# **Blogs**

A Blog is a personal online journal that is frequently updated and intended for general public access and use. Blog entries are made in journal style format, and displayed in a reverse chronological order. 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, blogs consist of two elements:

- Blog entries: Text, images, links, multimedia, mashups, and attachments added by course members open for comments.
- Comments: Remarks or responses to blog entries made by other course members, including the instructor.

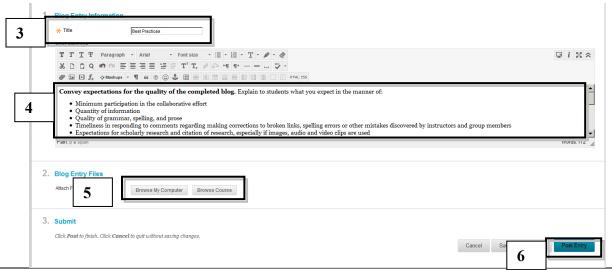
#### Features and Benefits

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Feature	Benefit
Content Editor	This feature allows users to type and edit text, as it will appear
	when published in the blog.
Insert Photos,	Photos, documents (presentations, spreadsheets or text),
<b>Documents, Audio</b>	images and audio files add depth and clarity to the blog by
or Video clips	adding interactive content.
Add comments to	Instructors and students can comment and provide feedback
student's work	to student content in the blog.
Create Gradebook items for blog contributions	When a blog is created, a Grade Center item can be created at
	the same time. The history report documents contributions. It
	is important that instructors create a rubric to assess students
	work, and that they share that rubric with students.
	Instructors can limit the amount of time that students have to
Set time limits for	complete or edit a blog assignment. This way they add a sense
editing and viewing	of urgency to when students must provide a finished product
content	to the class. They can also limit the time that the blog can be
	viewed by other students in the course.
Hyperlinks	Allows incorporation of specific references to illustrate and
	support ideas within the text of the document.

### **Blog Entries**

- 1. Click the link that your instructor has created for the Blog
- 2. The blog's topic page opens, click **Create Blog Entry** on the action bar.





- 3. On the **Create Blog Entry** page, type a **Title for the blog entry**.
- 4. Type **text in the Entry Message box**. Optionally, format the text and add images, links, multimedia, mashups, and attachments using the functions in the *content editor*. Attachments you add using the content editor can be launched in a new window and have alternate text added to describe the attachment.
- 5. In the **Blog Entry Files** section, browse for a file Browse My Computer to attach to the blog entry.
- 6. Click **Post Entry** to submit the blog entry or click Save Entry as Draft to add the entry later.

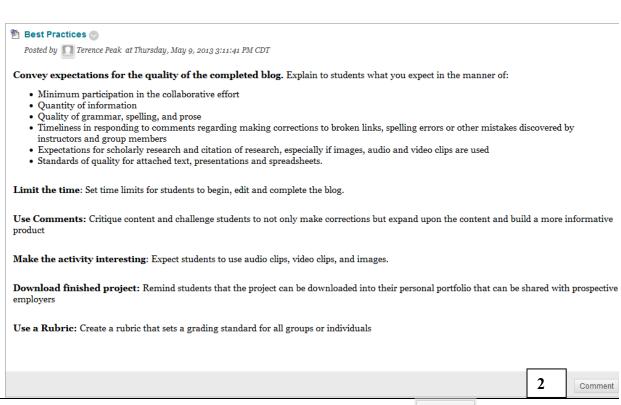
#### Comment on a Blog Entry

Because blogs are meant to be read by others, students can comment on one another's blog entries, whether they belong to an individual, the course, or a group. You determine if comments can be made anonymously or deleted. You can delete any user's comment by clicking the X. After they are posted, users cannot edit their comments.

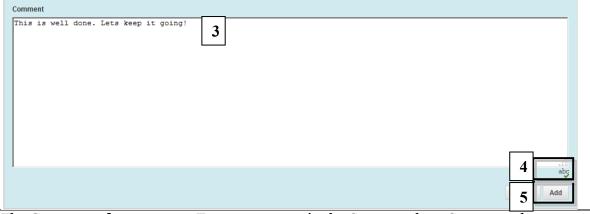


1. On the **Blogs** listing page, select a **blog title**.





2. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click **Comment**. Comment box appears.



- 3. The **Comment box** appears. Type a comment in the Comment box. Comments have a 2,000-character limit. A pop-up message advises that a comment over 2,000 characters must be edited and resubmitted.
- 4. Click spell check at the bottom of the Comment box to check the spelling of the content before continuing.
- 5. Click **Add** Add .



## References

BbTanyaK. (2013, March 17). *Blogs*. Retrieved from The Official Blackboard Help Site: https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1\_SP\_10\_and\_SP\_11/Instructor/050\_Course\_Tools/Blogs

