

Using Discord

What is Discord

Discord is a companion tool that is intended to be used alongside other activities. This means that while you are waiting for a panel session to begin on Zoom, you can make yourself available in Discord for mixing and mingling.

Think of Discord as a virtual version of the hotel and conference spaces. On the morning of an event, you make a beeline for the coffee service and look for familiar faces. If you see someone you want to chat with, to catch up or to discuss an upcoming panel, you can move to a quieter corner to hold your conversation.

Discord gives us this capability in a virtual format. We can see who else is in the server (conference space) and communicate with them directly via voice, video, or text. You can make yourself as available as you like and when other conference goers pop in, they will be able to see you and strike up a conversation.

Note: If you choose to use Discord, be aware that beyond the helpful information in this document, we can't provide technical support or help.

Getting Started

1. While you can use Discord on your desktop browser, you can't use voice/video chat unless you [download the free app](#).
2. If you do not have a Discord account, [create one](#).
 - a. We strongly recommend choosing a username that incorporates your real name so that everyone has an easier time finding you.
 - b. If you have a Discord account for personal use (like gaming) you might consider creating a new account for this more professional use.
3. Claim your account by [verifying your email address](#).
4. [Upload a profile picture](#) (this will also help conference friends find you).
5. Accept the invitation to join The Western Literature Association Server: <https://discord.gg/xqj6qHB>.

Using Discord

Discord uses particular terminology. Here are some translations that might be helpful as you look over the help guides:

server = the virtual conference spaces

text channels = spaces where only text chat occurs

voice channels = spaces where audio and/or video chats occur

Once inside our server, you'll see that there are already voice/video channels set up and that the names correlate to spaces we'd have available to us in-person (Lobby 1-3, Prefunction Foyer 1-3, Coffee Service 1-3, Hotel Lounge 1-3, and so on).

The available channels are on the left rail (side of the page) and the members are along the right rail (side of the page).

You will be able to see which members are hanging out in the various voice/video channels and you can join by clicking on the name of the channel.

Alternately, you can see the [availability status](#) of all the members on the right side of the screen.

Finally, right click on a member will give you the option to directly message or call them.

Some Tips and Links

[Beginner's Guide to Discord](#)

[Help Center](#)

[Managing Email Notifications](#)