Social Media

What is it?

Social media is a blanket term that covers a huge range of communication and interaction on the internet.

Types of Social Media

Social networks - create a personal profile, then connect and interact with people you know or who share your interests e.g. Facebook (social), LinkedIn (professional)

Microblogging – broadcast very short messages including web links or photos, follow people or organisations that interest you and use hashtags to group messages e.g. Twitter, Tumblr

Media sharing - share your photos, podcasts or videos with other users and comment on other user’s uploaded media e.g. YouTube (video), Flickr (photos), PodOmatic (podcasts)

Document and Presentation sharing – share your work, search and access works created by others, co-create and edit online e.g. Slideshare, Google docs

Social bookmarking – collect, tag and share websites and news articles, browse those bookmarked by others e.g. Delicious, Diigo, Digg, Pinterest is similar, in the form of a virtual pinboard.

Wikis - contribute to and edit a shared pool of articles e.g. Wikispaces, Wikipedia

Blogs - share a journal or other regularly updated content (personal or professional) and subscribe to interesting blogs e.g. Blogger, Edublogs

Twitter

To get started with Twitter, go to - https://support.twitter.com/groups/31-twitter-basics/topics/104-welcome-to-twitter-support/articles/100990-how-to-sign-up-on-twitter#
What is a Wiki?

A wiki is a website you can set up and edit yourself. A wiki can be used by one person or a group of people where everyone in the group is made a member of the site. Documents, images and even emails can be uploaded to a wiki web page for collaboration and sharing.

Have a look at the common craft video for a clear explanation of wikis:  
http://www.commoncraft.com/video-wikis-plain-english

How will this help me with my study?

- Upload video demonstrations to share with other learners and your facilitator
- Share information and web links with other learners
- Collaborate on project work in a group
- Post information or opinions for reflection and comments

What resources do I need?

- A computer
- Internet connection along with a compatible internet browser

Where can I find out more?

This resource will take you through the basic steps to set up a Wiki space  
http://www.wikispaces.com/site/tour#introduction

How do I set up an account?

Go to this link http://www.wikispaces.com/ - enter a username, password and email, then click on the Get Started button.

How do I create a Wiki?

Click on Create a New Wiki

Enter a name for your Wiki – decide on the permissions and

then click on Create.
A wiki is a place to gather people and edit pages together. As a member of Wikispaces, you can create as many wikis as you like - just enter your wiki name.

Your wiki name can contain letters, numbers, and hyphens, e.g. bookclub119, architect-forum, or brainstorm. If you’re looking for a place to experiment creating a wiki, we recommend the sandbox wiki.

Make a New Wiki

Once you have created your wiki, click on the **Edit this Page** button to start your wiki. Add new pages by clicking on the **New Page** link on the left-hand side.

You can link to your new page by clicking on the Hyperlink button in the **Edit window** of your home page.

To learn how to use your wiki view this link and even have a practice click [http://sandbox.wikispaces.com](http://sandbox.wikispaces.com)

Basic Wiki Features

- Wiki pages can be open to anyone – to write to, add pages and edit structure.
- The content, or pages, are organised by menu topics.
- Site tools help you track and manage the contributions of many authors.
- Wikis include a discussion forum tool.

Another Wiki Site

[http://www.wetpaint.com](http://www.wetpaint.com)
What is a Blog?

A blog (web-log) is a website where you can post news items or diary entries. You can also add photos and audio. It can be used as a learning journal or diary to reflect on your learning, collaborate with your classmates or document your next holiday! It can also be used as an e-portfolio. Check out this video for a plain English explanation of blogs: http://www.commoncraft.com/blogs

How will this help me with my learning?

- Personalised online communication tool to suit a variety of learning styles
- Potentially inspiring, engaging learning and assessment tool
- Anytime access to and publishing of media, text, video, photos
- Anytime, anywhere access to information, posts and comments
- Create and record learning diary or journal entries for reflection and assessment

What resources do I need?

- Computer with internet access and browser
- An account on a Blog website (see links below)
- Images, media, files (optional)

Where can I find out more?

This resource will take you through the basic steps to get your own blog up and running on blogger. The other blog sites have help information.

How do I set up an account?

Watch this screen recorded demonstration on How to Set Up a Blogger Account by DigitalDigs on YouTube.

- Open your web browser and go to: http://www.blogger.com
- Click on 'Take a quick tour' and read about blogs.
- Time to create your own blog, click 'Create your blog'
Enter your existing email address

Enter your preferred password

Complete the rest of the page and click REGISTER

Select a name for your blog – make it short and relevant to the topic or you

Select a template. Don’t worry too much about which one you use – you can change it later if you want.

Your blog has been created, why not post something, click 'start posting', add a title and something about yourself in the message and hit 'Publish'

Your blog has been published successfully, have a look by clicking 'View blog'.

You now have yourveryown.blogspot.com address to publish to the internet.

Log-out of your blogger Account by choosing 'Sign Out'

Add another post...

Go back to http://blogger.com and log in, using your login name and password. This takes you to the 'dashboard' of your blog. Click '+ New Post'

Go back and see what your yourveryown.blogspot.com web page looks like now

Comment on Blog Posts

There is a comment link at the bottom of each blog post. Go back into your blog and find the Comment link, click on it and enter a comment.

Blog Site Options

http://www.blogger.com

http://www.wordpress.com

http://edublogs.org/
What is Flickr?

Flickr allows you to upload, store and share images on the web. There is a monthly upload limit on free accounts so set your camera to low resolution so the file sizes are smaller or reduce the image size using software, such as Adobe Fireworks or Photoshop Elements.

How will this help me with my learning?

You can use Flickr to:

• Upload photos to use as visual evidence of assessment tasks
• Store photos for yourself
• Share photos with your teacher, class group, family or friends
• Use photos to create a slideshow or digital story for a learning/assessment task, include photos, text and audio to narrate your story

What resources do I need?

• Computer with internet access
• Digital camera or mobile phone with camera (cable to connect to your computer)

Where can I find out more?

Check out this video that explains how to create an account and upload photos in Flickr.

How do I set up an account?

Firstly head to Flickr at: http://www.Flickr.com/ then register a new Yahoo ID if you don’t already have one. Click the CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT button, then click on the SIGN UP button on the following page to create an account.

Create Your profile

Sign in using your new Yahoo ID and click on the YOU drop-down menu and select YOUR PROFILE.

Your account

Also under the YOU drop-down menu you can click on and edit Your Account details. In this section you can set your privacy and permissions (see tab at top) and your default copyright licence. The default copyright licence is "All Rights Reserved". If you are happy for others to make use of your images change
this to ‘Share Alike Creative Commons Attribution’. Make sure you read the details carefully so you understand the licence.

How do I use Flickr?

Uploading images

You can upload images to Flickr using the upload tool embedded in the site - click on Upload Photos & Videos on your homepage. The new uploader function allows you to select multiple images from your computer or mobile phone.

Tagging your images

In order to easily access and share your images it's important to tag them with relevant terms.

Locating usable images

You can find other Flickr images to use in your learning activities or assessments. To find images that are licensed under Creative Commons and OK to use, click on the Advanced Search button after starting a search. You will also find Creative Commons Flickr images on this site: http://flickrcc.bluemountains.net.au

The best way to learn how to use social media is to just jump in and start! Most sites have lots of help and tutorials.