Creating a Blog

A blog (web log) is a communication tool similar to a journal, but more public in scope. Bloggers may present facts, analysis, opinions, embedded media, or any combination of those elements. The blog may have one or more authors contributing entries and provide space for comments from all readers with access to it.

Unlike blogs typically found on the Worldwide Web, these postings do not appear in a continuous scroll on a page, but in a table listing all blog entries for the course. Users can sort the entries in the table by Name (title), Type, Last Modified Date, and number of Entries.

To create a Blog:

1. Log into Blackboard, and select your course.
2. Make sure that Edit Mode is ON.
3. Click the Blogs link from the Course Tools section of the Control Panel.
4. Click Create Blog.
5. Enter a **Name** and **Instructions** for the Blog. The Name is required.

6. Click **Yes** to make the Blog available. Use the **Display After** and **Display Until** date and time fields to Limit Availability of the Blog. Click both the **Display After** and **Display Until** checkboxes in order to enable the date and time selections.
7. Under Blog Participation, select **Individual to All Students** or **Course**, and uncheck the checkbox next to **Allow Anonymous Comments** if you do not want users to have that permission.

8. Choose between Monthly and Weekly index entries. The index appears on the right pane of the Journal window and provides links for easy navigation to a specified week or month of entries. Click the checkboxes to **Allow Users to Edit and Delete Entries** and **Allow Users to Delete Comments** as desired.

9. To create a Grade Center column for the Blog, select **Grade** and assign points possible. If grading is enabled, optionally select the Needs Grading criteria, and set the Due Date and time.
10. Click **Submit**.