

Web Site Project
EDM 310 Fall 08

The Web Site Project has been changed and is now a Blog Assignment with specific parameters.

The blog is to be created in such a way that it will provide a PROFESSIONAL description of you as a teacher and at least 5 tools, attitudes approaches that you will bring to your classroom.

You can find a model at <http://jstrangeteachingtools.blogspot.com>

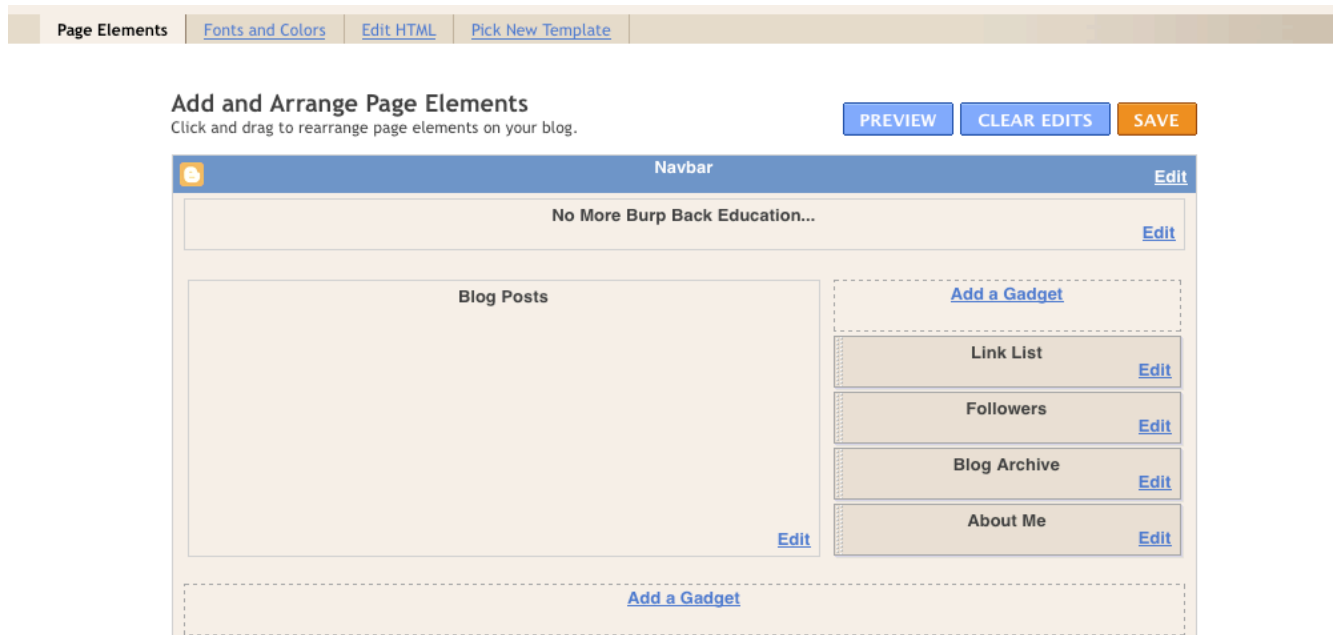
You must PLAN your blog BEFORE attempting to create it. The outline should start with the information about you:

1. A bit about me as a teacher and my primary teaching tools. This is to be followed by a list of tools/ attitudes/approaches that you bring to teaching. You will create your OWN list but I have given you examples in 2-5 from MY list. You must include at least ONE technology item in your list.
2. Blogs
3. Podcasts
4. Google Tools
5. Let's Find Out
6. No "Burpback" Education!
7. Reader/Writers or Listener/Watchers?

Once you have your outline you need to prepare the text that will accompany each of the parts of your plan. Also think about an image (picture) that you could use to enhance your comments.

Now we can discuss the creation of the blog.

1. Go to your Dashboard and create a new blog. The name of this blog should be something like mine: Dr. Strange's Teaching Tools. If you have already created this blog (and maybe even others if you were following my original instructions), you will use the blog you have created (and ultimately remove any blogs you do not need that were created using my early instructions).
2. We will be working in Layout a lot while we design your blog. Click on Layout and you will find several gadgets that are already there. Your Layout may look something like this:



After we have set up your blog your Layout should look like this:



Notice the differences (ignore the fact that the elements are on different sides. that is the result of the choice of the template).

1. The gadgets on the side are two in number. One will have your name on it. The other will be a Link List.
2. The gadget at the top is the same. It contains the Title of your Blog.
3. Immediately above the Blog Posts Gadget is a gadget that was not there originally. It is a Text gadget.

Follow these steps to make your Layout the same as the one above.

1. Add New Gadget using the small elements on the side.
 - a. Do NOT give a Title to this gadget. In the text box put "A bit about me..." This is where you will later (after your blog is created and designed) put the important information that you write about yourself identified in Step 1 of your outline.
 - b. Save Later you will come back and edit the material in this text gadget.
 - c. Drag this Gadget directly above the Blog Posts Gadget so that it fits there exactly. See my example. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!
2. Add another Gadget on the side, This should be a Picture Gadget. Put your name in the Title of this Gadget, correctly capitalized and spaced.

Then add a PROFESSIONAL picture of yourself. Remember, this blog is to help you present yourself as a teacher. If you do not have a professional picture of yourself readily available, you can add the picture I took of you and replace it later if you wish. But you must add some picture now. Click on From your computer OR From the web depending on the source you are using. IF YOU USE MY PICTURE (either temporarily or permanently), the web address is as follows: <http://www.johnstrange.com/edm310fall08/YourLastNameFollowedByYourFirstInitial.jpg> If this does not work you may be using your middle initial or I may have spelled your name incorrectly. Google does not like for you to pause while you are typing the URL so be prepared to type continuously. If Google interrupts you and tries to find the picture before you have finished typing the link, just wait for Google to finish, use the arrow keys on the keyboard to move right and continue typing.

Configure Image ? Help

Title

Caption

Link
URL that clicking this image will link to (optional)

Image From your computer:

From the web

Shrink to fit
Image will be shrunk to 187 pixels wide.






We will add the Link List Gadget after we have created the Posts to your blog.

Adding Posts. The remaining elements of your outline will be added as Posts. For example, I have Blogs as my next item in my outline. If ORDER is important to you, start from the BOTTOM of your list. You do not need to worry about ORDER, however, since the Link List that we will create later, will provide links to your POSTS and it is easy to order your Link List. So I did not worry about order when I made my posts. Create a Post in the normal way and make the title appropriate for this part of your outline. Here is my Blog Post:

Posting Settings Layout View Blog

[Create](#) [Edit Posts](#) [Moderate Comments](#)

Title:

b *i*     

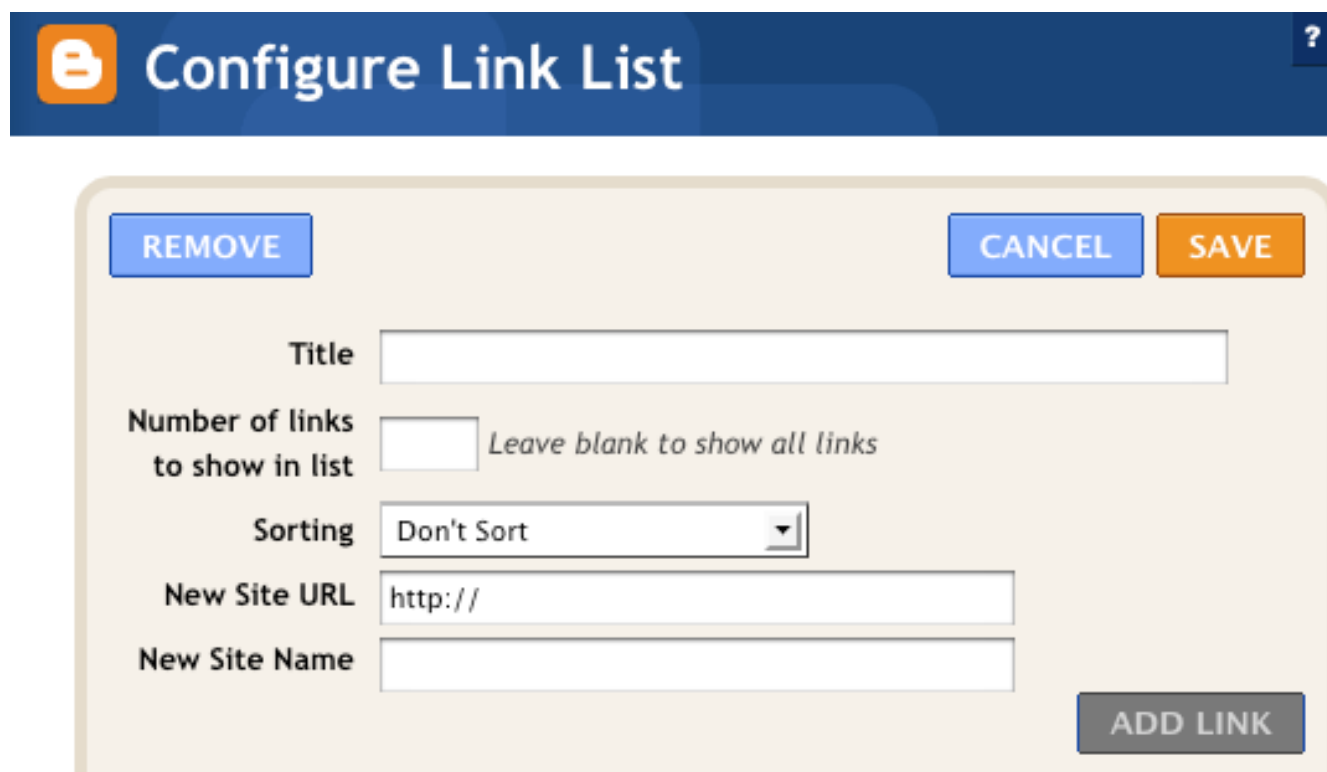
I believe blogs are a very important teaching tool. They have many uses including: providing a space for: links to students' work, links to important blogs, web sites, audio and video materials, or documents (including those in .pdf format); a summary of class assignments; support materials for students; presentations done in Google Presentation or other presentation software (including PowerPoint).

Student blogs provide space for students to write reports that are public, post pictures or presentations that are useful in the class, and create links to materials that they are worth sharing.

If you do not have your text ready, you can just put in your **TITLE** and a few words in the text box. Then you can edit this post later. But you **MUST** have your **TITLE** before you can continue preparing your blog.

Once you have your posts complete for all 5 tools/attributes you are including, we will create the Link List.

1. Go back to your Layout.
2. Add a Gadget from the side.
3. Make it a Link List
4. We will ultimately add links to all 6 elements of your blog: the entire blog and the 5 posts. For each link you will need a URL. To get the first link, View your Blog (the one you are working on, NOT your class blog). Copy the URL. Go back to the Link List. **DO NOT** fill in Title. Add the URL you have in memory. For this first element, give it this new site Name: Home (Entire Blog)



The image shows a blue header bar with the Blogger logo and the text "Configure Link List" in white. Below the header is a light beige configuration panel. At the top of the panel are three buttons: "REMOVE" (blue), "CANCEL" (blue), and "SAVE" (orange). The configuration options are as follows:

- Title:** A text input field.
- Number of links to show in list:** A text input field with the placeholder text "Leave blank to show all links".
- Sorting:** A dropdown menu currently set to "Don't Sort".
- New Site URL:** A text input field containing "http://".
- New Site Name:** A text input field.

At the bottom right of the configuration panel is a grey button labeled "ADD LINK".

To get the URLs for the Posts in your blog, view your blog. Then **CLICK** on the Title of a post. A new URL will appear in the address area. Copy this URL to use in the Link List. You use this URL and add a New Site Name describing the section of your blog that you are working with.

Here is how my Link List looks after I have added links to my Posts on the Link List:



Configure Link List

?

REMOVE **CANCEL** **SAVE**

Title

Number of links to show in list *Leave blank to show all links*

Sorting

New Site URL

New Site Name

ADD LINK

Edit Delete ↓	Home (Entire Blog)
Edit Delete ↑ ↓	Blogs
Edit Delete ↑ ↓	Let's Find Out!
Edit Delete ↑ ↓	No Burpback Education!
Edit Delete ↑ ↓	Podcasts
Edit Delete ↑	Reader/Writers or Listener/Watchers?

REMOVE **CANCEL** **SAVE**

Once you have completed your Link List, you need to put the links in some sort of order. HOME MUST BE ON TOP. I have arranged the others alphabetically. To move a Link, click on the up or down arrow just to right of the word Delete. One click moves the link one row. You must follow it as it moves if you want to move it more than one space. In other words, look and see what happens before you keep clicking!

Next, you will delete gadgets you do not need. To do that, Edit the Gadget and click one of the Remove buttons on the left.

Next, change the order of gadgets if you need to. Your picture should be ABOVE the Link List on the side. If it is not, just drag it up.

Next you will want to remove extra blogs if you have them. For example, I no longer need the BLOG No More Burp Back Education since that material is now a post in my Teaching Tools Blog. To remove a blog, click on Settings. The Basic tab is selected automatically. Scroll all the way to the bottom. Click Delete This Blog. You will be asked to CONFIRM this action. Click OK and that Blog is deleted. BE CAREFUL. One student in the Wednesday night class deleted her new Blog after she had finished it. But it is always easier to do it a second time than it is the first time!

Delete Your Blog

Delete Your Blog?

This will permanently delete your blog including all your posts. You can create another blog at this address using the Google Account you're currently logged in with, however, we can't restore your posts once you choose to delete your blog.

DELETE THIS BLOG