

LearnIT2teach

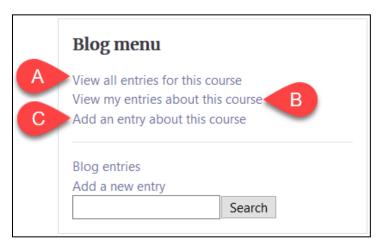
Working with Student Blogs

A blog is a personal online writing space. All students and teachers using the Avenue courseware have their own blogs. There are blog writing activities throughout the Avenue 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 courseware. It is very important to note that the **Blog menu block** is only displayed on the main course page in the courseware unless the instructor adds a blog menu block associated with an activity or resource.

Editing teachers can create **Blog menu** blocks that are associated with individual activities.

Exemplar

The **Blog menu** block (visible below) is available in the **Stage 2/3 Exemplar course**. It appears on the right side of the course.



Students should use a **blog menu** block when responding to a blog writing task. Three of the links in the **Blog menu** block are contextualized to the courseware page displaying it.



Page **1** of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM



The above example is a screenshot of a **blog menu** associated with a blog writing task.

- (A) This link displays, on one page, all of the blog entries associated with this task. Only those blog entries that have been published to anyone on the site are displayed.
- Students can decide if their blog entry is 'private' or 'shared' when they save their work. The only way for a teacher to see a student's blog entry is if it is shared. In this case, anyone in the course can also see and comment on the blog entry, although the student can temporarily enable and disable it if desired.
- (B) This link can be used by a student to display their own entries associated with this Page/task.
- (C) This link associates a new blog entry to this Page/task. Links (A) and (B) will only display blog entries that were added using link (C).
- If all students complete a blog task-using link (C), it will be much easier for the teacher to access all of the student blog entries through link (A). Otherwise, the teacher must navigate to each student's blog page, which is discussed later.

Once a **blog entry** is shared, teachers and students can leave a comment on that entry. Note that shared blog entries can also be viewed by students in *other* courses.

If unwanted comments are posted on someone's blog, the site administrator can delete them. Any such issue should be reported by the teacher to their mentor.

Teachers: Adding a Blog Menu Block and Associating it with an Activity

1. Navigate to a **blog writing task** from a LINC 3 to 7 course page.



- 2. Note this activity does not have an associated **Blog menu** block.
- 3. Click on the **Actions menu** icon.
- 4. Click on the **Turn Editing On** link.
- 5. Locate the **Blog** Page link.



Page **2** of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM

The **blog** page appears.



6. In the Navigation drawer, click on the Add a block link.



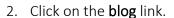
7. Choose, **Blog menu** from the **Add a block** pop up.

The blog menu appears beside the blog page.



How Students Add a Blog Entry Associated with an Activity

1. Navigate to a **blog writing task** from a LINC 3 to 7 course page.





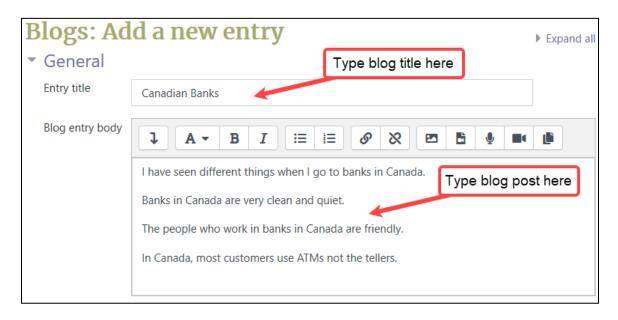
3. Read the **blog task** on the left.



Page **3** of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM



- On the Blog menu block to the right, click Add an entry about this Page.
- Type the **blog title** and the **post**.



There is an option to include an attachment.

6. Select the appropriate setting in the **Publish to** drop down menu.



7. Enter a tag or two to help others search for the blog post.



In the **Associations** section, check the appropriate Blog about Page title.

Deselecting the **checkbox** will remove the association.

9. Click on the **Save changes** button

Save changes

The result appears in the student's **blog space**.

Page 4 of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM



LearnIT2teach



Publish to: Yourself (draft) vs. Anyone on this site

There are two **Publish to**: settings when saving a blog entry.

- Yourself (draft) means the entry is private and can be viewed only by you and the site administrator.
- Anyone on this site means the blog is available for everyone to see and comment on including the teacher, other students and even guests visiting this site.



Page **5** of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM



Looking at Blog Entries Associated with a Blog Writing Activity

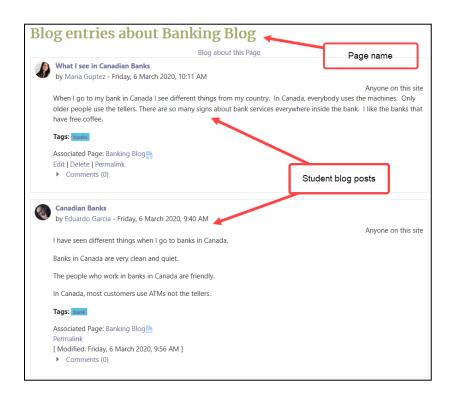
1. Navigate to a **blog** writing task



2. Click View all entries about this Page in the Blog menu block.

The **student blog entries** associated with this Page appear.





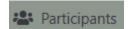
Page **6** of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM



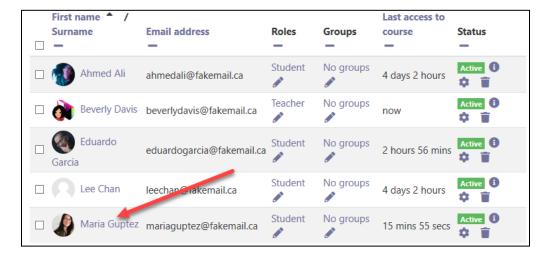
Viewing Blog Entries for a Specific Student

It is possible for teachers to view all of a particular student's blog entries that have been published to anyone on the site.

1. Click **Participants** in the **Navigation Drawer**.



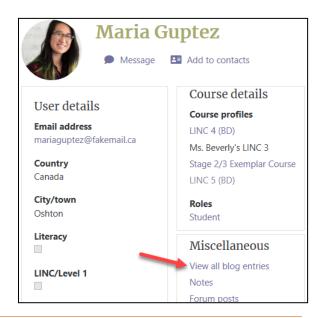
2. Locate and click on the **student's name**.



The target student's **View profile** course page appears.

3. Click on the View all blog entries link.

Note that **Blog posts** associated with individual activities are not shown on this list.



Page **7** of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM



Commenting on Blog Entries

1. Navigate to a **blog** page.



2. In the **Blog menu** block, click on **View all entries about this Page**.



3. Navigate to a **blog entry** you would like to comment on.



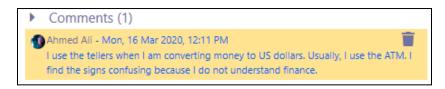
4. Click **Comments** under the blog entry.

The **number** in brackets next to the **Comments** link shows the number of comments for that posting.

5. After clicking on the **Comments** link, a text box appears. Type your comments in the text box.

I use the tellers when I am converting money to US dollars. Usually, I ouse the ATM. I find the signs confusing because I do not understand Save comment

- 6. Click on the **Save comment** link.
- 7. The **comment** appears below the blog post.



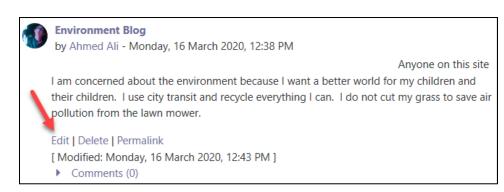
Page **8** of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM



Editing a Blog Entry

- 1. Navigate to a blog entry you would like to edit.

 Note: Unlike forum postings, teachers cannot edit student blogs. Only the owner of a blog, e.g. students, or the site administrator can do this.
- 2. Click on the **Edit** link in the blog posting. Note: There is a link to delete the posting as well.



- 3. Make the changes to the blog. Ahmed added another sentence to his blog post.
- 4. Click on the Save changes button to complete the editing process.



Environment Blog

by Ahmed Ali - Monday, 16 March 2020, 12:38 PM

Anyone on this site

I am concerned about the environment because I want a better world for my children and their children. I use city transit and recycle everything I can. I do not cut my grass to save air pollution from the lawn mower I use a push lawn mower.

The changes have been updated.

Blog Help links

Moodle Documents: Blogs

https://docs.moodle.org/39/en/Blog_menu_block

Moodle Documents: Blogs FAQ

https://docs.moodle.org/39/en/Blogs_FAQ

Page **9** of 9 Created on 6/5/2020 6:25 PM