

Blogging for PS110

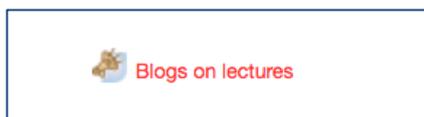
The OU blog assignment in Moodle is being used to create the shared class blog for all the students taking PS110; and also an individual blog (journal) for each student on the course.

Features of the OU blog assignment include:

- Comments on the posts you make can be turned on or off.
- Posts to the shared class blog (as opposed to your individual ones) can be made visible to all course members or not if you want to control release.
- Posts can be tagged – clicking a tag will show all posts in the current blog with that tag. (OU blog tags are not connected with Moodle tags as used in profiles, etc.)
- Once a post you publish is commented on version control is activated on it, in case you want to access writing included in previous iterations of a post or go back to an older version.

Using the blog

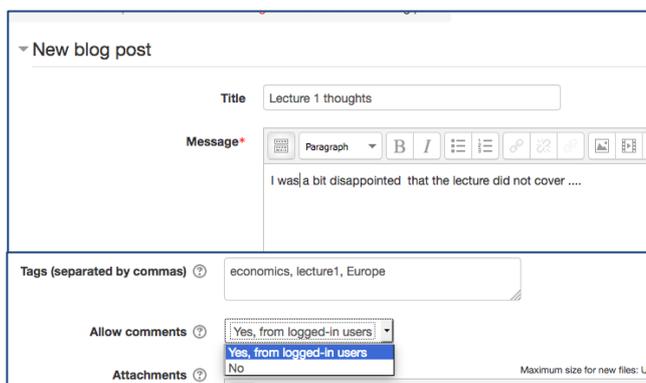
1. The blog appears on your course with a special icon as below. Click to use it.



2. Click **New blog post** to add a post



3. Type a **Title** and then type the post in the **Message** area. Choose **tags** and decide whether to **Allow comments** or not. **Attachments** can also be added if required.



4. On completion, click **Add post**

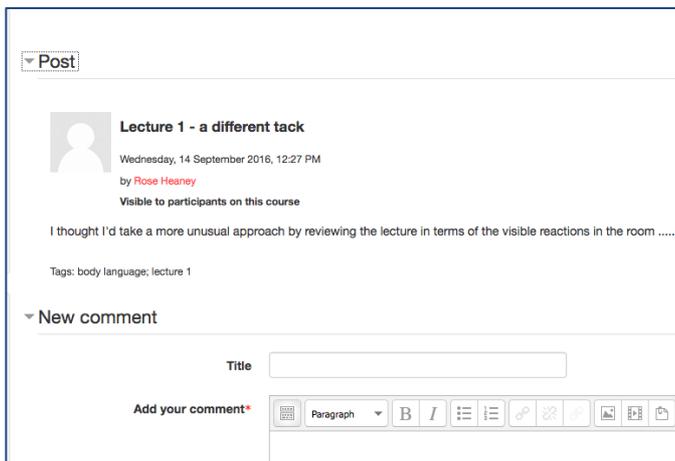
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- The post will appear as below. If you're not happy with any aspect, you can use **Edit**, **Delete** etc.



The screenshot shows a blog post interface. At the top left is a grey silhouette icon. To its right is the title "Lecture 1 thoughts" in bold. Below the title is the date and time "Wednesday, 14 September 2016, 12:21 PM" and the author "by Rose Heaney" in red. Underneath is the visibility setting "Visible to participants on this course". The main text of the post reads "I was a bit disappointed that the lecture did not cover". Below the text are tags: "Tags: economics, lecture1, europe" in red. At the bottom of the post are links: "Permalink", "Edit", "Delete", and "Add your comment" in red. Below the post content, there is a summary line: "all currently visible posts and their comments." and a footer: "Total visits to this blog: 2".

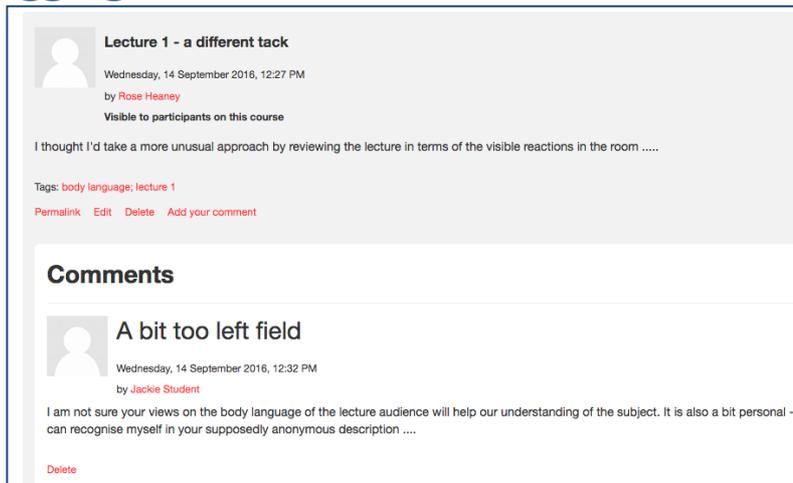
- To comment on a blog post, click **Add your comment**. Expand **Post** (at the top) to see the original post as you type your comment. On completion of the comment, click **Add comment**.



The screenshot shows a comment form interface. At the top left is a dropdown menu labeled "Post". Below it is a grey silhouette icon. To its right is the title "Lecture 1 - a different tack" in bold. Below the title is the date and time "Wednesday, 14 September 2016, 12:27 PM" and the author "by Rose Heaney" in red. Underneath is the visibility setting "Visible to participants on this course". The main text of the post reads "I thought I'd take a more unusual approach by reviewing the lecture in terms of the visible reactions in the room". Below the text are tags: "Tags: body language; lecture 1". Below the post content is a section labeled "New comment" with a dropdown arrow. Underneath is a "Title" input field. Below the title field is the text "Add your comment*" followed by a rich text editor toolbar. The toolbar includes a paragraph dropdown, bold (B), italic (I), bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink, image, video, and other icons.

- The comment will then appear with the option to **Delete**.

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The screenshot shows a blog post titled "Lecture 1 - a different tack" by Rose Heaney, dated Wednesday, 14 September 2016, 12:27 PM. The post content is: "I thought I'd take a more unusual approach by reviewing the lecture in terms of the visible reactions in the room" It includes tags for "body language" and "lecture 1", and a "Permalink" link. Below the post is a comment section titled "Comments" with a comment by Jackie Student, dated Wednesday, 14 September 2016, 12:32 PM. The comment text is: "I am not sure your views on the body language of the lecture audience will help our understanding of the subject. It is also a bit personal - I can recognise myself in your supposedly anonymous description" and includes a "Delete" link.

8. To use version control on your posts they must first be commented on. Once another student or the teacher comments on your post accessing previous versions of it is activated; and if you click on **Add your comment** after a comment has been made you will be able to access all the previous versions of the post you added.

If you have any questions about or encounter any problems using the OU Blog assignment please email lti.support@lse.ac.uk.