

## BLOGS

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A blog—a shorthand term that means web log—is a personal online journal that is frequently updated and intended for general public access and use. Most blogs also have some kind of commenting system, so that people can respond to and interact with one another. 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, instructors create and manage blogs, and only enrolled users can view and create entries and comments in them.

### BLOG TYPES IN BLACKBOARD LEARN

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.

You can choose to allow students to participate in blogs in three ways:

- **Course Blogs:** You can create a course blog and determines the topic to be addressed. All course members can add blog entries and add comments to blog entries.
- **Individual Blogs:** You can create a blog for individual course members to use. However, only you are able to add blog entries. All other course members can view and add comments.
- **Group Blogs:** If you enable the blogs tool for a group of users:
  - Group members can add blog entries and make comments on blog entries, building upon one another.
  - All course members can view group blogs, but non-group members can only add comments.

*NOTE:* You have full control over all blogs in your course and can edit and delete entries in any of the blog types. You can also delete user comments.