

## Create the Outline for a Class Website for WordPress



### 1 BRAINSTORM THE KINDS OF INFORMATION YOU WOULD NEED ON YOUR WEBPAGE

Examine examples of the type of sites you want to create. What ideas do you get from them?

- <http://theedublogger.com/check-out-these-class-blogs>
- [http://www.cloverpark.k12.wa.us/clover\\_park/pages/buildingcontact.html](http://www.cloverpark.k12.wa.us/clover_park/pages/buildingcontact.html)



### 2. CREATE THE SITE FOR YOUR BLOG

- Log in to our WordPress site.
- Click on “sites” on menu bar.
- Click on *Create a New Site*
- Give it a Name (*Important: There are lots of things you can go back to edit – the Name is not one of them. And the name can become part of the web address -- Pick carefully*).



### PLAN THE LAYOUT OF YOUR BLOG:

#### Examine WordPress themes (i.e. templates)

- Add some content to the default blog & click **update**.
- Explore 4-5 different themes (templates)
  - Go to Themes (under *Appearance in Dashboard*)
  - Preview a few options
  - Click & *Activate one of them*
  - Explore the “customize” feature. What kinds of things does it let you adapt?
- See how each one might impact the layout of your blog
- Choose a theme to work with today (you can always change it later)



#### Plan the purpose & type of content your site will hold:

- Review the decisions you need to make. Visit: <http://www.nvcc.edu/home/ataormina/wdc/readings/storybd.htm>

#### Create a story-board

- What’s the main page?
- What are the main topics that will be on a navigational menu?
- How is a user going to move through the site? How will you make sure you don’t take user to a dead-end? e.g:
  - How will people get to the subtopics?
  - How will people make their way back to homepage, etc.
- [See examples of story boards Bridget & I created to develop our Investigations site.](#)



## LEARN SOME IMPORTANT FEATURES OF A BLOG

### If you are ready to investigate on your own:

Examine the underbelly of the investigations site

Work through tutorial

[http://wikis.evergreen.edu/computing/index.php/WordPress\\_Tutorial](http://wikis.evergreen.edu/computing/index.php/WordPress_Tutorial)



### If you want a guided tour first with Sonja☺

Walk through features of *Investigation* site to examine design features to decide on and then use:

- Pages vs. Posts?
- Category system?
- How to create menus?
- Headers?
- Comments or no comments?
- Gallery?



## Outline your website

1. Create all the main pages/posts you plan to have. Put a title and brief description on each one.
2. For posts – create and attach the appropriate category to each post (think about what posts you want to see pop up together when you click on a category from the menu)
3. Create the menus that will direct the viewer to each of your pages/posts.
4. Organize the menu
  - Are the menu items in the right order?
  - Are the menu items main topics or subtopics?

---

### ***Some considerations when on communicating with families using the web:***

- Assessing Technology's Role in Communication between Parents and Middle Schools (Rogers & Wright, 2008 retrieved from <http://ejite.isu.edu/Volume7/Rogers.pdf>)
- Effective practices in home-school communication -- research summary and annotated bibliography (Evidence Based Services Team of the Hamilton Wentworth School Board, 2010 retrieved from: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/e-best/files/2011/03/Home-School-Communication-BLAM.pdf>)