

Sense of Place Blog
College Composition—Term 2
Dr. Cathie English

In composition studies, much of the research of the 21st Century focuses on multiple modalities. In technology language modality means “a path of communication between the human and the computer, such as vision or touch.” Today we write in many ways beyond paper and pencil. In fact, most students today have used word processing programs since early elementary school. But even word processors seem outdated considering all of the various modalities: social network writing, cell phone texting, tweeting, nings, and wikis. Blogs began a little over a decade ago, and I still find the modality a lot of fun. I like the idea that I can add text and graphics and also respond to the postings. Even though blogs are not the latest modality, we’ll construct them as a means to practice composing in a technological way.

We will create our blogs on Blogger.com because there is a seamless connection between Blogger and Google. We will be utilizing Google Documents throughout the term, so this just makes sense. Mrs. Huebert will join us during class on October 22 to demonstrate some of the basic functions of blogging, i.e., the dashboard, how to post text, how to post photos, how to post sound files, and how to leave a comment. Once everyone has a blog spot, I will ask you to write down the name of the blog and the URL or web address for it. Once I have the web address for everyone, I will create a link to everyone’s blog on my blog, **My Little Corner of the World** at <http://cathieenglish.blogspot.com>. My blog can serve as an example of what you can do with your own blogs. However, here are the requirements for each blog posting this term:

Blog Posting #1 (Who am I?) Due Nov. 8

- Photo of your deep map
- Photo of the artifact you brought to represent a family tradition
- A song from your life soundtrack
- 750 words about who you are

Blog Posting #2 (Where am I?) Due Nov. 29

- 2 photos that represent your home
- 2 photos that represent your school
- 2 photos that represent your community
- 2 photos that represent your state
- 750 words about where you are

Blog Posting #3 (What is my purpose?) Due Dec. 10

- 3 photos that represent your purpose or plans for the future
- 750 words about your purpose

A separate rubric will be provided to you for assessment purposes.