Creating a Blog

Blog writing assignments are another medium for reflective learning. With this type of assignment, students are expected to display their research, analytical, and communication skills through a series of commentaries meant for public consumption and comment.

In the course environment, Blogs are only able to be viewed by enrolled users. Similar to journals, Blogs can be used as a graded assignment or ungraded to gather opinions and information. To learn more about journals, see Journals.

You can create one or more Blogs for use by students in their courses. Blog topics must be created before students can add their entries.

1. In the Control Panel, expand the Course Tools section.
2. Select Blogs.

3. On the Blogs listing page, click Create Blogs on the Action Bar.
4. On the Create Blog page, type a Name for the Blog.
5. Type optional Instructions for the Blogs. Format the text and add images, links, multimedia, Mashups, and attachments using the functions in the Text Editor, if needed. Attachments added using the Text Editor can be launched in a new window and have alternate text added to describe the attachment.
6. Under Blogs Availability, select the Yes option to make it available to users. Use the Display After and Display Until date and time fields to limit the availability of the Blog. Select the Display After and Display Until check boxes in order to enable the date and time selections.

7. Under Blog Participation, select Individual to All Students or Course. Select Allow Anonymous Comments for individual Blogs or Allow Anonymous Entries and Comments for course and group Blogs, if needed.

8. Under Blog Settings, select Monthly or Weekly Index Entries. Optionally, select the check box to Allow Users to Edit and Delete Entries. You may also select the check box to Allow Users to Delete Comments.
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5. Blog Settings

- Index Entries
  - Monthly: Indexing will organize entries by the chosen time-frame.
  - Weekly
- Allow Users to Edit and Delete Entries
- Allow Users to Delete Comments

9. Select No grading or the Grade option and type the number of Points possible. Points possible will apply to one or more entries made by the user to the Blog topic. Once a Blog is set to be graded, a column is created for it in the Grade Center. It is permanently gradable and cannot be set to No grading. Optionally, select the box and the number of entries required to show participants in Needs Grading status. Applying this setting will show the Needs Grading icon in the Grade Center and place the entries in the queue on the Needs Grading page after the specified number of entries have been made.

6. Grade Settings

- Grade Blog
  - No grading
  - Grade: Points possible: 10
- Show participants in "needs grading" status after every [ ] Entries

Associated Rubrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Date Last Edited</th>
<th>Show Rubric to Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

10. Click Submit.

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