They must be a minimum of **150 words** and, like original responses, should incorporate concepts from the lectures and assigned readings. Students are encouraged to embark on interactive discussions that go beyond the minimum number of secondary postings.*

Although the discussion board is expected to be student-driven, professors will be participating in the discussions as well.

DQ 1.1: "Patents are not necessary to promote invention because many people are inclined to invent by nature." Agree or disagree with this statement, defending your position.

DQ 1.2: How broad should patentable subject matter be? Are there reasons to place limits on patentable subject matter? Or would it be more consistent with the goals of patent law to make any invention patent eligible?