

How might you use a blog in your class?

Course management

- Post assignments, writing prompts, updates, links of interest to a central course site; managed solely by instructor

Individual Student Blogs

- Students create their own blogs which they use to respond to assignments, post reflections, ask questions, etc.
 - See Georgia Tech's English 101 course, <http://tryon1101.blogspot.com/>

Group Blogs

- All students contribute to a central blog, where they can respond to assignments, comment on one another's posts, etc.; the instructor can contribute as well
 - See UI's Online Journalism, <http://iowajournalism138.blogspot.com/>
 - Marietta College's economics classes, <http://mariettaecon.blogspot.com/>

Creating assignments for blogs

Writing prompts

- Ask student to create a post in which they respond to a structured question or problem posed by the instructor or classmates

Reflection

- Students thoughtfully reflect on and synthesize concepts from lectures, readings, labs, or other class activities
 - Bryn Mawr's biology/computer science course on "Emergence," <http://serendip.brynmawr.edu/blog/emergence361/>
 - Princeton's Computer Science course, "The Computational Universe," <http://courseblog.cs.princeton.edu/spring06/cos116/>

Learning journals/portfolios

- Students post to their blog with updates about what they've learned, their learning struggles, etc. as a means of tracking their progress

Responding to rough drafts and works-in-progress

- Students post rough drafts of writings, projects, or problems and solicit feedback from classmates in blog comments
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Research diary

- Students regularly track progress on research, including a list of citations and links to relevant information they've uncovered

Problem-solving

- Ask students to explain their process for solving a problem, or to post obstacles to solving a problem

Making connections

- Students post links, new stories, or other material from the web pertinent to course discussions, and solicit comments from other students
 - See the University of Iowa's Electronic Publishing course in the School of Library and Information Science, <http://ep.blogspot.com/>