

# UBC Blogs Tool Link Quicksheet



<http://goo.gl/5MiTz0>

Support Email:

[blog.support@ubc.ca](mailto:blog.support@ubc.ca)

Drop-in Clinics:

1:00PM - 3:00PM, Mondays and Thursdays  
Centre for Teaching Learning and Technology  
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UBC Blogs is a blogging platform running on the WordPress platform designed to provide an individual or group space for instructors and students. It can be used to build a course website, allow group authoring on a blog, provide peer review (editing with comments) of authored content, provide class webspace development (adding annotated links/building a shared resource for a class), and provide a personal portfolio for students, faculty and staff (upload media - slides, video, images of your artwork).

Through the new UBC Blogs Tool Link, instructors can easily create a course or group blog on UBC Blogs through Connect. These blogs are independent from Connect and can be made publicly accessible. Students can easily join the blog by clicking on the link within their course.

## Why use UBC Blogs?

### *Create an online archive of your course activities*

Course blogs on UBC Blogs can be made available indefinitely in public or private allowing students to a wealth of resources that they can link back to.

### *Develop a wider learning network*

Course blogs can be made public and indexed by search engines, making them easily searchable. It expands the audience of students' work to a wider network of learners and experts that can easily contribute their own knowledge and ideas in the discussions.

### *Opportunities for student growth beyond the course*

Students can create their own individual blogs that is independent of the course. They can use the same space as they take other courses and keep track of their progress both as a student in your course and as a learner.

### *Highly customizable*

Many themes are available or being developed that allow you to change the blog's look and feel. Plugins are also available that extend the blogs features and functionalities.

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# Comparison

	<i>UBC Blogs</i>	<i>Connect Blogs</i>
<i>Blog Creation</i>	Create a course blog either through Connect or through UBC Blogs	Blogs can only be created in Connect
<i>Blog Availability</i>	Public by default Can be made private or open only to blog users	Only accessible in your Connect course Can limit date and time restrictions
<i>Participation</i>	Students need to click the course blog link within the course in order to write entries Blog link availability can be limited to specific course groups Student can only create their own blogs when they go to UBC Blogs	When creating blogs, you can choose to either have individual or course blogs When creating groups, you can choose to have group blog available to them
<i>Grading</i>	No built-in grading system Grades need to be manually added to the Connect Grade Center	Easily grade from within Connect and have them automatically included in the Grade Center

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# User Roles

UBC Instructors  
UBC Secondary Instructors  
UBC ISS

UBC TA

UBC Auditor  
Student

## *Administrator*

- Change themes and activate plugins
- Manage roles and blog members

## *Editor*

- Edit, publish and delete other users' posts and pages
- Moderate comments

## *Author*

- Write, publish, edit, and delete their own posts
- Upload files