What is it?
Slack is a discussion and collaboration tool available for your desktop or smartphone. Anyone can create a free workspace where they can start a discussion thread, which is public or shared amongst a specified group of participants. That could include a study group, a section of your course, or all members taking a particular course that semester.

How do I get it?
Go to www.slack.com

How do I use Slack?
Create a workspace URL and input the email addresses of the students you are wanting to utilize Slack for discussion. You can also create a "Channel," so you can easily organize conversations based on topic. Once you click on a channel, the conversation thread in that channel will be displayed. Lastly, you also have the option of sending direct messages to specific students.

How can I use Slack for classroom instruction?
You could create a channel and have your students respond, in groups, to your thread in class. They have the option to post resources, including links to articles, websites, or videos. Further, if you are getting a similar question from a variety of students or if you have provided an exit quiz showing that many students are unclear about a particular topic, you can use the Slack Channel to provide clarification or direct the members of the class to a particular resource. You can also invite the other students, who have perhaps clarified the concept for themselves, to share the resources or explanation that was helpful to them.

What resources can help me get started?
Visit the Slack Help Center at https://get.slack.help/hc/en-us/categories/360000049043 for assistance in maximizing your usage of this website.