Digital Education blog

The Lincoln Academy of Learning and Teaching (LALT) blog is now available at <http://lalt.blogs.lincoln.ac.uk>. The aim of this blog is to act as a hub for academics from all areas of the University to share best practice in the creative use of digital tools and practices in learning and teaching, primarily with other Lincoln academics but also to wider audiences.

The content of the blog will be written by Lincoln academics for other academics. So, if you are involved in a learning & teaching initiative or project that involves experimental or inventive use of digital platforms or tools then we want to hear from you.

**What the blog will feature**

Contributions can be in either written or video format. If you decide on the latter, guidance on style and format or support in filming can be provided if required.

Written content needs to be accessible and easily digestible, using sub-headings and/or short paragraphs, with pieces ideally around 500-750 (1000 max) words in length. Photos relating to the initiative would also be helpful.

The style should also be less formal than that written for journals or academic papers. Accessible writing will travel further, potentially attracting new audiences to the University and to your work.

Here’s a quick breakdown of how to format your post:

* Begin with a headline sentence or paragraph that succinctly summarises your goals and most significant results.
* Continue with a hook to interest your audience – why is the subject engaging?
* Proceed onto a short overview of the pedagogical challenge faced and the intended benefits for students.
* Ideally, your methodology should be brief. The focus should be on innovative techniques/ approaches or digital practices and on your findings.
* Evidence of your results or findings should be included. However, you should aim to use no more than 1-3 key infographics/tables/photos.
* To finish, summarise your argument again in a new way and include any set-backs or issues with your project with details of how you/or others overcame these (or could overcome them if the project was re-run). This will help other academics wishing to take a similar approach.

**Additional information**

If your post summarises or references an academic article or paper, you can link to this in the body of your post, instead of using footnotes. You may also want to include a short bio about yourself with links to a personal blog, website or social media accounts, if you have them. We will link to your staff profile if no content is provided. You may also want to encourage other academics to contact you for further information, although that is entirely up to you.

If your initiative/project is yet to start or is still in progress, you could write about what you are planning to do or what you have done to date. A follow-up post could then be written updating colleagues on the progress or results of your project/initiative.

Finally, please submit your post as a Word document or provide a link if you have written an existing blog post elsewhere.

**Useful links**

Here are some useful links for further information on academic blogging:

* <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2016/01/25/how-to-write-a-blogpost-from-your-journal-article/>
* <https://blogs.sussex.ac.uk/policy-engagement/resources-for-researchers/how-to-turn-your-research-paper-or-article-into-a-blog/>
* <http://mrpalfrey.blogs.lincoln.ac.uk/category/tips-tricks/>

For further advice, help or support, please contact lalt@lincoln.ac.uk.