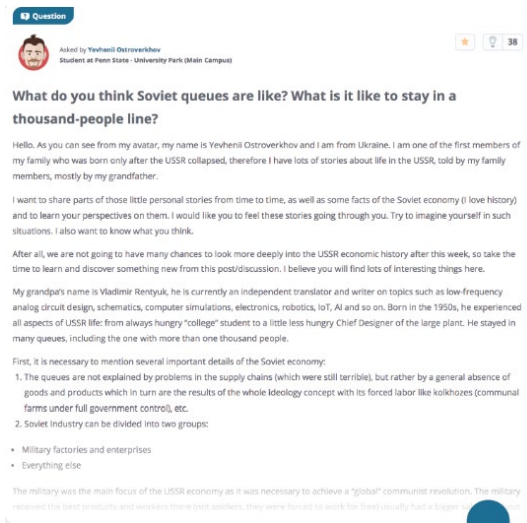


Packback in Canvas

Packback...

- is an inquiry-driven discussion platform.
- uses A.I. instant feedback and moderation to assist students during the authoring of their discussion posts and assist with grading.
- provides students with instant feedback on their writing and the quality of their discussion posts.
- helps to moderate content to ensure that discussions are appropriate and stay on task.
- syncs with your gradebook and does the grading for you.
- is best used for students to work through content by using critical thinking skills and critical analysis when posting a discussion.
- requires students to propose a question based on off their discussion post or ask a question seeking further discussion.



Question

Asked by Yevhenii Ostroverkhov
Student at Penn State - University Park (Main Campus)

What do you think Soviet queues are like? What is it like to stay in a thousand-people line?

Hello. As you can see from my avatar, my name is Yevhenii Ostroverkhov and I am from Ukraine. I am one of the first members of my family who was born only after the USSR collapsed, therefore I have lots of stories about life in the USSR, told by my family members, mostly by my grandfather.

I want to share parts of those little personal stories from time to time, as well as some facts of the Soviet economy (I love history) and to learn your perspectives on them. I would like you to feel these stories going through you. Try to imagine yourself in such situations. I also want to know what you think.

After all, we are not going to have many chances to look more deeply into the USSR economic history after this week, so take the time to learn and discover something new from this post/discussion. I believe you will find lots of interesting things here.

My grandpa's name is Vladimir Rentsyuk, he is currently an independent translator and writer on topics such as low-frequency analog circuit design, schematics, computer simulations, electronics, robotics, IoT, AI and so on. Born in the 1950s, he experienced all aspects of USSR life: from always hungry "college" student to a little less hungry Chief Designer of the large plant. He stayed in many queues, including the one with more than one thousand people.

First, it is necessary to mention several important details of the Soviet economy:

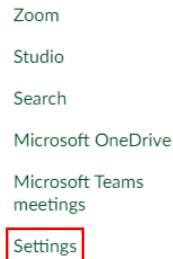
1. The queues are not explained by problems in the supply chains (which were still terrible), but rather by a general absence of goods and products which in turn are the results of the whole ideology concept with its forced labor like kolkhozes (communal farms under full government control), etc.
2. Soviet industry can be divided into two groups:
 - Military factories and enterprises
 - Everything else

The military was the main focus of the USSR economy as it was necessary to achieve a "global" communist revolution. The military received the best products and weapons their soldiers, they were forced to work for free (usually had a bigger s...

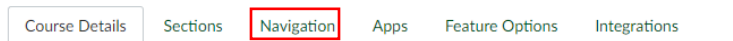
[Full discussion transcript](#)

Setting up Packback in Canvas

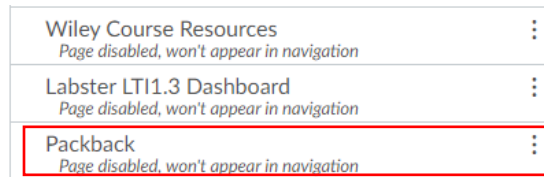
1. Select your course on your course dashboard.
2. Select Settings at the bottom of the left-hand side of the course navigation.



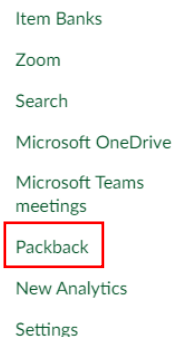
3. Select Navigation



4. Scroll down to Packback, click on the three dots, and select Enable.



5. Hit Save and then Packback will appear in your course on the left navigation bar.



6. Finally, when you are ready, contact Packback's Experience Manager to get your Packback Community set up in your course.

Emily Bonzagni – Emily.bonzagni@packback.co