

Framingham State College
 Online Professional Development
 Cheryl Caskie Chase, MLS
cc.chase@gmail.com

Course: *Blogs, Blogs, Blogs*

Target Participants: Classroom Teachers (K-12)

Required Text: None. Articles and Websites available online

Course Description:

During this 4-week online course, participants will be introduced to three types of social software. We will then focus on creating and using Blogs. Discussions, comments, and sharing of ideas on how teachers can use Blogs within their classrooms, with peers, and with parents will occur on FSC's Blackboard Blog Tool. Final Project will consist of creating and designing a personal Blog using Blogger.

Objectives:

Participants will ...

- understand what Social Software is and how it can be used to aid in communication with students, teachers, and parents
- explore and analyze existing Blogs & Blog software
- create and design a Blog that is useful to them.

Week 1:	
Topic:	What is Social Software? Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blogs • Podcasting • Wikis
Assignment:	Visit the following sites and post a reflection for each site on our FSC Blackboard 'Classroom' Blog – be sure to identify yourself. Please check Course Documents for the Rubric for reflections.
Related Readings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative. "7 Things you should know about Blogs" 2005. 11 May 2007 http://www.educause.edu/LibraryDetailPage/666?ID=ELI7006 ◆ The EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative. "7 Things you should know about Wikis" 2005. 11 May 2007 http://www.educause.edu/LibraryDetailPage/666?ID=ELI7004 ◆ The EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative. "7 Things you should know about Podcasting" 2005. 11 May 2007 http://www.educause.edu/LibraryDetailPage/666?ID=ELI7003

Week 2:	
Topic:	<p>Blogs, Blogs, Blogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Legal Issues ◆ Classroom uses
Assignment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Read four articles posted. ◆ Post via our FSC Blackboard 'classroom' Blog: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does your school require for posting student intellectual property – list requirements; Do you agree or disagree with these requirements, why or why not? 2. Post a reflection to the article by Nora Carr. <p>Please check Course Documents for Rubrics for posts and reflections.</p>
Related Readings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Basking, Joy Surratt and Jim Surratt. "Students Privacy Rights and Wrongs on the Web" <i>School Administrator</i>. Sept. 2001. 31 July 2007 http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0JSD/is_8_58/ai_78177354 ◆ "EFF: Legal Guide for Bloggers: Blogger's FAQ: Student Blogging" <i>Electronic Frontier Foundation</i>. April 20 2006. 31 July 2007 http://www.eff.org/bloggers/lg/faq-students.php ◆ Carr, Nora. "Get Real! PR blogging tips for teachers, school leaders" <i>eSchool News Online</i>. June 1, 2005 31 July 2007 http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStory.cfm?ArticleID=5711 ◆ "Blogs in Education" University of Houston – Clear Lake. 31 July 2007 http://awd.cl.uh.edu/blog/ <p>Additional Article (optional):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Kennedy, Kristen. "Writing with Weblogs". February 15, 2003. 11 May 2007 http://www.techlearning.com/db_area/archives/TL/2003/02/blogs.php
Week 3:	
Topic:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FINAL PROJECT

Assignment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Visit the <i>Teacher's First</i> Website. http://www.teachersfirst.com/content/blog/openingdoorsblog.cfm Click on "Check out some examples" (left hand menu) to see how other educators are using Blogs. ◆ <u>FINAL PROJECT (Rubric in Course Documents):</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using Blogger.com – create a personal or classroom Blog 2. The Blog should include, at least,: a link, picture, information about the Blogger (you) and its purpose, 2-3 posts and a RSS feed 3. Post on our Blackboard class Blog <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the URL for your Blog ○ Write a brief description of your Blog; Who is the audience of your Blog and what do you hope to accomplish using this means of communication? 4. Write a one-two page reflection about how you will use the content learned/skills practiced with Blogs in your professional work (double-spaced; 1 inch margins)
Related Readings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Please check Course Documents for handouts to add various components to your Blog <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) posts b) links c) images d) RSS Feed ◆ "Opening Doors to a Classroom Blog" Teachers First: Step by Step. 2 July 2007 http://www.teachersfirst.com/content/blog/openingdoorsblog.cfm ◆ Richardson, Will. "ABCs of RSS Feeds" <i>techLearning</i>. May 15, 2005 31 July 2007 http://www.techlearning.com/showArticle.php?articleID=1631004 ◆ "Help with RSS Feed" 31 July 2007 http://www.techlearning.com/rss/index.php
Week 4:	
Topic:	Project Sharing / Comments
Assignment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Please visit classmates' Blogs – choose 3 Blogs: ◆ Write a comment on each one <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identifying what you like and why 2. suggestion(s) of what they might add/change

ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY 2:00 PM EACH SATURDAY

Please check Course Documents for:

Reflection Rubric
Posting Rubric
Final Project Rubric

GRADING:

BLOG POSTINGS, WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: 50%

FINAL PROJECT: 50%

'Office Hours' :

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm on Saturdays – 508-785-0480

email checked after 3:00 pm daily – cc.chase@gmail.com