

Posting to Movable Type Weblogs

Any time you need to post an entry (as opposed to a comment) to an MT weblog, whether your own or a course blog, you need to go to the MT interface, which is located at:

<http://writing.syr.edu/move/mt.cgi>

(It will probably be worth your time to bookmark this page.)

To log in to Movable Type, you'll need your username and a password. Once you've logged in, you'll arrive at a page which shows you the weblogs you have access to. (If you have the interface "remember me," you'll be able to skip the login.) To post to a weblog, access the "Create Entry" link that corresponds to the blog you want to post to.

To post an entry, you'll type in a title, select a category (this is optional), place some text in the "Entry Body" window, and then hit "Save" at the bottom of the page. You can preview your entry as well, but if you do so, don't forget to complete your post by saving it. The MT interface treats carriage returns like line breaks (just like a word processor)—in other words, separate paragraphs with line breaks, and they'll show up that way on the web. If you want to format your entry in any more detail, however, you'll need to know a little bit of HTML:

HTML is a text markup language—it functions as invisible "stage directions" for the browser reading your text. Typically, there are two codes necessary to create an effect, one that "turns it on" and another that "turns it off." For example, to make a word bold, you would add `` before the word and `` after it, like so:

This is how I would type this sentence to make the final word `bold`.

Some additional codes:

Italics -- `<i> ... </i>`

(I use `<cite> ... </cite>` whenever I'm citing a title, and this also italicizes)

Strikethrough -- `<strike> ... </strike>`

Blockquote – to set off a paragraph, surround the entire passage with `<blockquote> ... </blockquote>`

To link to another webpage is a little more complicated. The basic code is `<a> ... `, surrounding the word or phrase that you want as the text of your link. But you also need to include the web address you're linking to, so it looks like this:

```
<a href="http://ccr.syr.edu/">The CCR Homepage</a>
```

Linking to an image is also a little different, since the image is always "on." The browser will access the image from a separate file, so it needs that address as well. For example, `` is the code used to make the Syracuse seal appear on the front of the CCR homepage.

There are other possibilities with HTML, but this gives you a start. NCSA maintains a good introductory page at <http://archive.ncsa.uiuc.edu/General/Internet/WWW/HTMLPrimer.html> and there are several people in the department who can offer tips and advice.