

# **Blogging Beyond Blackboard for Deeper Learning**

Marie Hulme  
Pilar Munday

---



Sacred Heart  
UNIVERSITY

# What is a blog?

## Digital writing platform

- Stream of articles or information called blog posts
- Blog posts can be multimodal
- Readers can comment on posts
- Readers can follow the new content via RSS, email or social media channels
- Posts have tags and/or categories
- Navigation can be based on tags/categories

## Why does it matter?

“Digital writing creates a set of dispositions, habits of mind, ways of being in the world, ways of collaborating, ways of working together, ways of linking information, ways of building knowledge that are going to be important in the lives and careers of our students.”

-DeVoss, Eideman-Aadahl, Hicks  
National Writing Project

# The Eight Habits of Mind of Successful College Writing

**Curiosity**  
**Openness**  
**Engagement**  
**Creativity**  
**Persistence**  
**Responsibility**  
**Flexibility**  
**Metacognition**

*Source: Framework for Success in Postsecondary Writing*  
Council of Writing Program Administrators  
National Council of Teachers of English National Writing Project

# Course Samples

# Spanish History and Culture Course

## John's Blog Español 280

Monday, March 17, 2014

### Noche en los jardines de España por Manuel de Falla

Durante un tiempo largo, he admirado la música del gran y famoso compositor español Manuel de Falla. Su música es extraordinaria: es muy interesante, brillante, complejo, pero todavía muy agradable y fácil de escuchar. Sobre todo, y lo que más interesante, es el hecho de su música suena a España. Es decir, su música es esencialmente reconocida como música española. Sin embargo, Manuel de Falla no es simplemente un compositor regional con influencia limitada ni especializada. Él es uno de los grandes compositores modernos.

#### About Me



#### Blog Archive


- ▼ 2014 (5)
  - ▼ March (1)
    - Noche en los jardines de España por Manuel de Falla
  - ▶ February (4)
- ▶ January (2)

# Current Events in Latin America Course

## La vida en tránsito

Datos  
personales



 Kevin

[Ver todo mi perfil](#)

### el valor de custumbres tradicionales

*MIRA A ESTE VIDEO AQUI SOBRE LOS TRACES DE MUSICA EN LA CULTURA URUGUAYO:*



# Advanced Conversation Course

## Heather's SP 211 Blog

Home

Metas para la clase

LUNES, FEBRERO 06, 2012

### Luchando por lo que nos merecemos!

Tener un hermano con necesidades especiales ha sido siempre algo que es difícil. Todos los días mi familia se enfrenta a un nuevo desafío. Ha sido especialmente **duro** para encontrar una buena escuela para él. Fue a una escuela pública cuando era más joven, y ahora se va a una escuela privada para niños con necesidades especiales. Fue una **lucha** para ponerlo en esta nueva escuela. Después de muchas **quejas** a su escuela, y contratar a un abogado, la escuela pública decidió que pagar por Nicolás para ir a una escuela especial.



Me pone triste saber que hay muchos niños con necesidades especiales que no reciben una buena



# BlackBoard Blog for English

Sacred Heart University, Inc (US) [https://blackboard.sacredheart.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab\\_tab\\_group\\_id=\\_2\\_1&url=92Fweba](https://blackboard.sacredheart.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_tab_group_id=_2_1&url=92Fweba) Google

Most Visited Apple lovelettersto... www.sacredhear... SHUsquare | Our... shusquare - De... SHUsquare - Sac... SHUsquare | A vi... Bookmarks

**50** Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY  
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1963-2013

Welcome Courses & Organizations Share SHU Links SHU Card

(Course is unavailable to students) > Group Blogs > The Righteous Bow Edit Mode is: ON

Print Settings

## The Righteous Bow

Subscribe Export Settings Permissions Widgets Assessment Attachments Recycle

Video to: LIT EXPRESSION OF HUMAN JOURNEY ENCC-102-AD (10SPENCC102AD) - Everyone

Recent Entries (1 to 8 of 9) Next

**Post on March 16 2010** Edit | Delete

Posted by Joseph Sacramone on 3/16/2010 at 12:44 PM, EDT.  
Author Tags None (Edit)

What I liked most about this group was Joe's description of what Odysseus did in the 20th and 21st books. I believe he did a very good job in describing what happened in the books and made it easy to understand. Also his presentation was very good and I think it was a great idea to insert a clip from the movie into the blog to help visualize what happened. I also enjoyed David's description of the cultural competition in the Odyssey. I think he did a very good job describing the culture of the Olympics and how the games were an important part of civilization.

I think this was a good assignment for us to complete as a class. I thought it was a very good idea to break up the books and each person focus on a different aspect or characteristic of each book. This made it easier to learn about different aspects of the book through our peers and also didn't overload us with information at the same time. I enjoyed working with my group and I think they did a good job explaining each part of their own blogs.

Filters

Deleted Entries:

Author Filter:

Recent Entries

Post on March 16 2010  
4 years ago, 3/16/2010  
My Reaction to the Righteous Bow-3/5/10  
4 years ago, 3/5/2010

[https://sacredheart.campuspack.net/Groups/LIT\\_EXP...N\\_OF\\_HUMAN\\_JOURN\\_ENCC-102-AD/The\\_Righteous\\_Bow\\_0](https://sacredheart.campuspack.net/Groups/LIT_EXP...N_OF_HUMAN_JOURN_ENCC-102-AD/The_Righteous_Bow_0)

# External Blog English



ODYSSEUS

STRINGS HIS BOW

THE ODYSSEY; BOOK XXI BLOG

BLOG

SUMMARY

CONTACT

## *Mythology: Garcia Curtis*

February 12, 2014

### **The Origin of Odysseus' Bow and the Death of Iphitus**

Iphitus was one of the sons of the famed archer, King Eurytus of Oechalia, and a descendant of Oxylyus. Eurytus was offering his daughter's hand in marriage only if one of the suitors...

READ MORE

## *Culture: Frank D'Arrigo*

February 11, 2014



## THE BRIGHT EYED SEERS

It was an early Tuesday morning, in Professor Hulme's ENCC-102-LN class. Dawn had long past awoken from her slumber. Esther, Frank, Garcia and Lauren had come together by the hands of fate (trust us, it was fate).

Frank and Garcia are both biology majors. Esther is double majoring in business administration and accounting. While Lauren is nursing major.



Creating

Evaluating

Analizing

Applying

Understanding

Remembering

**Tips**

**Have students choose the platform (or not)**



**Blog Platform Comparison Chart**

# Have students choose their topics

domingo, 5 de febrero de 2012

## El Oso de Nikki

Cuando estaba pensando en un tema para mi blog, empecé a pensar en cosas que son importantes para mí y de repente, me di cuenta de que en enero, era el décimo aniversario de la muerte de mi prima, Nikki. No quiero escribir una entrada muy triste, y no será. Aunque mi prima se murió a la edad de 15, su vida estuvo llena de felicidad e inspiración.

Nikki era cinco años más que yo y cuando ella se enfermó con cáncer, yo solo tenía nueve años. No comprendí mucho de su enfermedad, pero, sabía que estaba muy mal y que a ella no le quedaba mucho tiempo para vivir. Después de seis meses, su lucha contra el cáncer terminó, y Nikki se murió el uno de enero del 2002.



A la edad de nueve, yo nunca había visto a alguien morir a una edad tan joven y no podría comprender porque algo así pasó. Pero, ahora yo sé que la vida puede ser brutal, pero todo que pasa, nos enseña una lección importante.

# Let students (and outsiders) comment

## 6 comentarios:



**amoroch** 10 de febrero de 2012, 9:35

Muchas gracias por compartir el cuento de tu prima con nosotros. Quiero que mis estudiantes lean esta entrada. Creo que les conmoverá

[Responder](#)

▼ [Respuestas](#)



**Elizabeth** 13 de febrero de 2012, 6:31

¡Muchas gracias por tus palabras tan simpáticas! Espero que sus estudiantes les gusten este historia y puedan encontrar inspiración de mi prima. :)

I learned a lot from this group and their blog. Throughout all the posts they used many quotes to back up what they were trying to explain. I liked the pictures a lot too because they did a good job having it describe the quotes and when the book was about. From the blog I learned a lot about these two books and what Odysseus had to go through to prove to the suitors that he was the Great Odysseus. The most interesting thing to me was how they showed a video from the actual movie and it showed us a great representation of how the suitors treated him when they thought he was an old man and then after he strung the bow how they treated him when they knew who he was. Showed how conniving they really were. The pictures also for the geography really stuck out for me because they showed what some of the rooms would look like from the palace. Also the floor plan picture was something really nice to see. I think that they did a really great job presenting as well. They showed much interest and enthusiasm in presenting that it made it more interesting to listen to and pay attention too. I liked being able to create a blog with my group since I have never done it before it was a good thing to learn.

# Use blogs as portfolios

miércoles, 22 de febrero de 2012

## Entrevista con Gasper



**2nd recording with gasper by wozka** Para esta entrevista, decidí entrevistar al hermano mayor de mi mejor amigo. Gasper (Gustavo) Lino Martín es el hermano mayor de Javier. Gasper se graduó de la Universidad de Bridgeport con una maestría en Contabilidad. Ahora trabaja para una empresa de contabilidad en Easton. Gasper está felizmente casado con su bella esposa y en el futuro planea tener hijos. Recientemente después de casarse compraron su precioso apartamento.



# Use Gadgets

SP280 - El Blog de Nuestra Clase · [Layout](#)

[Save arrangement](#)

Add, remove, edit gadgets on your blog. Click and drag to rearrange gadgets. To change columns and widths, use the [Template Designer](#)

Favicon [Edit](#) Navbar [Edit](#)

---

SP280 - El Blog de Nuestra ... [Edit](#)

[Add a Gadget](#)

---


Blog Posts [Add a Gadget](#)

---

Blog Archive [Edit](#)

---





Los blogs de los estudiantes [Edit](#)

 **Blogger**

[Add a Gadget](#)

**Basics** 1 – 28 of 28

More Gadgets  
Add your own

-  **+1 Button** [+](#)  
Let visitors quickly recommend your brand and your content.  
By [Blogger](#)
-  **Google+ Followers New!** [+](#)  
Highlight your total Google+ audience (both its size and some friendly faces), and offer visitors the chance to follow you on Google+.  
By [Blogger](#)
-  **Google+ Badge** [+](#)  
Tell your visitors that you're on Google+ and let them follow you with a single click.  
By [Blogger](#)
-  **Translate** [+](#)  
Let visitors translate your blog into different languages.

# Use Gadgets

## Los blogs de los estudiantes

### El blog de Mareeka



Arte de Al-Andalus - El arte de España es maravillosa. A mi me encanta la influencia de los árabes. Durante la época de Al-Ándalus, la influencia de la

arquitectura mozárabe a...  
3 weeks ago

### El blog de Thenya

¿Que piensas? -  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7BNVKWC>  
4 weeks ago

### El blog de Bianca

El golpeado y el derrocamiento del gobierno Español... o que nos lo pensamos. - Esta día en vente tres del febrero, 1981, hay un miedo en el parlamento español, donde nadie atrevieron se a hacer algo. Hay un golpeado con Antonio Tejero...  
1 month ago

### El blog de Karla



La Transición - (google)  
La transición española es una etapa de victoria para todos los españoles que vivieron...

1 month ago

## Latest Tweets



SHUsquare

@shusquare

13 May, 2014

Check out the new summer reading blog on [#SHUsquare](#) for incoming freshman!  
[t.co/vfnyAHeSQ6](http://t.co/vfnyAHeSQ6)




The Atlantic

@TheAtlantic

1 May, 2014

The sonic boom: How digital technology is transforming our relationship with sound  
[t.co/orM52MLkS2](http://t.co/orM52MLkS2)

 Retweeted by SHUsquare



SHUsquare

@shusquare

13 April, 2014

Check out Dean Carey's Blog featured on [@HuffPostCollege](#) about Digital Learning!  
[t.co/oQr4TDUiFz](http://t.co/oQr4TDUiFz)



SHUsquare

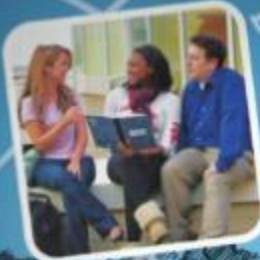
@shusquare

28 March, 2014

Prof. McLaughlin's Seminar is having an interesting discussion about climate change. Follow this link to view! [t.co/pDI47CfL8s](http://t.co/pDI47CfL8s)

# **Beyond the Classroom**

DEBATE



SHARE



DISCUSS



EXPLORE



**SHUsquare**

**A Networked  
Community of  
Learners**

**SHU**  
SQUARE

KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING.  
Active class discussions never end  
in our thriving digital "public square."

# How it Works

**SHUsquare**

[Home](#)

[What's Trending](#)

[Seminars](#)

[Hubs](#)

[The Art of Thinking](#)

[Deans' Blogs](#)

[Student Spotlight](#)

[Teaching and Learning](#)



# Assessment

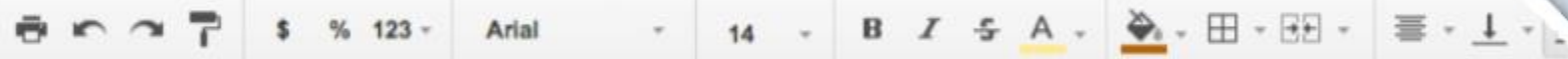
# Use Rubrics

Rating	Criteria
4	<b>Refined.</b> The blog entry is focused and coherent. The entry reflects in-depth engagement with the topic. Connections are made between ideas and new insights are offered. Where appropriate, it integrates example(s) with discussion and explanation.
3	<b>Developed.</b> The blog entry is reasonably focused and reflects moderate engagement with the topic. Connections are made between ideas and new insights are offered, but are not developed.
2	<b>Emerging.</b> The blog entry is mostly description or summary, without offering new insights or connections between ideas. The entry reflects limited engagement with the topic.
1	<b>Beginning.</b> The journal entry is unfocused and displays no evidence of student engagement with the topic.
0	<b>No Credit.</b> The blog entry is missing or consists of one or two disconnected sentences.

# Manage Comments

Blogs de los estudiantes de SP212 ☆ ■

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Help All changes saved in Drive



A	B	C	D	E	F
	Dirección del blog	27 de enero	27 de enero	14 de febrero	14 de febrero
Agata W.	<a href="http://wozka-sp211.blogspot.com">http://wozka-sp211.blogspot.com</a>	<a href="http://ebrielmannsp2012.html#comment=132">http://ebrielmannsp2012.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://jessica-schild.blogspot.com/para-espanol-conversacion-2012.html#comment=132">http://jessica-schild.blogspot.com/para-espanol-conversacion-2012.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://ebrielmannsp2012.html#comment=132">http://ebrielmannsp2012.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://chelsblogsp211.html#comment=132">http://chelsblogsp211.html#comment=132</a>
Alyssa C.	<a href="http://spanishlyss.blogspot.com">http://spanishlyss.blogspot.com</a>	<a href="http://vroomvroomfe.html#comment=132">http://vroomvroomfe.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://klassyenespar.html#comment=132">http://klassyenespar.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://vroomvroomfe.html#comment=132">http://vroomvroomfe.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://ebrielmannsp2012.html#comment=132">http://ebrielmannsp2012.html#comment=132</a>
	<a href="http://vroomvroomfe.html#comment=132">http://vroomvroomfe.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://amandagzecc.html#comment=132">http://amandagzecc.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://jessica-schild.blogspot.com/para-espanol-conversacion-2012.html#comment=132">http://jessica-schild.blogspot.com/para-espanol-conversacion-2012.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://amandagzecc.html#comment=132">http://amandagzecc.html#comment=132</a>	<a href="http://ebrielmannsp2012.html#comment=132">http://ebrielmannsp2012.html#comment=132</a>



**I always tried looking for different and interesting aspects of the Odyssey that I could include in my blog that hadn't been talked about yet. This also forced me to pay closer attention to my reading, and research Greek culture, characters, etc. on my own time to ensure a more informative presentation.**

*Yes, I found myself looking for a deeper, more obscure meaning in many of the symbols used in the Odyssey in hopes of finding something new that the class would enjoy.*

*While reading the Odyssey I made sure to pay close attention to what was going on in order to write an intelligent and informative blog.*

**Blogging definitely kept me engaged me with the text**

**I think blogging helped engage me in the text more because at times the readings can be somewhat difficult, therefore when we see what others write it becomes easier to understand. Blogging at times brings out new ideas about the text which enlightens me with new thoughts and feelings about the texts.**

**Does it meet our instructional needs?**

## **Hallmarks of a Liberal Arts Education**

**Inquiry-critical thinking**

**Research**

**Collaboration**

**Presentation**

**Reflection**

**Interdisciplinary**

**Let's keep the  
conversation  
going!**

Marie A. Hulme

Director, SHU Square

English Professor

[hulmem@sacredheart.edu](mailto:hulmem@sacredheart.edu)

[@mariemchulme](https://twitter.com/mariemchulme)

Pilar Munday

Associate Professor of Spanish

[mundayp@sacredheart.edu](mailto:mundayp@sacredheart.edu)

[@mundaysa](https://twitter.com/mundaysa)