

Blackboard 9.x - Create and Deploy Blog

Introduction

The Blackboard Blog tool differs from the Journal tool in that students are always able to view each other's entries. This makes it useful for group or small class discussion. As well, the added functionality that an instructor blog can provide may make it a useful substitute for the Announcements feature. Entries can be graded within a Blog. A rubric can be associated with the Blog. Instructors can fill out the rubric to compute the grade and provide feedback for each student's entry. While all student members of a blog can view all entries and comments, they *cannot* view each other's grades or instructor feedback.

Caution

- If you plan to grade Blog entries *within* the tool, remember that
 - it is necessary to select the grading option, points possible, and rubric (if used) when creating the Blog. It is not possible to change this setting after the Blog has been created.
 - each student can be assigned one grade per Blog when grading within the Blog tool.
- copying a Blog creates a new link to the same blog. It does *not* create a new Blog.

Create Blog

1. In any Content Area, click Add Interactive Tool and select Blog.
2. Click Create New Blog.

1. Create Link: Blog

Link to the Blogs page, link to a specific Blog, or create a new Blog.

Link to the Blogs Page

Link to a Blog

Link to a Blog

---Select Blog below---

Blog for Case 1

Blog for Case 2

Natalie's Blog

Create New Blog  Create New Blog

3. In the Create Blog page, fill out the following.
 - a. Blog Name
 - b. Instructions (display inside the Blog)
 - c. Blog Availability (must be set to Yes even if Date/Time Restrictions are set)
 - d. Set Date and Time Restrictions, if desired.
 - e. Blog Participation settings
 - i. Individual to all students - requires that blog members click a person's name to view that person's entries. Possible to Allow Anonymous Comments. Note: students must then check a box to make a comment anonymous.

4. Blog Participation

Blog Type Individual to All Students Course

Allow Anonymous Comments

- ii. Course - all entries display in a list in reverse chronological order. Possible to Allow Anonymous Entries and Comments. Note: students must then check a box to make an entry or comment anonymous.

4. Blog Participation

Blog Type Individual to All Students Course

Allow Anonymous Entries and Comments

- f. Blog Settings
 - i. Index entries Monthly (best for semester or year long, not always active blogs)
 - ii. Weekly (best for shorter term blogs)
 - iii. Set student edit/delete capabilities.
- g. Grade settings and points, if applicable (if chosen, option for employing rubrics displays)

6. Grade Settings

Grade Blog No grading Grade : Points possible :

Show participants in "needs grading" status  after every Entries

Associated Rubrics

Name	Type	Date Last Edited	Show Rubric to Students
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- h. Click Submit.

Deploy Blog

1. In the Create Link: Blog page, you will see that Link to a Blog is selected and the Blog just created highlighted.

1. Create Link: Blog

Link to the Blogs page, link to a specific Blog, or create a new Blog.

Link to the Blogs Page

Link to a Blog 

Link to a Blog

---Select Blog below---

Blog for Case 1

Blog for Case 2

Global Warming Blog 

Natalie's Blog

2. Click Next.
3. In the next screen, there is a text box for entering information that will display with the link to the Blog; that is, before entering the Blog.
4. Under Options, you are again provided with the ability to make the Blog available and to set date and time restrictions. You can ignore these if you have already set them. You can also set tracking of views.
5. Click Submit.
6. The link to the Blog displays.

Group Blogs

- The Blog tool for Groups is enabled when a Group is created.
- Students' entries are listed together.

Tips

- All Blogs created in a course are listed under Blogs in Course Tools. If you delete a Blog in a Content Area, you are just deleting the link to it. To completely delete a Blog from a course as well as delete its Grade Center column (if graded), it is necessary to delete it from its Course Tools area as well.
- A Blog can be created in its Course Tools area, but requires deploying in a Content Area if the ability to set Adaptive Release, Move, and more are desired.
- If the Tool link to Blogs is enabled in the course menu, all available Blogs will display. However, the ability to set Adaptive Release, rearrange the order of Blogs, and more will not be available.