

Blogs

A blog - a shorthand term that means web log - is a personal online journal that is frequently updated and intended for general public access and use. Most blogs also have some kind of commenting system, so that people can respond to and interact with one another. Blogs encourage students to clearly express their ideas and addresses the need to expand various aspects of social learning. Moreover, they are an effective means of gaining insight into students' activities and provide a way to share the knowledge and materials collected.

In Blackboard Learn, instructors create and manage blogs, and only enrolled users can view and create entries and comments in them.

Creating a Blog

- 1. Change Edit Mode to ON.
- 2. On the **Control Panel**, expand the **Course Tools** section and select **Blogs**.
- 3. On the **Blogs** listing page, click **Create Blog** on the action bar.
- 4. On the **Create Blog** page, type a **Name** for the blog.
- 5. Type optional Instructions for the blog. Format the text and add images, links, multimedia, mashups, and attachments using the functions in the content editor, if needed. Attachments you add using the content editor can be launched in a new window and have alternate text added to describe the attachment. Any files you upload from your computer are saved in Course Files or the Content Collection in the top-level folder.
- 6. For **Blog Availability**, select the **Yes** option to make it available to users.
- 7. For **Blog Date and Time Restrictions**, you can set a blog to display on a specific date and time and to stop displaying on a specific date and time. Select the **Display After** and **Display until** check boxes to enable the date and time selections. Use the pop-up **Date Selection Calendar** and **Time Selection Menu** to select dates and times or type dates and times in the boxes. Display restrictions do not affect the blog availability, only when it appears.
- 8. In the **Blog Participation** section, select **Individual to All Students** or **Course**. Optionally, select **Allow Anonymous Comments** for individual blogs or **Allow Anonymous Entries** and **Comments** for course and group blogs.



- 9. In the **Blog Settings** section, select **Monthly** or **Weekly Index Entries**.
 - Optionally, select the check box to Allow Users to Edit and Delete Entries.
 - o Optionally, select the check box to **Allow Users to Delete Comments**.
- 10. In the Grade Settings section, 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. After you enable grading, a column is created automatically in the Grade Center. It is permanently gradable, and you cannot change the setting to No grading.
- 11. Optionally, select the check box for **Show participants in needs grading status** and from the drop-down list, select the number of entries required. 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 are made.
- 12. Click Submit.

Grade Settings						
Grade Blog	No grading					
	Grade : Points possible : 25					
	☑ Show participants in "needs grading" status 🊺 after even] after ever ✓	2	Entries
Associated Rubrics	Add Rubric ¥				4	
	Name	Type	Date Last Edited	5	5 6	ic to Students
					7	

The blog topics appear in alphabetical order on the Blogs listing page. You can sort columns by clicking the column title or caret.

For more help on using Blackboard 9.1 go to http://tinyurl.com/csng4wk or visit the Blackboard On Demand site at http://ondemand.blackboard.com/