

Exploring Blogs

For Sharing and Documenting New Curriculum Ideas

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Blog

- **Web log**
 - **Online journal**
 - **Personal reports and commentaries**
 - **Chronologically dated entries**
 - **Most recent first**
 - **Archives of past entries**
 - **Links to photos and other Web pages**
 - **Easy to use Web service for:**
 - **Creating a Web page**

Blogger

- **Person who maintains a Blog**

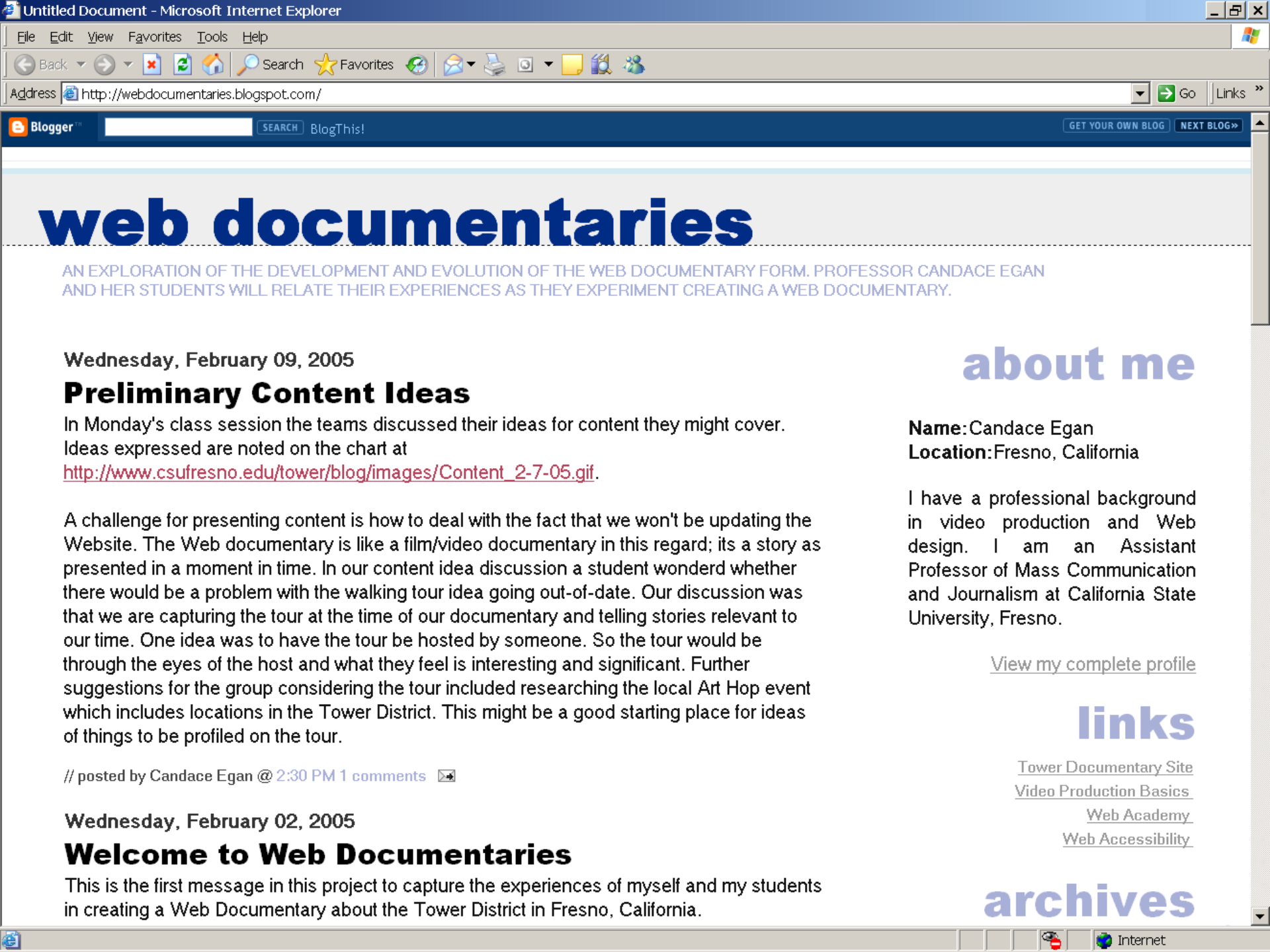
Blogging

- **Act of updating a Blog**

Using Blogging in Education

Web Documentaries Blog

<http://webdocumentaries.blogspot.com/>



web documentaries

AN EXPLORATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND EVOLUTION OF THE WEB DOCUMENTARY FORM. PROFESSOR CANDACE EGAN AND HER STUDENTS WILL RELATE THEIR EXPERIENCES AS THEY EXPERIMENT CREATING A WEB DOCUMENTARY.

Wednesday, February 09, 2005

Preliminary Content Ideas

In Monday's class session the teams discussed their ideas for content they might cover. Ideas expressed are noted on the chart at http://www.csufresno.edu/tower/blog/images/Content_2-7-05.gif.

A challenge for presenting content is how to deal with the fact that we won't be updating the Website. The Web documentary is like a film/video documentary in this regard; its a story as presented in a moment in time. In our content idea discussion a student wondered whether there would be a problem with the walking tour idea going out-of-date. Our discussion was that we are capturing the tour at the time of our documentary and telling stories relevant to our time. One idea was to have the tour be hosted by someone. So the tour would be through the eyes of the host and what they feel is interesting and significant. Further suggestions for the group considering the tour included researching the local Art Hop event which includes locations in the Tower District. This might be a good starting place for ideas of things to be profiled on the tour.

// posted by Candace Egan @ 2:30 PM 1 comments

Wednesday, February 02, 2005

Welcome to Web Documentaries

This is the first message in this project to capture the experiences of myself and my students in creating a Web Documentary about the Tower District in Fresno, California.

about me

Name: Candace Egan
Location: Fresno, California

I have a professional background in video production and Web design. I am an Assistant Professor of Mass Communication and Journalism at California State University, Fresno.

[View my complete profile](#)

links

- [Tower Documentary Site](#)
- [Video Production Basics](#)
- [Web Academy](#)
- [Web Accessibility](#)

archives

Purpose 1

- **Sharing and documenting the development and evolution of the Web Documentary form.**
 - **Sharing experience as it happens**
 - **Colleagues and students**
 - **Journal of activities**
 - **Record for later study**
 - **Reference for future papers and presentations**

Purpose 2

- **Explore use of Blogs**
 - **Gain experience**
 - **Technical: Using blog service**
 - **Content: Creating entries**

What learned so far

- **Easy to use for text**
- **Fast**
- **Templates can be customized if have html experience**
- **Posting photos and other files requires a separate Web account to link to**
- **Posting regularly is challenging**
- **Confusion over adding other posters**
- **Publicity needed to get viewers**

Ideas for the future

- **Student participation**
 - Extra credit or assignment
- **Student individual assignment**
 - Method for online journal writing
- **Collaborative scholarly/creative projects**
 - Public group reporting and discussion

Creating a Blog

1) Set up a free Blog Web site



The screenshot shows the Blogger homepage with a dark blue header. On the left is the Blogger logo (an orange 'b' in a square) and the word 'Blogger' in white. On the right is a sign-in box with fields for 'Username:' and 'Password: (?)', a 'SIGN IN' button, and a 'Remember me' checkbox. Below the header is a main content area with a light beige background. It features a 'What's a blog?' section with a 'TAKE A QUICK TOUR' button and four icons: 'Publish thoughts' (notepad), 'Get feedback' (speech bubbles), 'Find people' (group of people), and 'And more...' (satellite). To the right is a 'Create a blog in 3 easy steps:' section with a numbered list: '1 Create an account', '2 Name your blog', and '3 Choose a template'. Below the list is a large orange arrow button labeled 'CREATE YOUR BLOG NOW'. At the bottom, there are two sections: 'RECENT NEWS' with a link to 'The Official Blogger Blog!' and 'BLOGGING YOUR PHOTOS' with a link to 'Share photos from Picasa to your blog in just one click. Download Picasa 2 for free.' The footer contains navigation links: 'Home | About | Knowledge | Help | Developers | Gear | Privacy' and copyright information: 'Copyright © 1999 - 2005 Google'.

Creating a Blog

2) Create a post

3) Publish the post

The screenshot shows the Blogger 'Web Documentaries' post creation interface. At the top, there are navigation links: '← Back to Dashboard', '? Help', and 'x Sign Out'. Below this are tabs for 'Posting', 'Settings', 'Template', and 'View Blog'. Under the 'Posting' tab, there are sub-tabs for 'Create', 'Edit posts', and 'Status'. The 'Title' field contains 'Work Teams and Promoting the Web'. There are 'Edit HTML' and 'Compose' buttons. A rich text editor toolbar is visible with options for font, size, bold, italic, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink, and insert image. The main content area shows the following text:

Work Teams
Students in the MCJ 131 class have been divided up among several work teams. These include:

- Four content teams - each working on a section of the site.
- Template team - creating the design, navigation and page templates

In addition, students also are on one other team, either the usability team or the promotions team

At the bottom of the editor, there is a note: 'For keyboard shortcuts, press Ctrl with: B = Bold, I = Italic, S = Publish, D = Draft [more »](#)'.

Below the editor, there are two sections: 'Allow New Comments on This Post' with radio buttons for 'Yes' (selected) and 'No', and 'Change Time & Date' with dropdown menus for time (10), minutes (45), AM/PM (AM), month (Mar), day (17), and year (2005).

At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Save as Draft' (dark blue) and 'Publish Post' (orange).