

| Topic              | Blog                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Wiki                                                                                                                                                                   | Discussion Board                                                       |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Origin             | From Web Log                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | From Hawai'ian wiki wiki which means quick                                                                                                                             | From purpose + bulletin board                                          |
| Focus              | Author centered                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Document centered                                                                                                                                                      | Topic centered                                                         |
| Control            | Administrator (or small group)                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | All (thought this can be modified)                                                                                                                                     | Administrator + Group                                                  |
| Comments           | Encouraged but not focus                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | No real comments (all editable)                                                                                                                                        | Comment driven                                                         |
| Purpose            | Share a log of events and personal insights                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Creation of documents, projects, resources                                                                                                                             | Provide support, discuss topics                                        |
| Organization       | Content displayed with most recent posting first                                                                                                                                                                                                  | As participants decide, can have multiple pages or one                                                                                                                 | Threads                                                                |
| Voice              | Conversational                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Passive and Active                                                                                                                                                     | Conversational or more formal                                          |
| Design             | Themes, Personal, primarily text though some are images or audio only                                                                                                                                                                             | Participant decided, continuously changing, primarily text                                                                                                             | Generally static, text-based                                           |
| Content permanence | Static – once posted, considered old and rarely revisited                                                                                                                                                                                         | Continuous change (though all is archived)                                                                                                                             | As long as administrator/ software/ school allows                      |
| Ownership          | Posting owned by poster                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Topics considered public space and owned by all                                                                                                                        | Threads and posts owned by group with equal responsibilities           |
| Features           | Customizable, password protection, guest logs, archiving, private messages, listserv, gadgets, media-rich, links, tags for easy searching, portable, comments (able to be turned-off), subscription available, more direct contact to other blogs | “Emergent voice,” more like a traditional website (with pages), archives, ease of use, top of page remains the same, meant for a specific purpose so less overwhelming | Collaborative, limited media in some boards, ease of following threads |

Source: <http://www.bgsu.edu/downloads/provost/file63395.pdf>

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|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Challenges                                          | Difficult to sustain, one person (or group) centered, Top of page changes, content becomes old                                                                                                                                                                        | Limitations for conversation, Best with a fairly limited number of people, Content not permanent, fewer features, not as portable (still true?), lack of control, external websites do not usually link-to, not always democratic | Lack of customizability, not as much media capability, potential lack of control, some discussion boards do not have search features |
| Possible uses                                       | For individual or small group, getting a specific message out, editorial, personal voice, initiate discussions, reflection, writing with or for an audience, personal expression, moblog, photos, podcasts                                                            | Internal communication, community communication, constructive criticism, website option, projects or programs, informational, address book, documentation, specific purpose                                                       | Socratic method, opinions, response-driven, familiar, topic-driven                                                                   |
| Privacy/ Security                                   | Choice, but not guaranteed private or secure                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Choice, but not guaranteed private or secure                                                                                                                                                                                      | Private to class/instructor                                                                                                          |
| Scenarios/ Reasons to use for teaching and learning | Chronological; comments (from peers on each others' or students to instructor post); student blogs (as class, groups, or individual); faculty blogs (as assignment/content source or as discussion leader); security/privacy issues (on web); can embed in Blackboard | Student(s), instructor, groups, or whole class; good for building from scratch; Group work plus repository of resources; specific projects; can embed in Blackboard                                                               | Topic-based discussions; since "locked-in" Blackboard, more secure (but more steps to get there)                                     |

Gathered by Michelle Rodems

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