Lab Week 5: UO Blogs

As 21st c. digerati, you not only must navigate the internet and the WWW, but you must also learn to create and manage your own personal cyber-infrastructure, hosted in the cloud. Our first cloud provider is the UO.

During the first part of the term, you created a 110 website on uoregon.edu. Now you will add to that infrastructure a Wordpress blog hosted at blogs.uoregon.edu, a UO subdomain.

You will be using UO-Blogs to create a Web Dev Portfolio for this class. Since the blog will persist after this class ends, you can continue to use it as a portfolio for other classes, as well.
UO Blogs is an easy-to-use academic blogging and web publishing service for the University of Oregon community.

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To create your first blog, your lab instructor will guide you through these steps which are adapted from, UO Blogs: Setting Up Your First Blog (https://it.uoregon.edu/blogs/firstblog).

1. In Firefox, go to http://blogs.uoregon.edu.

2. This will open the Create a Site Now! page. Click 'All Other Sites'. (Do not click 'UO Courses'.)

3. In the All Other Sites page, click 'Login' to proceed.

4. On the following screen, click the Use My DuckID button and log in with your DuckID.

Type in your UO DuckID credentials (same as for Blackboard).
5. On your first login, you will be directed to your Profile page. Click Dashboard > My Sites

6. In the My Sites screen, click Create a New Site:

7. Give your site a name and a title, select language, privacy options, as follows:

   **Title**: UO Blog for Your Name  
   **Language**: English  
   **Privacy**: Visitors must have a login  
   **Blog Category**: College of Arts and Sciences

   **Site Name**: use your DuckID so that your blog’s URL will be “http://blogs.uoregon.edu/yourDuckID”. Add “UO” as a prefix to yourDuckID if you have another blog that uses yourDuckID as name, or if your DuckID is shorter than 4 characters. Examples: UOSusanQ, UOssq

   Then click the Create Site button to make it official!

   A confirmation message is displayed, similar to the one, below, (yours will say “UO Blog for yourDuckID” rather than “UO CIT”):

8. Login to your UO Blog using your DuckID credentials (same as for Blackboard), and that will take you to your blog’s Dashboard.

In the dashboard, click on the long hyperlink next to Privacy:

This will open the Settings > Privacy panel.

Make sure the Visitors must have a login radio button is selected:

10. The permalink for your new blog is http://blogs.uoregon.edu/yourDuckID/. Go to this URL now in Firefox.

To simply view your blog: just go to the URL in Firefox. The site home page will display.

To Login as Blog Administrator: use the Login link in the Meta section on the lower left of the home page. This will take the admin dashboard. (Do not use the Member Login Button. You are not enrolling members in your blog, so you will not use this blog feature.)

If you are not already logged in as Administrator, do so now.

11. Configure your blog: Turn Off comments on future posts and pages.

We are using UO-Blogs for a Web Dev Portfolio, and will disable comments, to keep things simple.

A. Go to your site's Dashboard > Settings >Discussion

B. Deselect ‘Allow people to post comments on new articles’
and ‘Allow link notifications from other blogs (pingbacks and trackbacks’ under Default article settings.

C. Click Save Changes at the bottom of the page.

12. Configure your blog: Turn Off comments on existing posts and pages.

A. Go to your site’s dashboard > Posts > All Posts.

B. Select all the existing posts (there will just be two on a new blog).

C. In the Bulk Actions dropdown select Edit and then click the Apply Button.

D. Disable comments on the posts by selecting ‘Do not allow’ from the Comments dropdown menu.

E. Disable pings on the posts by selecting ‘Do not allow’ from the Pings dropdown menu.


Congratulations! You have successfully created and configured your own UO-Blog to use as a Course Portfolio.
After your Lab: Setting up your UO Blog

In the week following your lab, complete the following tasks to set up your UO Blog as a course portfolio site:

1. Choose a Theme and Change the Tagline.
2. Edit the 'Hello, World' post.
3. Delete the Sample Page, and Add a CIS 110 Page.

You can add a new page for each course you wish to add to your portfolio.

Getting Started:

To learn how to use your blog you will need to consult the help pages:

UO Blogs General Help: (https://it.uoregon.edu/blogs/generalhelp)

The EduBlogs User Guide (http://help.edublogs.org/user-guide/)
1. Choose a Theme, and Change the Tagline.


You are welcome to set your blog's appearance as you like.

Example -- UO 1 Theme:

2. Edit the 'Hello, World' Post.

(http://help.edublogs.org/2009/07/29/writing-your-first-post/)

Every newly created blog has the same default lay out with posts displayed on its front page ('Home') with a 'Hello World' post and an 'Sample' page.

Edit the Hello, World post to personalize your blog.

Example:
3. Delete the Sample Page, and Add a New Page for CIS 110.

The title of the new page is: **CIS 110 12F**.

Posts and pages-- The Basics: [http://bit.ly/eH1i1x](http://bit.ly/eH1i1x)

Example:

**Congratulations! Your UO-Blog is now set up as a course portfolio.**