Blogs and Wikis

A blog, is a website that is designed to be updated frequently with new entries. It is essentially an online journal. The entries in a blog are usually displayed in reverse-chronological order (most-recent first). It has an easy-to-use editor that lets you quickly add content and style your work. It can either be shared or private depending on how your instructor has set it up.

A wiki is a simple online database that allows users to easily create, edit and link basic web pages. wikis are often used to create collaborative websites and are increasingly being used for knowledge management.

Topics

- Navigating to blogs and wikis
- Using a blog
- Using a wiki

Navigating to wikis and blogs

1 Select the content area where the blog or wiki is located from the left menu (eg. Assignments).

2 Browse the list of blogs and wikis in that content area.

3 Click on View for the blog or wiki you select (eg. Assignment 2—Sources of Renewable Energy).
Using a blog

1. Open your Blackboard course and select the area where the blog has been added.
2. Click on the View link under the blog name to display the blog.

3. Click on the click here link under privacy on the right side of the screen to check who can see the blog. You can have either a group blog where other class members can see your blog or a private blog that only you and your instructor can see.

4. Click on the new entry link under actions to add an entry.
5. Type in the blog message at the blog entry screen which is identified by a post date, then click Save.

My work experience so far is very positive.
6 You can either:
- add a new entry to your blog, or
- comment on an existing post.

7 You can add a further comment to a post, or an existing comment.
- Click on the Comments link under the students post.
- Type in the comment in the Add Comment area.
- Click on the Add Comment button once you have finished.

- Recent Posts are listed on the right side of the screen.
Using a wiki

1. Open your Blackboard course and select the area where the wiki has been added.
2. Click on the View link under the wiki name to display the wiki.

3. There are a number of sections and options in the right column.
   - **Page**
     - *edit* to add a contribution
     - *new* to add a new page
     - *delete* to delete entries
     - *history* of contributions
     - *print* with or without comments
   - **Page Stats**
     - *views* number of people that have viewed the page
     - *edits* number of edits to the page
     - *contributors* number of contributors to the page
     - *comments* number of comments
   - **Page contributors**
     - names of people who have contributed to the page
   - **Site navigation**
     - lists the pages
   - **Toolbox**
     - *page list* lists the pages and last modifications
     - *export site* to export data
   - **Privacy** - to check who can see the wiki

4. To add a new page click on *new* under page in the right column.

5. Enter the **Page Name** and **page content**, then click on *Save* when completed.

6. You, or other members of the wiki can add further pages or comments for each page.