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Working with WordPress

What is a Blog?

A **blog** or "**weblog**" is a type of website, usually maintained by an individual with regular entries of commentary, descriptions of events, or other material such as graphics or video. Entries are commonly displayed in **reverse-chronological order**. "Blog" can also be used as a verb, meaning to maintain or add content to a blog. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, Web pages, and other media related to its topic. The ability for readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blog

How to Log in:

Begin by navigating to the Log-In site: be http://lonestar.edu/blogs/username/wp-login.php (Where username is their particular username)

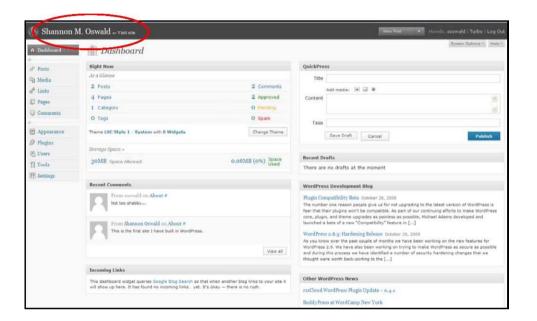
- a. For example http://lonestar.edu/blogs/soswald/wp-login.php
- b. Bookmark your site!
 - 2. The log-in button is at the bottom of the page under the "Meta" section. Users will use their network ID and password to login.
 - a. This will bring you to your Dashboard.





The Dashboard:

The dashboard is the launching point for your site. From here users will be able to view, edit, and update posts, pages, media, links,

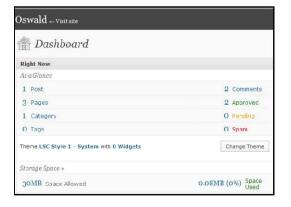


Right Now Area:

The Dashboard shows users an overview of the site. Users can access posts, pages, categories, tags, and themes.

Storage Space, if a user needs more storage, please let the web team know, however **30MB** should be sufficient for the majority of users.

Posts – Posts are the entries that display in reverse chronological order on your home page. In contrast to pages, posts usually have comments fields beneath them.



*It is also the front page of the Faculty blog home page.

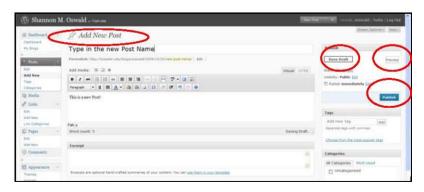
To write/add a post:

- 1. Log in to your WordPress Administration Panel (Dashboard).
- 2. Click the Posts tab on the left-hand menu.
- 3. Click the "Add New" link.
- 4. Start filling in the blanks.
- 5. As needed, select a category, add tags, and make other selections from the sections below the post, such as turning OFF or ON "Allow comments on this post" (Check box on bottom of the Edit Posts screen.)
- 6. When you are ready, click "Publish". (top, right box)
- 7. View Post by clicking on the "View Post" link at the top left-hand side of your screen.
- a. You can ALWAYS view your site updates by clicking on your NAME in the top, left-hand side of the screen – But then must click on SITE ADMIN on front page to get back to the Dashboard.
- **b. IMPORTANT:** To return to your Dashboard from here and at other times, click on "My Blogs" on the top, left-hand side of the Dashboard menu. Then Click on "Dashboard"



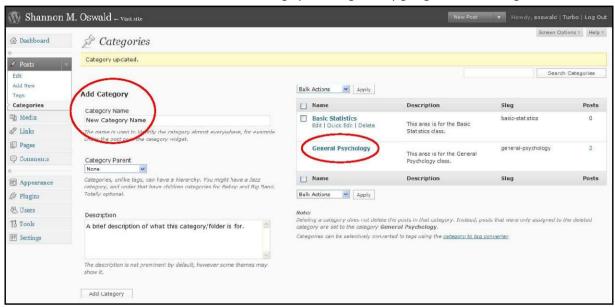






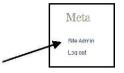
Categories – The general topic the post can be classified in. Generally, bloggers have 7-10 categories for their content. Readers can browse specific categories to see all posts in the category.

- 1. Click on Category in the "Right Now" area
- 2. Add a Category name or edit the existing Categories on the top areas of your screen (left & right)
- 3. Click the Add Category button in the bottom right-hand side of your screen.
 - 2. * You can manage your categories by going to Posts > Categories



Adding Pages – New pages/tabs – Pages/Tabs appear on site in alphabetical order.

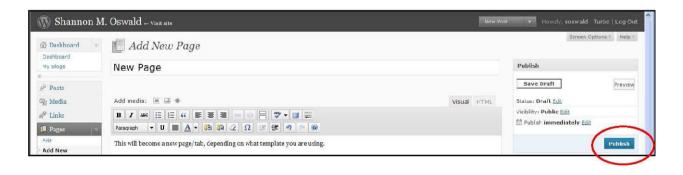
- 1 Click on Pages in the "Right Now" area
- 2 Click the Pages tab on the left-hand menu.
- 3 Click the Add New link.
- 4 Start filling in the blanks.
- 5 When you are ready, click **Publish**. (top, right box)
- 6 View Post by clicking on the <u>View Page</u> link at the top of your
- 7 Click on **Site Admin** under the *Meta* area to return to your



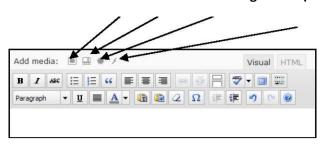
screen.

Dashboard.





Adding Media (Pictures, Videos, Documents, Flash)



- 7. Choose your preferred alignment of the picture
- 8. Click "Insert into Post"
- 9. Click on "Publish"
- 10. Click on your name to view the site.

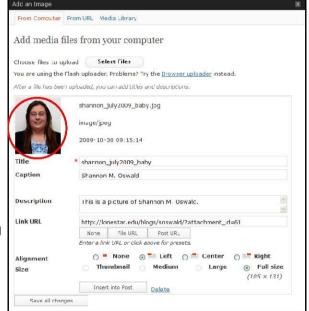
Pictures: (Videos/Pictures should be no more than 5 Mb)

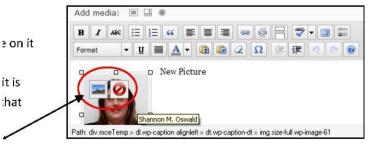
- 1. Click in the text editor where your want to insert your picture.
- 2. Click on the first icon for your picture above the text editor
- 3. Browse for a picture *on your computer* or already in your Media Library
- * Click on "Select Files" and choose to "open" your picture file.
- 4. Fill in the Caption (Optional)
- 5. Fill in the Description for compliance issues
- 6. Insert a FULL url to link the picture to another site/page



How to Edit a Photo:

- 1. Go to the Dashboard
- 2. Click on "Pages"
- 3. Select/Hover the page that has the picture on it
- 4. Click "Edit"
- 5. Click on your picture in the Text Editor so it is selected and there will be two new icons that hover over the picture.
- 6. Click on the 1 icon (looks like a mountain)
- 7. New Options will appear: Edit Image
- a. Resize
- b. Alignment
- c. Image Title





- d. Caption
- e. Link URL
- f. Scroll Down and click "Update"
- 8. Advanced Settings:
- a. Alternate Text
- b. Size: Width/Height
- i. Max Width should be 500 pixels or less
- ii. Max Height should be around the same 500 or less

a. You can ALWAYS view your site updates by clicking on your NAME in the top, left-hand side of the screen – But then must click on Dashboard.

SITE ADMIN on front page to get back to the

b. IMPORTANT: To return to your Dashboard times, click on "My Blogs" on the top, left-hand menu. Then Click on "Dashboard"

- Click in the text editor where your 1
- 2 Click on the second icon for Video
- 3 Browse for a video on your computer Library
 - * Click on "Select Files" and choose to



from here and at other side of the Dashboard

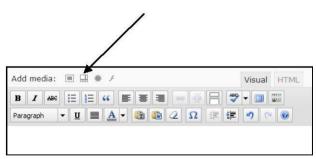
want to insert your video. above the text editor or already in your Media

"open" your video file.

- 11. Fill in the Caption (Optional)
- 12. Fill in the Description for compliance issues



Videos: (.mov, .wmv, avi)



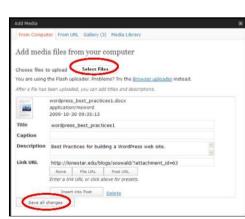
- 13. Insert a FULL URL to link the picture to another site/page: (http://www.)
- 14. Choose your preferred alignment of the video
- 15. Click "Insert into Post"
- 16. Click on "Publish"
- 17. Click on your name to view the site

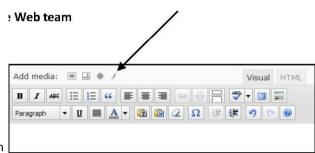
**Compatible File Types: .avi, .mov, .wmv More formats can be enabled if needed – Contact the Web team Flash Files: (.swf)

- 1. Click in the text editor where your want to insert your Flash video.
- 2. Click on the last icon for Flash above the text editor
- 3. Browse for a video on your computer or already in your Media Library
- * Click on "Select Files" and choose to "open" your video file.
- 3. Fill in the Caption (Optional)
- 4. Fill in the Description for compliance issues
- 5. Insert a FULL URL to link the picture to another site/page: (http://www.)
- 6. Choose your preferred alignment of the video
- 7. Click "Insert into Post"
- 8. Click on "Publish"
- 9. Click on your name to view the site

Documents:

- 1 Click in the text editor where your want to insert your document.
- 2 Click on the third icon for Documents above the text editor
- 3 Browse for a Document on your computer or already in your Media Library
- * Click on "Select Files" and choose to "open" your document file.
- 1 Fill in the Caption (Optional)
- 2 Fill in the Description for Compliance issues
- 3 Insert a FULL url to link the picture to another site/page
- 4 Click "Insert into Post"
- 5 Click "Save all Changes"
- 6 Click on "Preview" to view the site





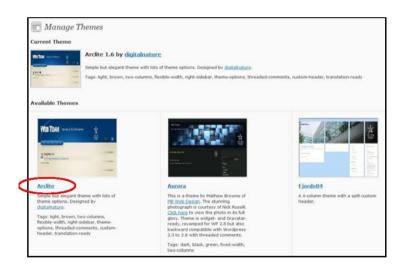
- 10. To password protect your pages in the future, you can follow these instructions:
 - i. From the Edit Page View, click "edit" in the right column next to "Visibility"
 - ii. Select the "Password Protected" Option
 - iii. Click OK

Enter the desired password in the password field Click OK

vi. Click the Update Page button

Themes: Can be chosen/changed

- 1. To chose/change your theme, click on the name of the theme to search through the theme library.
- * You can also click on the drop down on the Appearance area on the left-hand side of your screen and choose "Themes"
- 2. Click on the name of the new theme to Preview it.
- **3.** Click on "Activate" in the top, right-hand side of the screen to accept the changes.



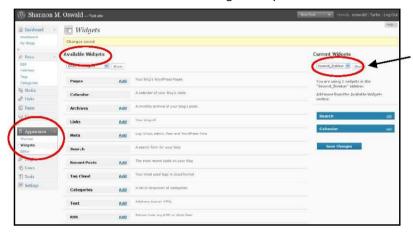
Widgets:

A widget adds some content to that page that is not static. Widgets may be looked upon as downloadable applications which look and act like traditional applications, such as a Search Engine and/or a Calendar.

Widgets are added to your pages on the right-hand side below your contact information.

To Add a Widget:

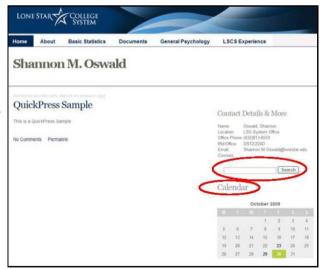
1. Click "Add" next to the Widget that you would like to use.

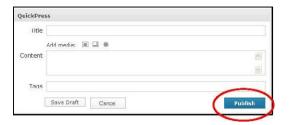


This determines where the widget appears on your site (top, right, and bottom)

- a. This Widget will appear on the right-hand side of your site pages.
- 2. Click "Save Changes" to apply the Widget
- 3. Click Edit next to the Widget name to Edit or Delete the Widget
- a. Widgets will appear in the order that you choose them
- b. Example: Search Engine, Calendar, Archives & Meta
- c. Must add **META** as a widget so you will be able to login or get back to your Dashboard
- ****If you get stuck here due to not adding the META widget to your site, go to

http://lonestar.edu/blogs/wp-login.php and it will bring you back to your Dashboard.





QuickPress:

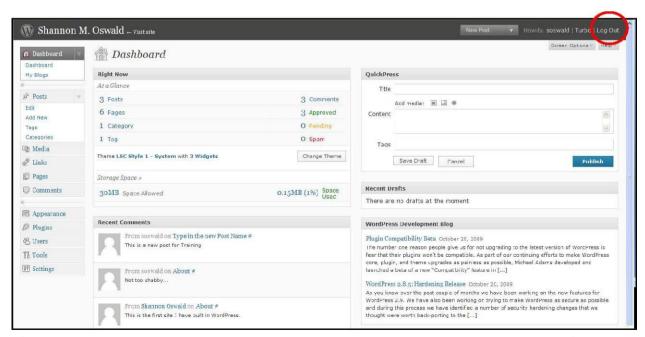
QuickPress is a quick and easy way to type a post for your home page. Add a Title, Media, Content and the click "Publish".



Recent Comments:

All recent comments to your posts will appear in this box on your Dashboard.

How to Log Out:



After you Publish and Save all your changes, Log-Out using the Log-Out link at the top right-hand side of your Dashboard.