

NERCCS 2020: Piazza Discussion Board

To help facilitate online discussions, we created a Piazza Discussion Platform for participants. You can post questions and give your comments/suggestions on various activities associated with the online version of NERCCS 2020. We encourage all participants to try out the discussion board to experience all aspects of the online conference.

Importantly, the Piazza is already active, and it will remain for many weeks. So you can start a discussion today and keep it going for a while. To organize the discussions, we created a few folders --- *posters, logistics, invited talks, keynotes, etc.* --- that you can place your message in. We also created a group for each contributed section: *agent-based modeling, collective behavior, dynamical systems, network theory I, etc.* We strongly encourage contributed speakers to join their respective group, and for participants to join the groups for contributed talks that they attend. These groups provide an avenue to support topic-focused discussions (potentially) long after the conference has concluded.

Instructions for signing up and posting:

1. By clicking the link piazza.com/buffalo/spring2020/nerccs2020 you will be redirected to sign up page, where you will be asked to enter the access code and email id for login. The access code is **NERCCS2020** and you can use any email address.

2. Your account will be ready after you verify a link that will be emailed to you by piazza. You will need to enter your name and other credentials.

3. In your Piazza homepage, click "Resources" and go to "Groups". There you can join whichever contributed-talk groups that you want. Then, go back to the Q&A sections to see what's being discussed.

4. To post a question or start a discussion, just click "New post". You will be given multiple interactive options enabling you to direct your message to a specific audience. For example:

(1) If you want to raise a question regarding "Zoom". Then you can set the Post Type as "Question", and then set the Post To as "Entire Class"

(2) If you have a question/comment regarding a contributed talk in the section "Socioeconomic Systems". Then you can set the Post To as "Class Group" and then select "Socioeconomic Systems" as the group. This ensures that your post is visible to only people enrolled in the group "Socioeconomic Systems". (See 3 above)

Several volunteers will closely monitor the Piazza to help answer questions. Of course, the goal is for participants to answer their own questions. We are optimistic that complex-systems researchers can self-organize :-)