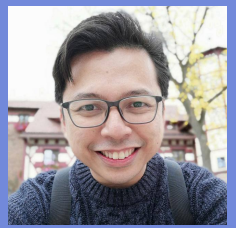
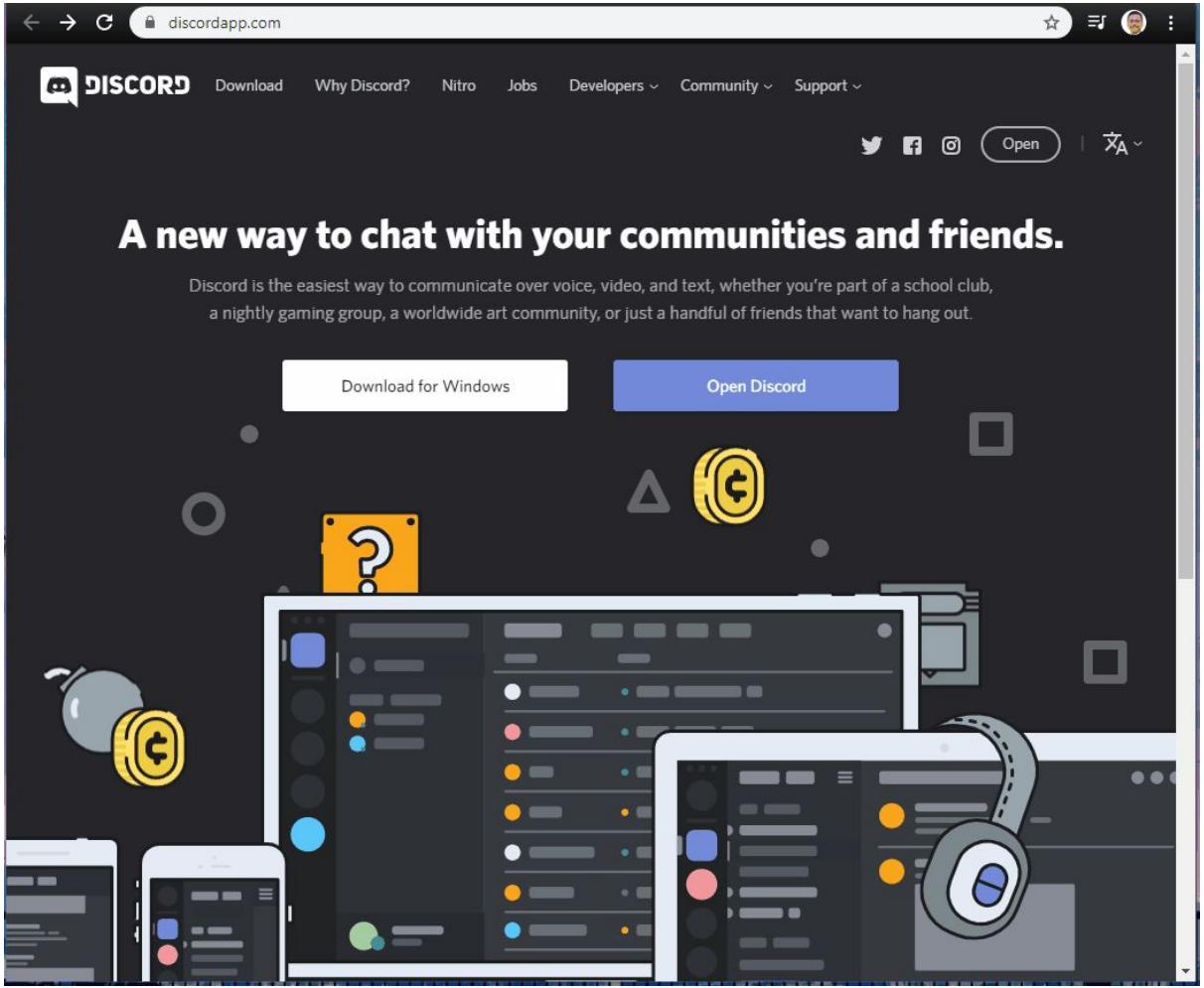
USING DISCORD FOR ONLINE TEACHING

Dr Ahmad Salahuddin Mohd Harithuddin
Dept of Aerospace Engineering
Faculty of Engineering





Go to:

discordapp.com

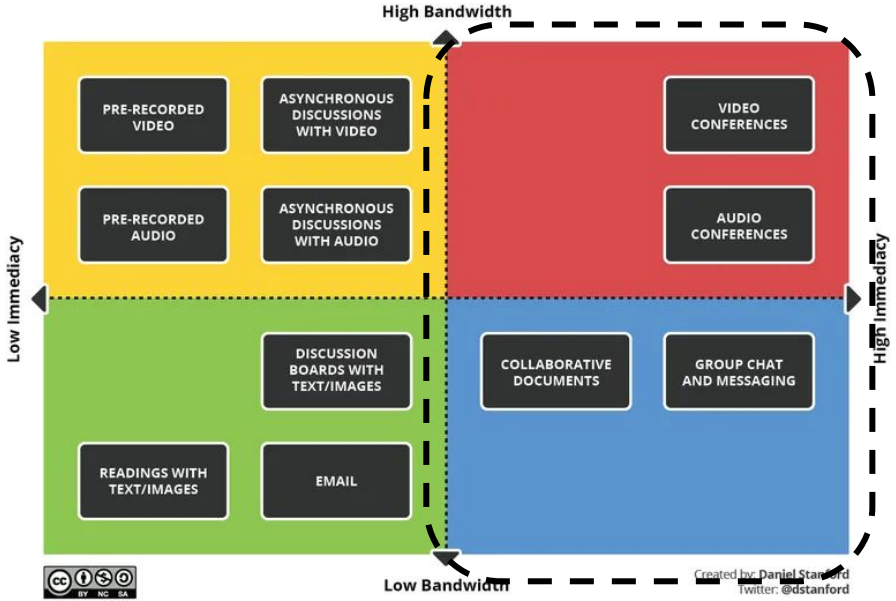
to download and install.
Only takes minutes!

What is Discord?

- Discord is a **group-chatting platform** originally built for gamers, but which has since become a general use platform for all sorts of communities.
- Discord is divided into **servers**, each of which has its own **members, topics, rules, and channels**.
- Discord also allows users to **voice- and video-chat**, as well as **livestream screens, webcams and other programs** from their computers.

Why Discord?

- It's **free**, **easy** to setup and use, and **lightweight**
- Many students probably already have it (*ask them!*)
- There is **no limit** to the number of users or usage time
- **Livestream screens, webcams and other programs from your desktop**
- Communicate with many students via **text, voice,** and **video**
- Allows uploads, share links/videos. Chats are saved.

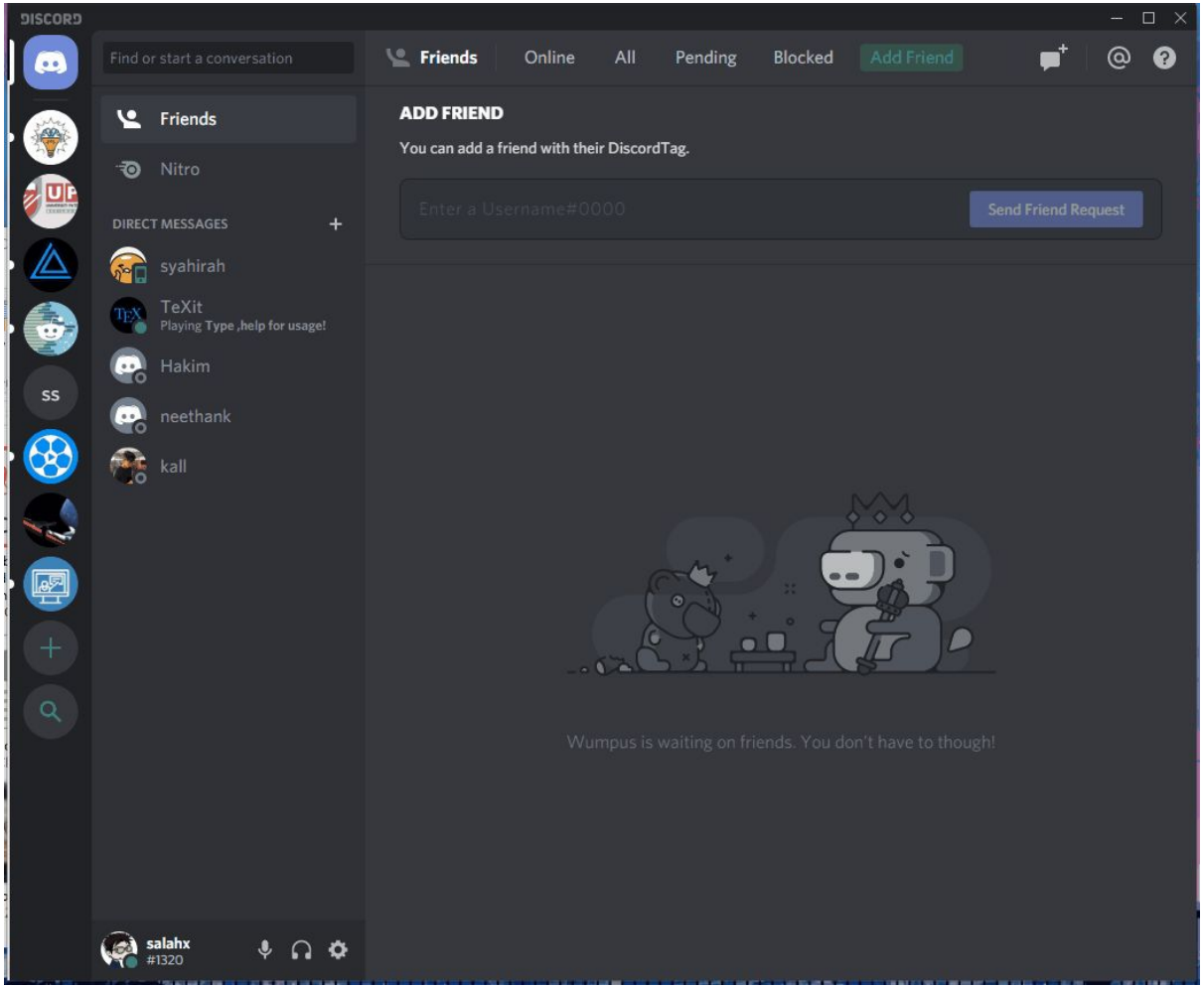


For High- and Low-Bandwidth Teaching

Red & Blue Zone

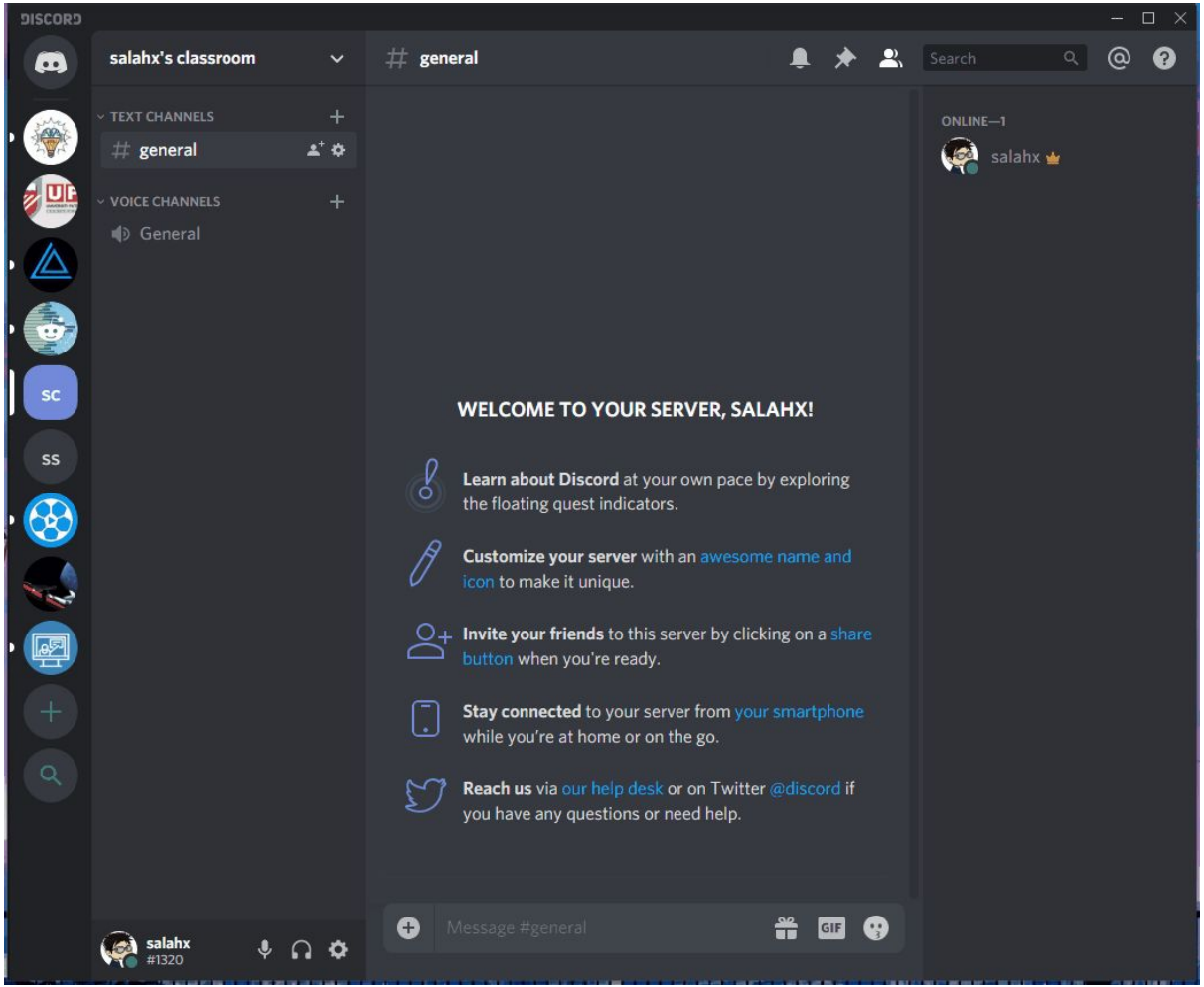
- Collaborative group work
- Screen-sharing
- Text communication and file-sharing
- Real-time or asynchronous

1. **Setup**
   - Create a server
   - Set teacher & students roles
   - Set up channels
2. **Demo**
   - Go Live!
   - **Live Demo**
3. **Extras**
   - ScreenToGif
   - OBS - Screen Recording
   - TeXit Bot (for math)



First, create your classroom server

1. Click on the **'+' sign** at the left-hand menu
2. Click **'Create a server'**, give it a name
3. You'll be given an **invite link** for your students to join in. Keep this handy.
4. Voila! Your server is ready.



Second, let's do some Server Setting and Roles

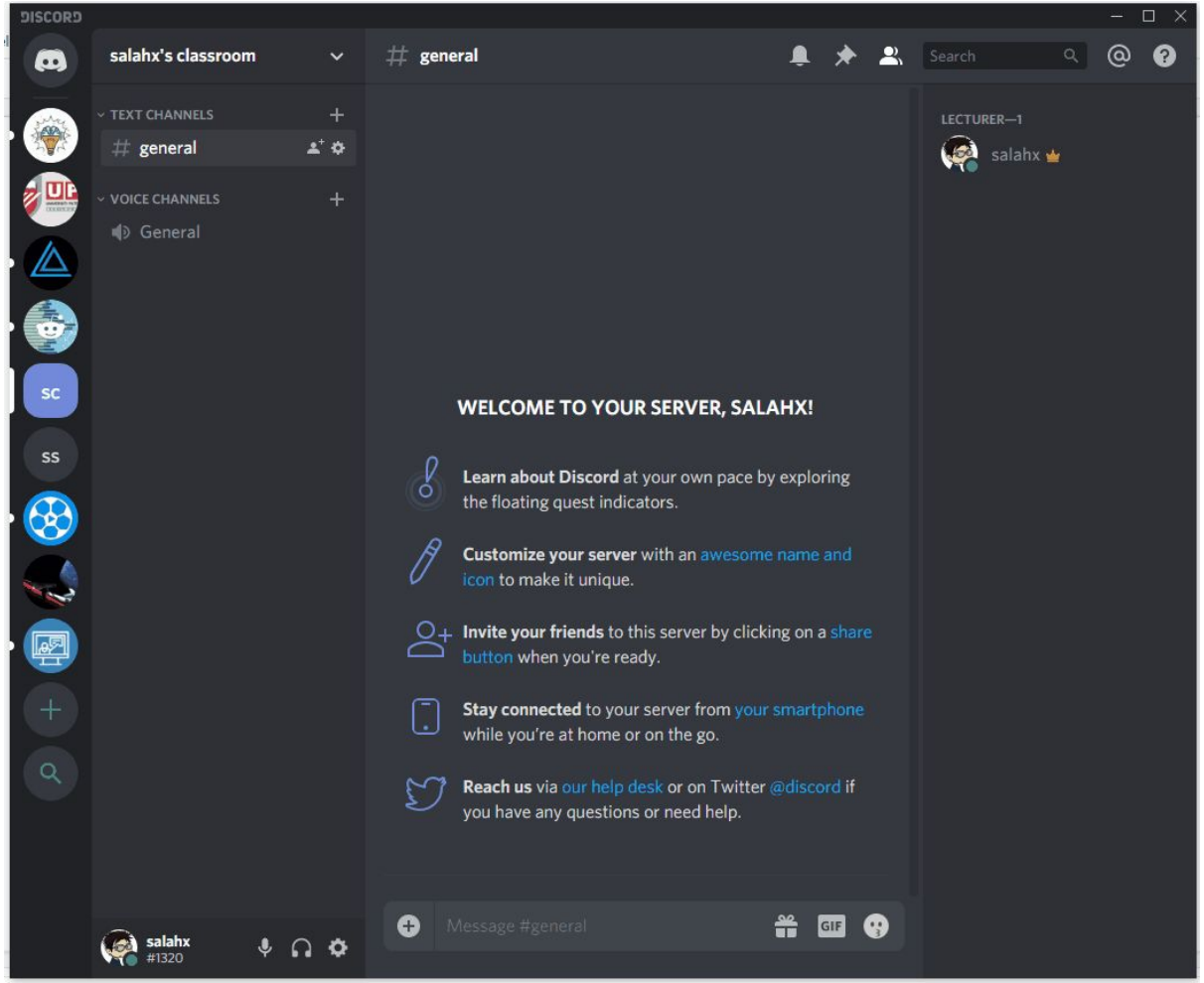
1. Click your class' name on the top left. Click **Server Settings**
2. Choose **'Singapore'** as your server region for a more stable connection
3. **Create a new role 'Lecturer'** that has a complete control of the server.
4. Assign yourself the role as **'Lecturer'**.

Other Classroom Role Examples

- **@Class Rep** role - In order to make sure your Class Rep have the power to help manage and moderate the server, you can give them "*Administrator*" permissions (which will allow them to have all of the permissions in the permissions list)! With great power comes great responsibility, so make sure to choose wisely when deciding who you give this permission to!

- **@Student** role - On the other hand, in order to make sure that your students aren't editing the channels as well, make sure to *remove all Management related permissions (especially the dangerous "Administrator permission)*, and only enable the general Text and Voice permissions that you'd like!

- **@Team Leader** role - If your students are working together as a team on a project, and you want to be able to directly notify the team leader on updates for the group, you can also create a separate role and enable the "*Allow anyone to @mention this role*" permission! This way you can easily type ***@Team Leader*** within the chat to get their attention!



Third, setup new channels

1. A **Text Channel** will allow anyone to post messages, upload files and share images for others to read at any time.
2. A **Voice Channel** lets your students get together, talk and Go Live so others can share their screens and collaborate together.

Other Channel Examples

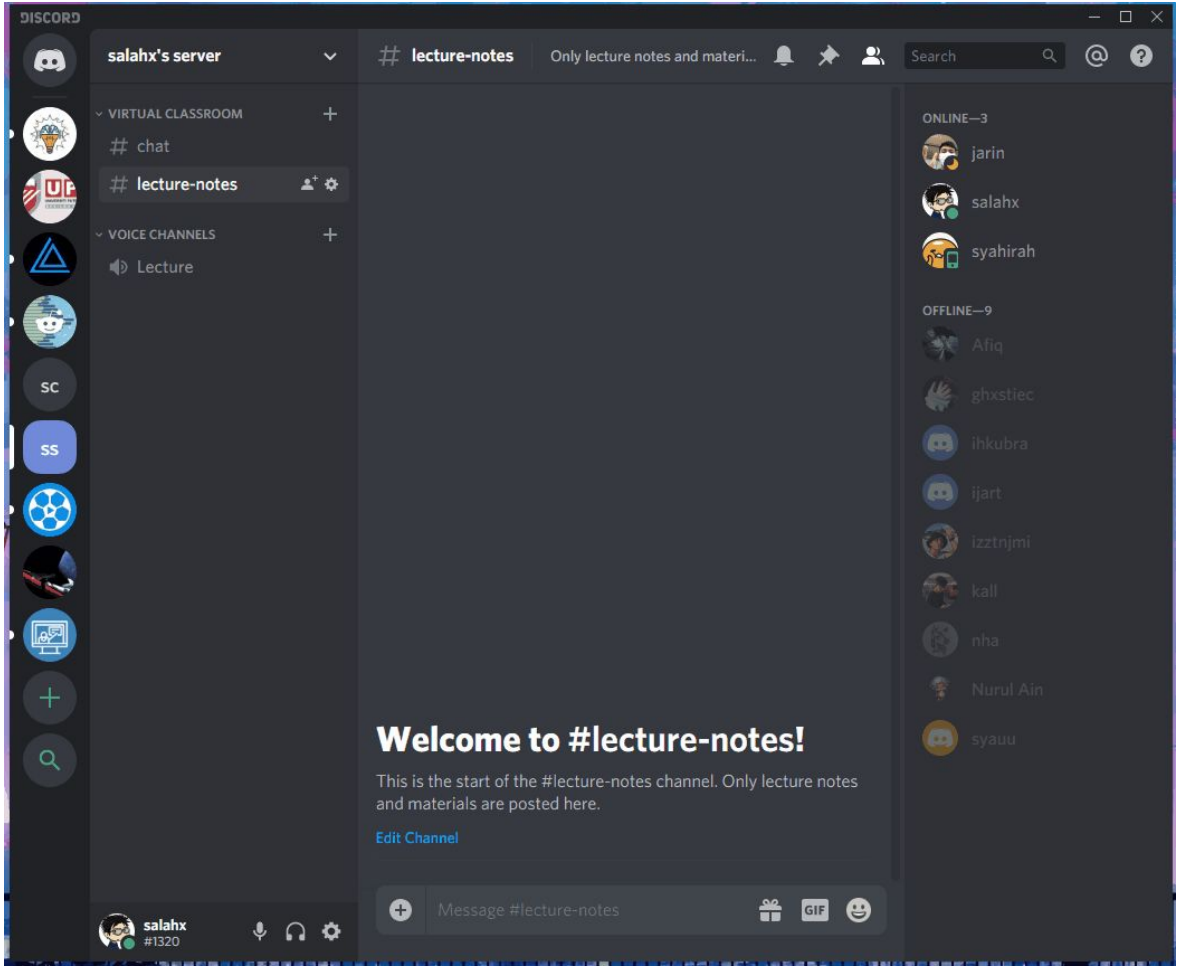
- **#Chat** A Text Channel for general discussion. This can be the place where students can communicate with you and the rest of the class. Important.

- 📢**Lecture** Another important one. A Voice Channel in which you can use your screen share or webcam and mics to conduct your class. Click on the selected voice channel and click the '**Go Live'** button at the bottom left corner to start broadcasting.

- **#lecture-notes** A Text Channel for lecturers to post lecture materials (pictures, videos, slides, etc). Only lecturers can have permission to post in this channel. No discussion here, only **@Lecturer** posts class materials.

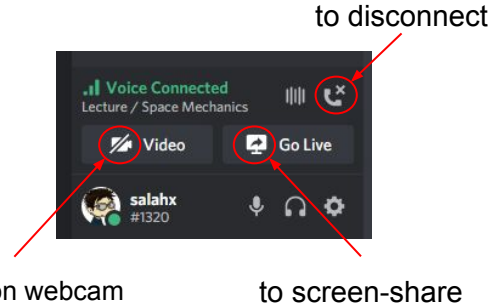
- **#announcements** Another Text Channel for lecturers or admins to keep students up to date with class and server information. Only **@Lecturer** and **@Class Rep** can have permission to post in this channel.

Now you’re all set!



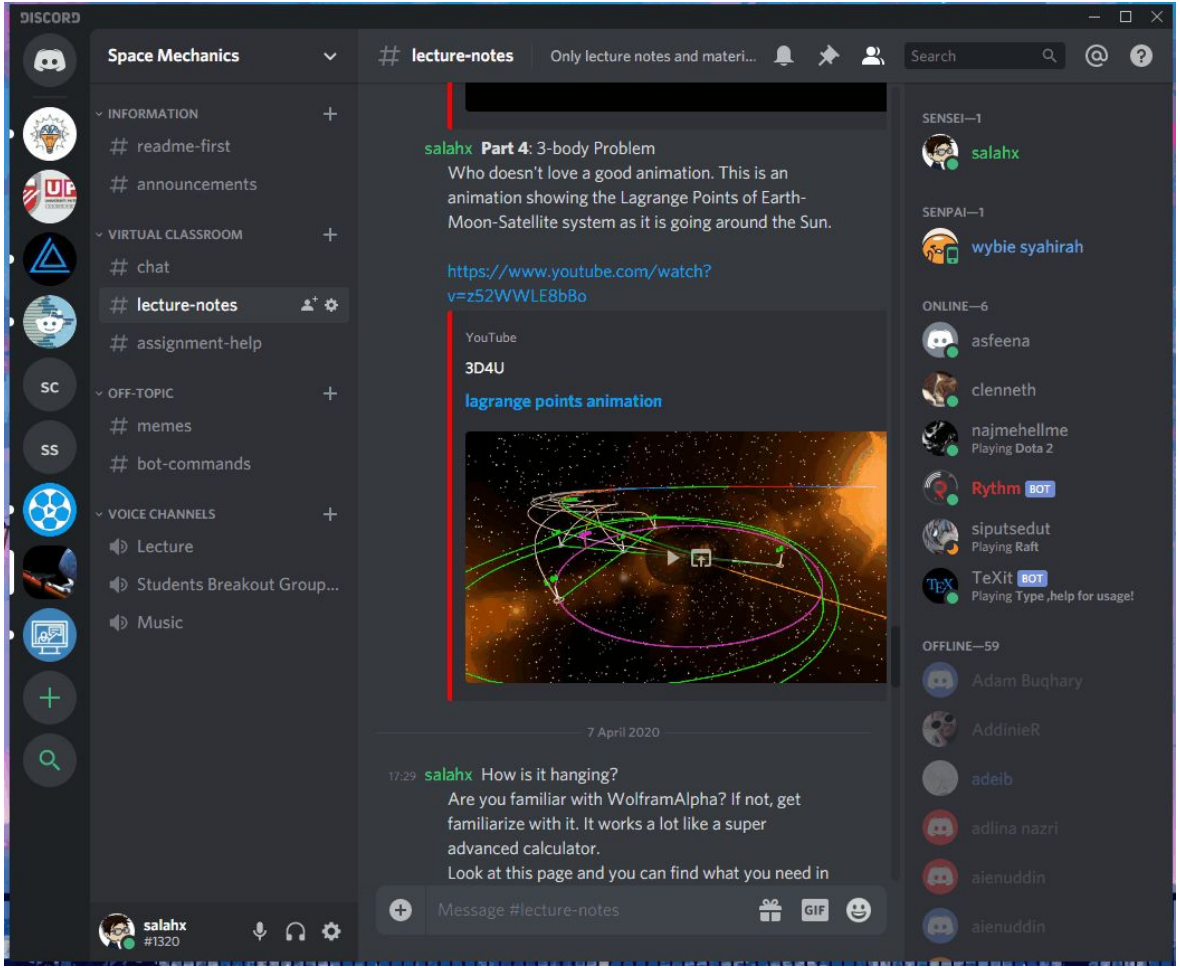
To start screen-sharing/ lecturing

1. Click on a **Voice Channel** of your choice
2. Click '**Go Live**' (bottom left)
3. Choose '**Screens**' for screensharing
4. To include your webcam, click the '**Video**' icon
5. To disconnect click the 'Phone x' icon



Some tips during online lecturing

- Mute all microphones - use “Push to Talk”
- Control who can share screen
- Employ active learning!
- Keep your online session short. Keep your video even shorter. But you can still make the learning longer.



Asynchronous T&L

You can leave your notes, video links, gifs, pictures for your students to access later.

You can also set a **text channel #assignment-help** for students seeking help on projects, HWs, etc.

Set up also a **voice channel #breakout-group** for students to have their own screen-session between them.

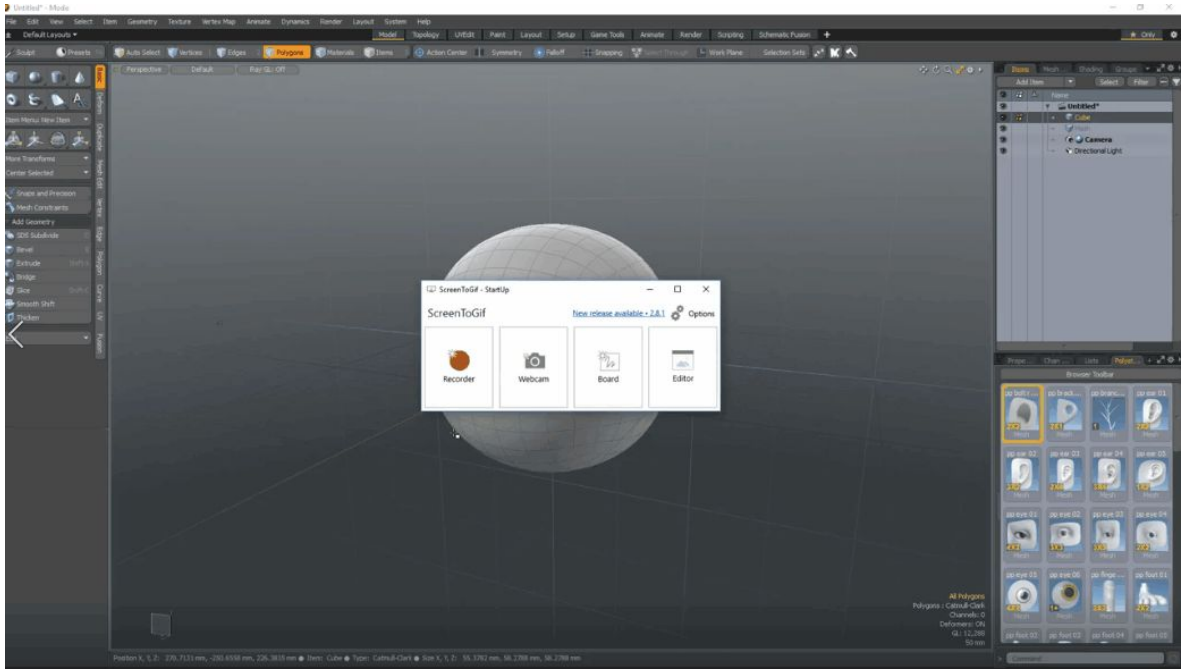
Cool stuff: **ScreenToGif**

https://www.screentogif.com/

A free tool that enables you **to record a selected area of your screen and save it to a GIF**

To use, simply click the record button and size the position of the frame to define the capture area push the record button record activity on your screen and then push the stop button. Comes with a built-in editor to adjust your recording to your liking

You now have a GIF ready to share.



A GIF is basically a series of images placed together to make a short, soundless video clip that plays on repeat. Great alternative to a video, especially for low-bandwidth online teaching and learning.

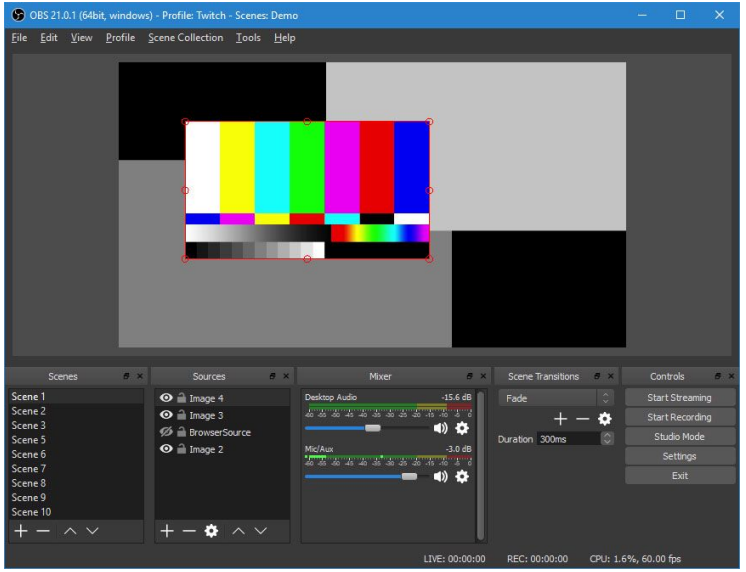
Cool stuff: **OBS (Open Broadcaster Software)**
https://obsproject.com/

is a free and open source software for video recording, screen recording and live streaming. Stream to Twitch, YouTube and many other providers.

Can record your screen, windows and your webcam, including audio in and out.

Easy and very straightforward to use. Perfect for a quick screen recording your live lecture. My personal choice.

Watch
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTk99mHDX_I
for a quick (8-mins) beginner guide on using OBS.



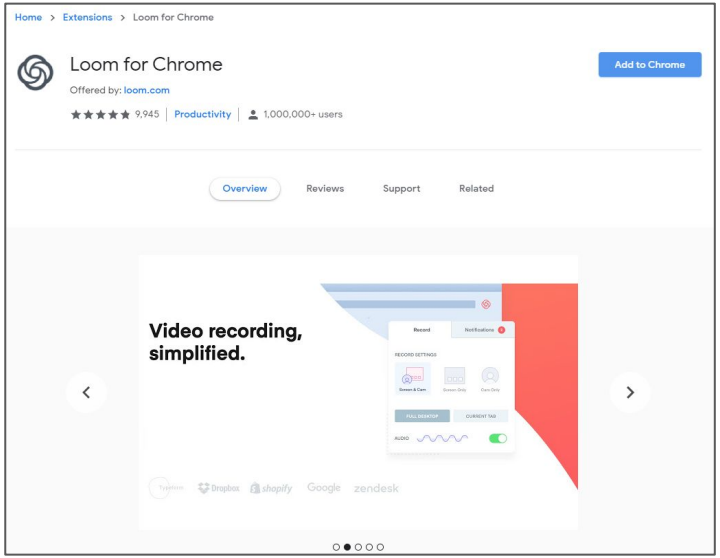
Cool stuff: **Loom**

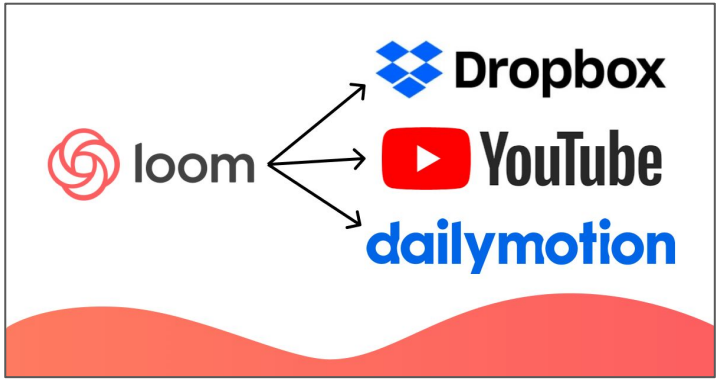
Loom is a platform that allows you to make quick videos using a lightning-fast video recorder capable of capturing your screen, webcam, and microphone.

Very user friendly. Also integrates really well with G Suite.

Add it to your Chrome extension https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/loom-for-chrome/liecbddmkiiihnedobmlmillhodjkdmb

Watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwZfGIaF3rY (4+ minutes)





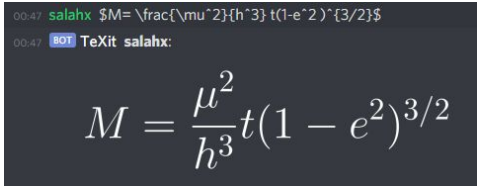
Cool stuff: **TeXit Bot** (a Discord bot)
https://top.gg/bot/510789298321096704

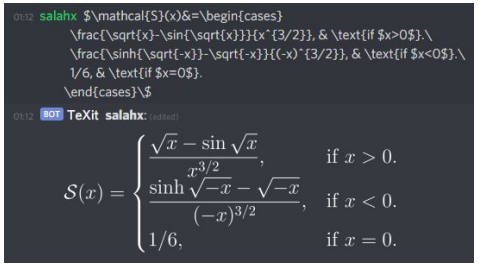
A **discord bot** is something that'll help you make do things in your server easier.

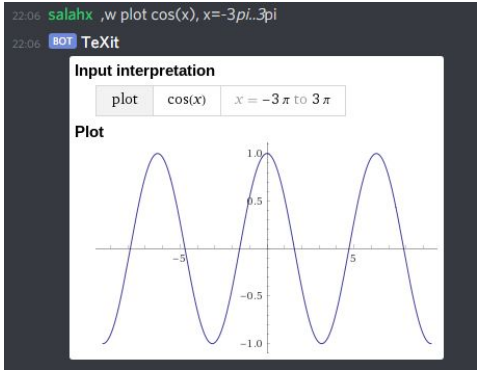
TeXit Bot can be used for enhancing mathematical communication.

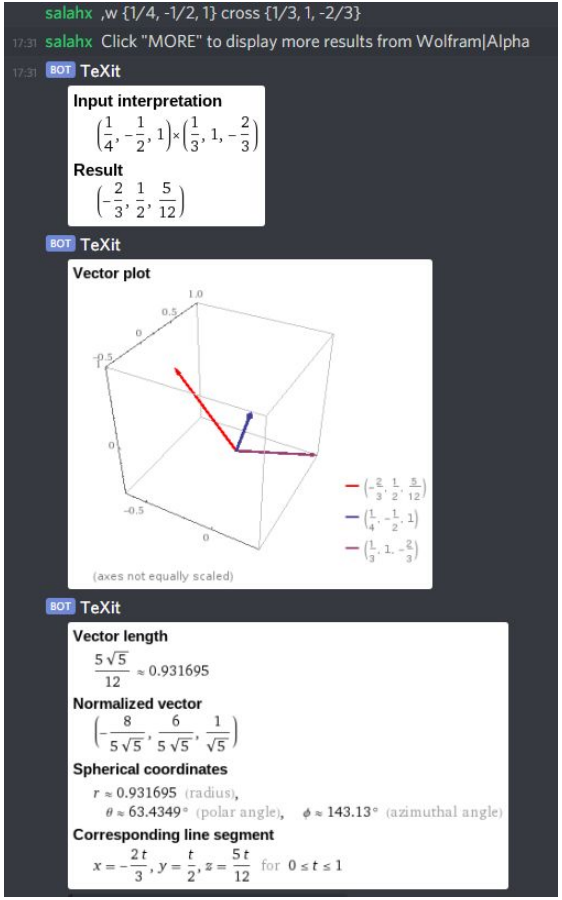
Its features include:

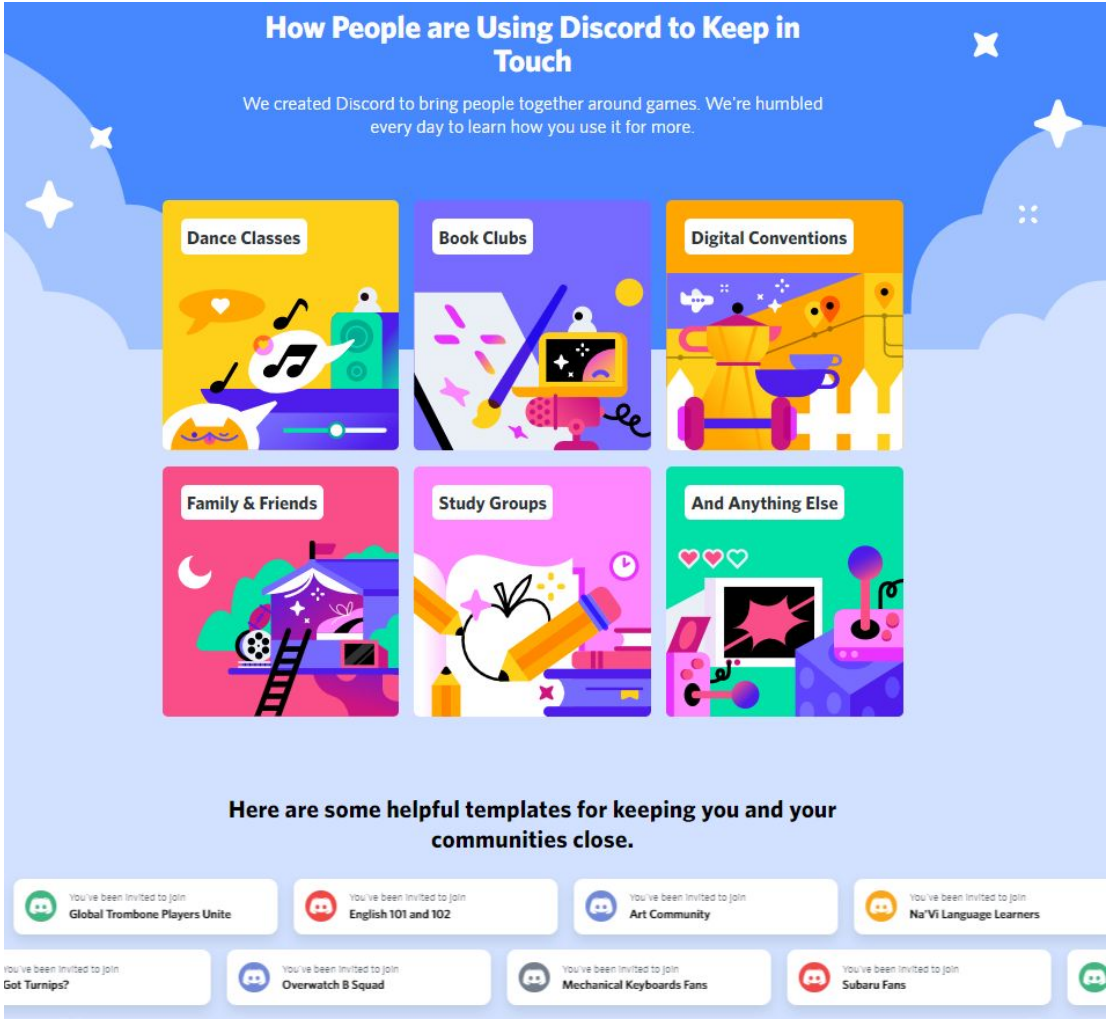
- High quality configurable **LaTeX** rendering
- **Wolfram Alpha** integration, with both image and plaintext output.
- **Nlab** search, a calculator command







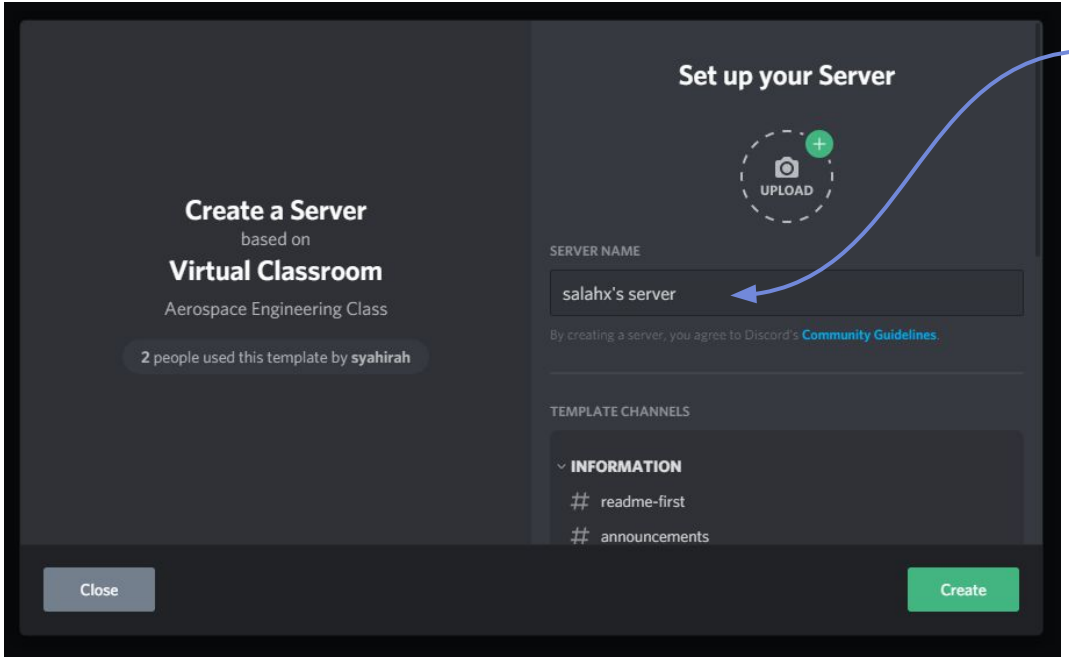




Go to:

discordapp.com/why-discord

for a quick server setup using existing templates!



Set your own classroom server name!

Go to:

https://discord.new/XPvDarVGbDb7

for a ready made Virtual Classroom template made by us!

Dr. Salah

Afiq

Thanks to my super cool

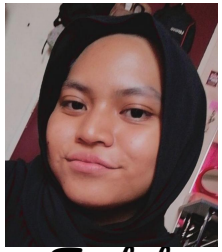
Discord Team

Aerospace Engineering
EAS3811 Space Mechanics and
EAS3812 Satellite Technology

Izzat

Ijart

Nurul Ain



Faqihah

Alia

Wawa

Eimam

Kall.

Need more support?
Join the JKIPP UPM server at
https://discord.gg/M3e4dwq