Why Use Blogs in Higher Education?

Blogging can:

- increase student accountability for their writing due to the public nature of blogs
- increase digital literacy
- bring the “real world” into the classroom, and take students out into the “real world”
- ask students to critically examine what they read on the web
- encourage linking to other source materials, original texts
- bring timely news and illustrations into the classroom that would be otherwise unavailable
- contribute student work to greater public record
- shift the students’ audience away from just the instructor, and into the public sphere
- encourage engagement- creating connections
- help students to understand the relational and contextual basis of knowledge and meaning making
- encourage development of an original personal voice
- enable conversations inside and outside the classroom
- create a record of learning
- provide space for students to reflect and publish their thoughts and understandings
- create stronger student/teacher and student/student relationships
- encourage ownership of voice and ideas which is unlike traditional discussion forums
- encourage students to think about and establish their own credibility as writers
- integrate learning into students’ everyday lives
- create a sense of responsibility for one’s own learning and voice

Adapted from: