



## OPEN SOURCE BLOGGING SOLUTIONS FOR PUBLISHING STUDENT WRITING

BY: CHRISTOPHER CRAFT  
www.christophercraft.com

	Wordpress	Wordpress multi-user	DrupalEd	Moodle
<b>Source</b>	<a href="http://www.wordpress.org">http://www.wordpress.org</a>	<a href="http://mu.wordpress.org/">http://mu.wordpress.org/</a>	<a href="http://drupaled.alphabetademo.org/">http://drupaled.alphabetademo.org/</a>	<a href="http://www.moodle.org">http://www.moodle.org</a>
<b>Installation Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHP version 4.2 or greater</li> <li>• MySQL version 4.0 or greater</li> <li>• Apache mod_rewrite</li> </ul>	A single box running both Apache and MySQL will get you pretty far, probably to about 10-20 thousand blogs.	Web server that supports PHP, at least 8MB Ram (16-24 recommended), newer version of PHP. MySQL database suggested.	Web server that supports PHP, at least 160MB, and 256MB Ram. PHP 5 support soon required. MySQL database suggested.
<b>More info:</b>	<a href="http://wordpress.org/about/requirements/">http://wordpress.org/about/requirements/</a>	<a href="http://mu.wordpress.org/faq/">http://mu.wordpress.org/faq/</a>	<a href="http://drupal.org/requirements">http://drupal.org/requirements</a>	<a href="http://docs.moodle.org/en/Installing_Moodle">http://docs.moodle.org/en/Installing_Moodle</a>
<b>Features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated link management</li> <li>• Search engine-friendly permalink structure</li> <li>• Extensible plugin support</li> <li>• Nested categories and multiple categories for articles</li> <li>• TrackBack and Pingback</li> <li>• Static Pages</li> <li>• Multiple Authors</li> </ul> <p>Features taken from: <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WordPress">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WordPress</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everything WordPress does</li> <li>• Scaling to tens of millions of pageviews per day.</li> <li>• Unlimited users and blogs.</li> <li>• Different permissions on different blogs.</li> <li>• Ambiguity about how to pronounce its name</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a personal &amp; group workspace;</li> <li>• the ability for site members to create informal working groups;</li> <li>• the ability to create formal class spaces;</li> <li>• podcasting;</li> <li>• wiki functionality;</li> <li>• personal and class blogs;</li> <li>• a variety of rss feeds</li> <li>• personal image galleries</li> <li>• the ability to create private, invitation-only groups;</li> <li>• social bookmarking</li> <li>• spam protection;</li> <li>• assignment calendars by course;</li> <li>• site-wide event calendars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forums</li> <li>• Content managing (resources)</li> <li>• Quizzes with different kinds of questions</li> <li>• Blogs</li> <li>• Wikis</li> <li>• Database activities</li> <li>• Surveys</li> <li>• Chat</li> <li>• Glossaries</li> <li>• Peer assessment</li> <li>• Multi-language support (over 60 languages are supported for the interface)</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://en.wikipedia.com/wiki/Moodle">http://en.wikipedia.com/wiki/Moodle</a></p>
<b>Hosted version?</b>	<p><a href="http://www.wordpress.com">www.wordpress.com</a> <a href="http://www.edublogs.org">www.edublogs.org</a></p>	Both <a href="http://wordpress.com">wordpress.com</a> and <a href="http://edublogs.org">edublogs.org</a> are running Wordpress multi-user	Nope.	Via Moodle partners <a href="http://moodle.com/partners/list/">http://moodle.com/partners/list/</a>
<b>Ease of installation</b>	Very easy assuming basic knowledge of web server functions and database.	A bit harder, but still on the easy side if familiar with Wordpress install.	Fairly easy, not quite as easy as Wordpress, but not too hard either.	Slightly more difficult, requiring more technical information and details.
<b>Ease of administration</b>	Easy. Plugin architecture and lots of configurable options are solid.	Easy, but can be tougher than Wordpress. More options to configure.	More complex, based on added features for class setting.	Course creation can be complex, variety of options, learning curve.