

How to set up your own blog using blogger

Why are we being asked to use a blog?

1. It is designed to enhance the student learning experience, by allowing them to interact with each other outside the classroom.
2. It means that critical student reading is no longer a conversation between lecturer and student, but becomes a class conversation.
3. It is a great buzz when you get a comment, and this should encourage student learning.
4. Using blogs has the further benefit of introducing students to new technologies and enhancing their communication options, an essential leadership skill.
5. It is part of the assessment of this course. So you need to do it to pass!

NOTE 1: Everyone must have a separate class blog, created specifically for this class.

NOTE 2: Internet access is available at BCNZ. Just see Sue Rhodes at the desk.

So how do I create a blog?

1. Go to www.blogger.com. Click on the arrow with the words "Create your blog now."
2. **Create an account.** Fill in the five boxes. Ideally your "user name" should be your actual name so we can reference your work. Choose any password. Be sure to keep your username, email that you use and password in a safe place. Click on the box beside 'I accept terms and conditions.' Then click "Continue."
3. **Name your blog.** Think about what you would like to title your blog. "Blog Title" can be anything. For the "Blog address" please put your first and second initial, your last name and then the class number, followed by the year (e.g. M504, 2006. For example, Steve J. Taylor would be <http://sjtaylorm504yr06.blogspot.com>). Complete "Word Verification" by typing the numbers you see into the box. Then click "Continue."
4. **Choose your own template.** There are 12 options in total. Click on one and then click "Continue."

So how do I start posting (putting words onto my blog)?

1. Click "Start posting." Click on the "settings tab" and in the box titled "description" fill out a description for your blog. Be creative here, and think of something unique you hope to bring to our class discussions. Scroll to the bottom and click "Save settings."
2. Select under the settings tab "comments" and allow "anyone" to publish comments on your blog. This way we know that even classmates who don't have a blogger account can comment on your site. Scroll to the bottom and click "Save settings."
3. Next select under the settings tab "archiving" switch the frequency to "no archiving." This is important for us to keep all the weeks and posts organized. Click "Save settings."
4. Now that you are all done with the administrative stuff, it's time to do your first post.
5. As a first post, why not provide a brief intro to yourself. Click "Posting". Write a title. Then in the big window, write about how long you have been at BCNZ, where you are from, church background and tell us what you hope to learn in this class. Hit "Publish Post" and what you write goes onto the internet.
6. Click on the tab "view blog" to see what you wrote. If it works, then copy the URL in the address bar and email your address to Steve Taylor. He will then add it to the class blog (www.leadershipbcnz.blogspot.com), and thus we can keep track of each other's blog.