Connecting with Students and Faculty

In taking an online course at Northeastern, it is important to connect with your instructor as well as your peers. In Blackboard, Northeastern’s Learning Management System, there are a variety of ways to do that.

Discussion Board:
1. In many courses, the instructor will utilize the Discussion Board as a form of assessment and a way to promote collaboration and discussion amongst members of the class. It is important to be consistently active in the discussion board as students and instructors will post daily. You should try and check into your course discussion board at least once a day.

Blackboard IM:
1. A synchronous tool that instructors might use is Blackboard Instant Messenger. This tool could be used for office hours, or quick correspondence between classmates or the instructor. More information can be found here on how to access Blackboard IM.

Email Tool
1. Email is also a great way to reach out to faculty and students in your course. To do so, click on the Course Tools link on the left side navigation bar.
2. Once the drop down menu appears click on “Send Email.”
3. You are then provided with a variety of options that fits your desired outcome.
4. You can find more information on sending email [here](#).