

# Psychology Blogging

One of the requirements of this course is to write one blog post per unit. We will also be engaging in blogging as part of our semester long 20% Project.

## What is a blog?

A blog is a frequently updated online personal journal or diary. It is a place to express yourself to the world. A place to share your thoughts and your passions. ...A blog is your own website that you are going to update on an ongoing basis. Blog is a short form for the word weblog and the two words are used interchangeably.

Source: <http://blogbasics.com/what-is-a-blog/>

## Why are we blogging?

The members of class will be participating in a class blog for the purposes of:

- Responding to and commenting on curriculum topics as we study them
- Creating written/media projects and commenting on each other's work
- Reviewing and sharing study strategies before tests and quizzes
- Practicing taking varied points of view on a topic
- Discussing current events in psychology
- Making classroom suggestions
- Creating FAQ pages on curriculum topics

## **Blogging Rules**

To use the blog, you must agree to the following statements:

- I will not use any curse words or inappropriate language.
- I will not use fighting words or provoke anyone.
- I will avoid the use of chat language.
- I will try to spell everything correctly.
- I will only give constructive criticism.
- I will not use my full name, or the name of my classmates.
- I will not plagiarize.
- I recognize that breaking any of these rules could lead to any of the following consequences depending on severity and repetition:
  - ✓ Warning
  - ✓ Deletion of some or all of the post
  - ✓ Temporary loss of blogging privileges
  - ✓ Permanent loss of blogging privileges
  - ✓ Referral to the school administration

Consequences of violating the rules:

Any violation of the above terms and conditions shall make the violator subject to both immediate termination from the blog, **with all related points toward grades and to discipline through the school code of conduct**, where applicable. At the teacher's discretion, a warning may be given in the case of minor infractions.

## **Blogging GUIDELINES**

Now that you have set up your blogs and are ready to go, there are some rules you need to follow. The following are some Blogging Guidelines for Students.

1. Only post things that you would want everyone (in school, at home, in other countries) to know. **Ask yourself: Is this something I want everyone to see?**
2. Do not share personal information. **Ask yourself: Could someone find me (in real life) based on this information?**

3. Think before you post. **Ask yourself: What could be the consequences of this post?**
4. Know who you're communicating with. **Ask yourself: Who is going to look at this, and how are they going to interpret my words?**
5. Consider your audience. **Ask yourself: Do I have a good reason/purpose to do this?**
6. Know how to give constructive feedback. **Ask yourself: What will I cause by writing this post?**
7. Treat other people the way you want to be treated. **Ask yourself: Would I want someone to say this to me?**
8. Use appropriate language and proper grammar and spelling. **Ask yourself: Would I want this post to be graded for proper grammar and spelling?**
9. Only post information that you can verify is true (no gossiping). **Ask yourself: Is this inappropriate, immature or bullying?**
10. Anytime you use media from another source, be sure to properly cite the creator of the original work. **Ask yourself: Who is the original creator of this work?**

## *Commenting* **GUIDELINES**

As a blogger, you will be commenting on other people's work regularly. Good comments:

1. Are constructive, but not hurtful.
2. Consider the author and the purpose of the post.
3. Are always related to the content of the post.
4. Include personal connections to what the author wrote.
5. Answer a question, or add meaningful information to the content topic.
6. Follow the writing process. Comments are a published piece of writing.

## **Grading Your Blogging**

Category	3	2	1
<b>Content: Topic</b>	Topic is related to Psychology.	Topic is related to social sciences but not necessarily psychology.	Topic does not relate to psychology or social science.
<b>Content: Summary</b>	Post includes a 1-2 paragraph summary of a class activity, video, concept, or article related to psychology.	Post includes a summary less than 1-2 paragraphs.	Post does not include a summary but does include web links to other information.
<b>Sources</b>	Blog post includes a either a hyperlinked reference or a title and author reference to any sources used or referenced	Blog post includes a URL but no hyperlinks OR gives an incomplete title/author reference.	References to sources are missing.
<b>Images</b>	Post uses images found in creative commons or has the URL for the images. Images enhance the overall post.	Post has an image that either does not have the URL or does not quite mesh with the overall message of the post.	Post does not include an image.
<b>Other</b>	Post includes additional, thought provoking items such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asking thought provoking questions</li> <li>• Giving additional places to find information on the topic</li> <li>• Commenting on other students' posts</li> <li>• Contributing to enhancing the classroom experience (making suggestions, constructive criticism)</li> <li>• Assisting other students with the class</li> </ul>	Provides extra items that are somewhat thought provoking OR are limited in their enhancement of the course.	No additional items are included.

### **Sources:**

Student Blogging Guidelines by Kim Cofino- <http://www.techlearning.com/blogs/23336>

Biology in Action by Mr. Bird- <http://biologyblog.edublogs.org/about/>