Blogging Beyond Blackboard for Deeper Learning

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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
“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
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 que 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.
La vida en tránsito

el valor de custumbres tradicionales

Mira a este video aquí sobre los raíces de música en la cultura uruguaya:
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...
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.
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 Oxylus. Eurytus was offering his daughter’s hand in marriage, only if one of the suitors...

Culture: Frank D'Arrigo
February 11, 2014

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.
New Bloom's Taxonomy

- Creating
- Evaluating
- Analyzing
- Applying
- Understanding
- Remembering
Tips
Have students choose the platform (or not)

Blog Platform Comparison Chart
El Oso de Nikki

Cuando estaba pensando en un tema para mi blog, empecé a pensar en cosas que son importantes para mi 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 y 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 un 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.
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 though 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 relaly great job presenting as well. They showed must intrest and enthusiam 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

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

Add, remove, edit gadgets on your blog. Click and drag to rearrange gadgets. To change columns and widths, use the Template Design...

Add a Gadget

- +1 Button
  Let visitors quickly recommend your brand and your content.
  By Blogger

- Google+ Followers
  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 mí 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
13 May, 2014
Check out the new summer reading blog on #SHUSquare for incoming freshman!
t.co/vfnyAHesQ6

The Atlantic
1 May, 2014
The sonic boom: How digital technology is transforming our relationship with sound
t.co/orM52MLkS2
Retweeted by SHUSquare

SHUSquare
13 April, 2014
Check out Dean Carey's Blog featured on @HuffPostCollege about Digital Learning!
t.co/oQr4TDUiiFz

SHUSquare
28 March, 2014
Prof. McLaughlin's Seminar is having an interesting discussion about climate change. Follow this link to view! t.co/pDI47CfL8s
Beyond the Classroom
A Networked Community of Learners

KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING.
Active class discussions never end in our thriving digital "public square."
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<th>Rating</th>
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<td>4</td>
<td><em>Refined.</em> 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.</td>
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<td><em>Developed.</em> 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.</td>
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<td><em>Emerging.</em> The blog entry is mostly description or summary, without offering new insights or connections between ideas. The entry reflects limited engagement with the topic.</td>
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<td><em>Beginning.</em> The journal entry is unfocused and displays no evidence of student engagement with the topic.</td>
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<td><em>No Credit.</em> The blog entry is missing or consists of one or two disconnected sentences.</td>
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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 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!

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