

# Wiki/Blogs/Journals

#### Wikis

Your instructor controls which tools are available. If this tool is not available, your instructor may have disabled it.

A wiki is a collaborative tool that allows you to contribute and modify one or more pages of course related materials. A wiki provides an area where users can collaborate on content. Users within a course can create and edit wiki pages that pertain to the course or a course group.

Instructors and students can offer comments, and your instructor can grade individual work.

### **How to Create a Wiki Page**

- 1. On the **Wikis** listing page, select a wiki title.
- 2. On the wiki topic page, click **Create Wiki Page** on the action bar.
- 3. On the **Create Wiki Page**, type a **Name** for the wiki page.
- 4. Type information in the **Content** text box. You can use the content editor functions to format the text and include files, images, web links, multimedia, and mashups.
- 5. Click **Submit**.

## Blog

A blog is your personal online journal. Each blog entry you make can include any combination of text, images, links, multimedia, mashups, and attachments. Blogs are an effective means of sharing knowledge and materials created and collected by the group in the course. You can post entries and add comments to existing blogs. Use your blog to express your ideas and share them with the class.

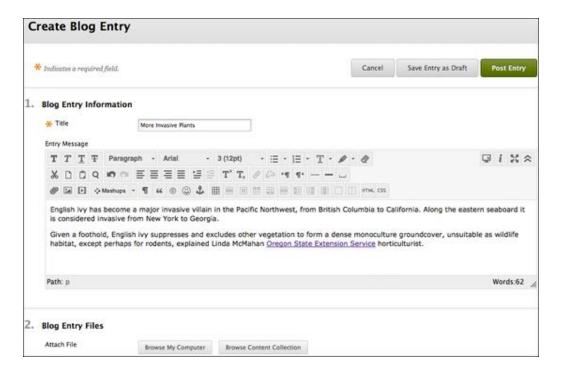
#### **How to Create a Blog Entry**

Only your instructor can create a blog, but after creation, you can create entries. The blog topics appear in alphabetical order on the **Blogs** page. Following each blog title, view if the blog belongs to a group, the course, or to individual students.

1. On the course menu, click **Blogs**.



- 2. On the **Blogs** listing page, click the name of the blog you want to access.
- 3. On the blog's topic page, click **Create Blog Entry** on the action bar.
- 4. On the **Create Blog Entry** page, provide a **Title**.
- 5. Provide text in the **Entry Message** text box.
- 6. Click Post Entry.
  - -OR- Click **Save Entry as Draft** to save the entry for later posting.



#### **Journals**

Journals are a personal space for you to communicate privately with your instructor. You can also use a journal as a self-reflective tool to post your opinions, ideas, and concerns about your course, or discuss and analyze course related materials. For example, you can describe problems you faced and how you solved them. Your instructor can direct journal entries to be more formal in nature and narrower in focus by listing topics for discussion.



**Note:** Your instructor can choose to make journal entries public, allowing all course members to view all entries. You can read what other students wrote and build on those ideas.

#### How to Access a Journal

- 1. On the course menu, click Journals.
- 2. -OR-
- 3. On the course menu, click **Tools** and select **Journals**.
- 4. On the **Journals** listing page, click the journal title you want to access.
- 5. The journal listing page appears.

## **How to Create a Journal Entry**

Only your instructor can create a journal topic, but after creation, you can create entries. The journal topics appear in alphabetical order on the journals listing page. Create and post journal entries or save them in draft form for later posting.

- 1. On the course menu, click Journals.
- 2. On the **Journals** listing page, select a journal to open.
- 3. On the journal topic page, click **Create Journal Entry**.
- 4. On the **Create Journal Entry** page, type an **Entry Title**.
- 5. Type the text in the **Entry Message** text box.
- 6. Click **Post Entry**.
  - -OR- Click **Save Entry as Draft** to save the entry for later posting.

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/