

eFundi Tutorial: Blog



The blog serves as a private space on your eFundi site where you can regularly post new material or information. For teaching and learning it can serve as an online journal in which you or your students can write entries. All entries are ordered by date (the latest new entry will always be displayed at the top). Participants have the choice of whether they would like their blogs to be private or shared with others on the site. When a blog is shared with the rest of the class, they have the option to comment on the blog posts.

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This tutorial will address the following topics:

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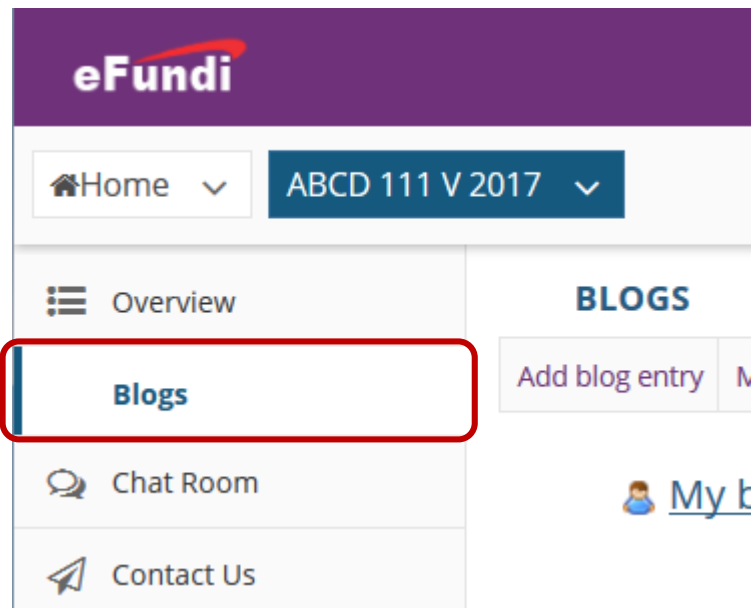
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To access the Blog tool

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Select **Blogs** from the Tool Menu in your site.



Why use the blog tool?

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When using Blogs in your classroom, it is important that you implement effectively, otherwise you will only waste your time and that of your students.

According to [eLearning Industry](#) there are several ways that you can use a blog, including:

- Only you as the lecturer post messages to your students. Remember, that this is not a replacement for the Announcements tool in eFundi. Rather, this is a place where you can create report with your students. Post material on latest developments or research in your field. Share interesting online resources that you are not going to discuss but that they might find interesting.
- Use the Blog to help your students improve their own writing skills.
- Assign different topics relevant to your field to each student. They then post regular updates in the field of study for the rest of the class to read and comment on.

Refer to these posts by [eLearning Industry](#) and [Educational Technology](#) for some good tips on what you should take into consideration when deciding to use a blog for your teaching and learning.

Read this post by [On Blast Blog](#) for some more ideas on HOW you could use a blog.

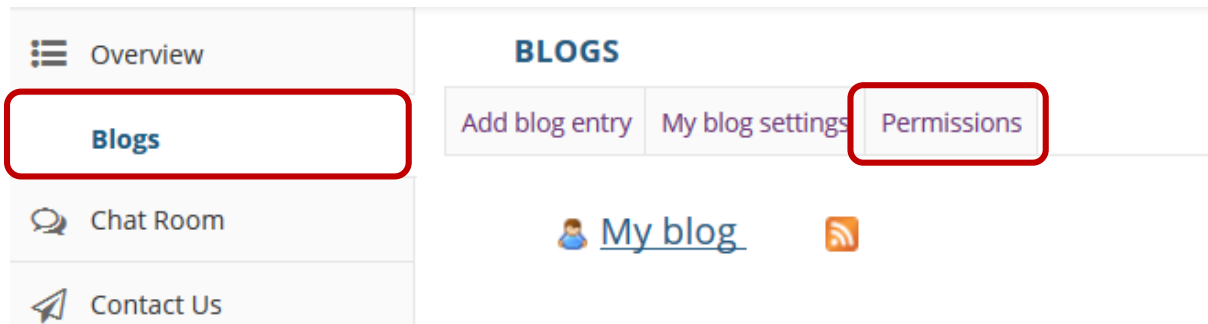
This post on [Edutopia](#) includes a good example of how to create a blog assignment.

Setting Blog permissions

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You will set the permissions according to how you are planning to use your Blog tool.

To set the permissions, go to your **Blog** tool and click the **Permissions** tab at the top.



Click in the checkboxes to indicate the permissions you want to grant to each role. Below are a few examples of different scenarios:

Scenario 1: Only lecturer posts material. Students can only read the posts.

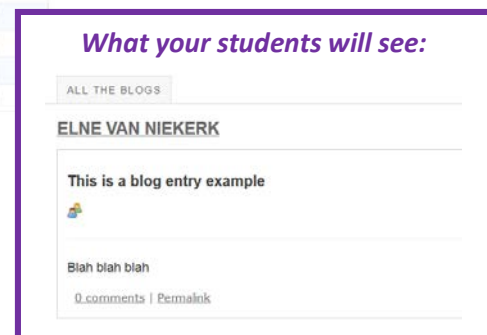
Permissions

Set blog permissions for WebObject Testing

Undo changes

Permission	Additional Instructor	Examiner	Instructor	Student	Teaching Assistant	UODL Facilitator
blogwow.create	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.write	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.write.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.read	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.read.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.comments.add	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.comments.remove.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Save Cancel



Scenario 2: Only lecturer posts material. Students can only read and comment on posts.

Permissions

Set blog permissions for WebObject Testing

Undo changes

Permission	Additional Instructor	Examiner	Instructor	Student	Teaching Assistant	UODL Facilitator
blogwow.create	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.write	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.write.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.read	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.read.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.comments.add	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.comments.remove.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Save Cancel

What your students will see:

ALL THE BLOGS

ELNE VAN NIEKERK

This is a blog entry example

Blah blah blah

0 comments | [Leave a comment](#) | [Permalink](#)

Scenario 3: Only students create their own Blog feeds and can read each other's blogs (if permission is granted)

Permissions

Set blog permissions for WebObject Testing

Undo changes

Permission	Additional Instructor	Examiner	Instructor	Student	Teaching Assistant	UODL Facilitator
blogwow.create	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.write	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.write.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.read	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.entry.read.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.comments.add	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
blogwow.comments.remove.any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Save Cancel

What your students will see:

ADD BLOG ENTRY MY BLOG SETTINGS

My blog

All the blogs

View All Blogs

Access granted per post:

Choose who can see this entry

- Only site administrators and I can see this entry
- All members of this site can see this entry
- This entry is publicly viewable

How do I ensure that all students' blog entries are completely private?

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You cannot ensure that all entries are completely private. It is your students' responsibility to choose whether or not they want other students to see their posts.

Choose who can see this entry

Only site administrators and I can see this entry

All members of this site can see this entry

This entry is publicly viewable

Publish entry **Save Draft** **Cancel**

How do I add my picture to my blog profile?

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Upload your photo to the **Resources** tool, then **right-click** on the photo and select: **Copy link location / Copy link address**

The screenshot shows a sidebar on the left with the following items: Drop Box, Lessons, Calendar, Announcements, Resources (highlighted), Forums, Assignments, Tests & Quizzes, and Feedback Clinic. The main content area displays a table of resources with columns for Title, Access, Created By, and Modified. A row is highlighted for 'Profile pic.png' with 'Entire site' access, created by 'ELNE VAN NIEKERK' on '09-Nov-'. A context menu is open over this row, listing various actions. The option 'Copy Link Location' is highlighted with a red box.

Title	Access	Created By	Modified
Blog files			
Profile pic.png	Entire site	ELNE VAN NIEKERK	09-Nov-

- Open Link in New Tab
- Open Link in New Window
- Open Link in New Private Window
- Bookmark This Link
- Save Link As...
- Save Link to Pocket
- Copy Link Location**
- Search Google for "Profile pic.png..."
- Send Link to Device
- Inspect Element (Q)

Tip: If you want students to also upload their photos to their blog profiles, create a folder in **Resources**. Then, **edit the folder permissions** to allow students to upload content.

Permission	Dosit	Instructor	Student	Teaching Assistant
Create resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Edit any resource	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Edit own resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delete any resource	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delete own resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access/create group resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read hidden resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

To create your Blog profile, go to your **Blog** tool and click the **My Blog Settings** tab at the top.

ADD BLOG ENTRY **MY BLOG SETTINGS** PERMISSIONS

My blog You last blogged on 30 Nov 2017 at 1:17:00 PM

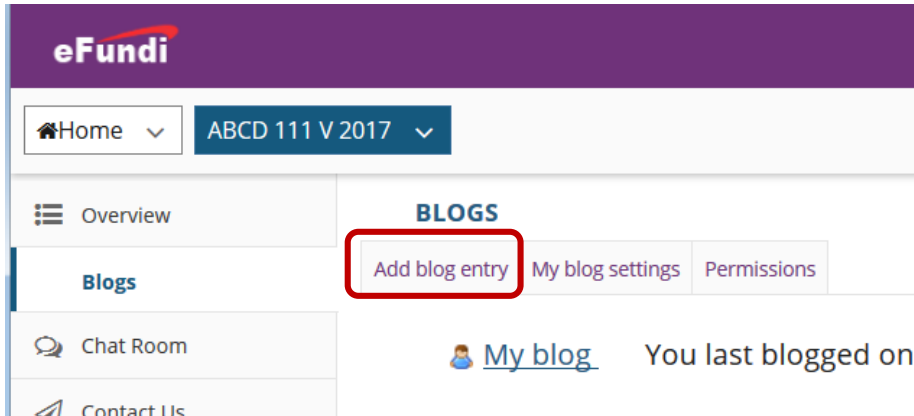
Right-click in the text box for **URL for my picture** and paste (**Ctrl+V**) the link that you copied from Resources.

Continue to next page

Adding a new Blog post

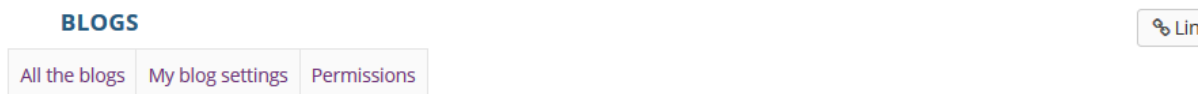
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To add a new Blog post, go to your **Blog** tool and click the **Add blog entry** tab at the top.



In the **Title** textbox, insert an attention grabbing title that would make others want to read your blog post.

Then insert you blog entry in the rich text editor below.




Add a new blog entry

Title:

Rich text editor toolbar with icons for Source, Undo, Redo, Bold, Italic, Underline, Strikethrough, Text color, Background color, Bulleted list, Numbered list, Indent, Outdent, Link, Unlink, Image, Table, Smiley, and Special characters.

Styles: **Heading 3** | Font: **Font** | Size: **Size** | **A** | **A** | **Image** | **Table**

 **This is my absolute genius cupcake that I always refer to when I have to plan a party...**

Cupcake ipsum dolor sit amet I love pudding marzipan. Cookie cheesecake halvah marshmallow chocolate lollipop marshmallow. I love liquorice I love sweet roll fruitcake candy canes jelly beans tiramisu. Jelly-o gummies chocolate bar powder jelly beans oat cake chocolate gummies jelly-o.

Pastry fruitcake marzipan toffee liquorice I love Lulubes I love gummies gummi bears toffee Muffin
body h3 image

Words: 177, Characters (with HTML): 2138/1000000

Once you have completed your entry, choose your preferred access settings and click the **Publish Entry** button.

Choose who can see this entry

Only site administrators and I can see this entry

All members of this site can see this entry

This entry is publicly viewable

Publish entry **Save Draft** **Cancel**

Need help?

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You can make use of the Sakai based Help resources available on all eFundi sites, or contact your site of delivery eFundi Support Desk.

OR: Please attend eFundi training or stop by during office hours for additional help.

eFundi Support Desk:

Call centre: 018 285 5930

Campus support:

Mafeking: Tel.: 018 389 2447 Office: ADC Building, Block D Room G80	Potchefstroom: Tel.: 018 285 2295 Office: Building E8, Room 107A	Vanderbijlpark: Tel.: 016 910 3035/8 Office: Building 13, Room SL313
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OR

Log a ticket: support.nwu.ac.za