

NEWS

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C O L U M B I A
C N M T L
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EdBlogs and Wikischolars Launches at Columbia University

New York –September 22, 2009. The Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning added EdBlogs and Wikischolars to the suite of course management and collaboration tools available to Columbia instructors this fall semester.

EdBlogs, Columbia University's new educational blogging tool, provides a blog for every course at the University. Blogs make it easy to share course content and create an online community for students and instructors. They also can support a range of teaching objectives, from student journaling to reflective writing assignments. EdBlogs is powered by Wordpress, a popular blogging platform known for its flexibility and versatility. Every blog consists of simple templates and online editing tools to add text and media, enabling students to create, update, and revise entries.

In partnership with the Center for Digital Research and Scholarship at Columbia, CCNMTL also released Wikischolars, a complement to Columbia Wikispaces offering faculty publicly accessible course wikis. This new platform offers similar features as Columbia Wikispaces; faculty and students can add content and edit web pages dedicated to a specific course. Unlike Wikispaces, however, the new Wikischolars, enables non-Columbia affiliates to join the course wiki, making the platform ideal for courses that require collaboration from users outside of the University. Wikischolars is also open to Columbia's research community to conduct scholarly collaborations.

CCNMTL demonstrated EdBlogs and Wikischolars to more than 80 faculty members at its recent Fall Premiere 2009 event and will be holding workshops on these tools. To learn more, visit <http://edblogs.columbia.edu> and <http://wikischolars.columbia.edu>.

About the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning (CCNMTL)

The Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning was founded at Columbia University in 1999 to enhance teaching and learning through the purposeful use of new media. In partnership with faculty, the Center supports efforts ranging from basic course website management to advanced project development. CCNMTL also extends the scope and reach of its work with strategic initiatives that engage educators, researchers, librarians, partner institutions, and the community in the reinvention of education for the digital age. For more information, please visit <http://ccnmtl.columbia.edu>.

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