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## Innovating with Blogs in University Courses: a Qualitative Study

### Abstract

This study is based on an eminently socio-constructivist and investigational paradigm. By making pedagogical use of blogs in the classroom, we aimed to determine whether students appreciate the usefulness both of this new social tool and of technology in general applied to education. Based on the use of blogs in several university subjects we designed a study and a total of 136 teacher-training students of the specialization courses of Infant and Primary Education participated in it. The data for the study were collected using a triangulation of techniques: face-to-face discussion sessions, email messages and blog messages. The conclusions reveal that blogs are easy to use, they are an important resource in educational settings, they encourage students to take on an active role, and they are a useful instrument for self-evaluation.

**Key words:** *e-learning, blog, computer-mediated communication, constructivist learning, online classroom.*

### Introduction

Blog as a technological resource is normally used by a community of users who have an interest in certain common subjects. The individual in charge of the functioning of the blog, generally known as the *blogger*, poses questions and personal reflections which may cover any area of knowledge. In this respect, the blog is a digital resource in a new medium of social communication which is growing more and more rapidly each day. The Blogosphere, a term coined because of its