

BADGER WEATHER BLOG

(badgerwxblog.blogspot.com)

Guidelines and Expectations

DESCRIPTION:

Six times during the semester, you and your weather discussion partner will be responsible for posting a forecast for Madison on the “Badger Weather Blog”. These forecasts will be made in conjunction with your in-class map discussions and each forecast will contain the following components:

- 1) Public Weather Briefing:** This is a short description of the weather conditions that are expected throughout the forecast period. It should be written at a level that someone in the general public should be able to understand.
- 2) Forecast:** This is where you describe the weather expected in the area. Imagine this as something you see while visiting the NWS website or weather.com. You will create a forecast for “Tonight”, “Tomorrow”, “Tomorrow night”, “2 days from now”, “3 days from now”, and the “outlook for days 4-7”.
- 3) Forecast Discussion:** The final section is a technical discussion of the pertinent dynamical mechanisms driving the weather across southern Wisconsin. This part should be modeled after an area forecast discussion issued by a NWS office.

LOGISTICS:

You will be responsible for posting a forecast to the blog **on the day prior** and **day of** your map discussion. For example, if you give the map discussion on a Tuesday, you will post a forecast on both Monday and Tuesday. **All forecasts must be published to blog by 10pm.** Please do not re-edit the post after 10pm. In the event of a rapidly evolving, high-impact weather event, you may post an additional post with the title: UPDATE: <prior forecast title>. Each member of the class has been added as an author to the blog and can create a post in the following manner:

- 1) Go to blogger.com and enter your wisemail address to log-in (you will be redirected to a UW webpage where you will enter your netID and password).
- 2) Click on “Badger Weather Blog” to access the blog’s overview page.
- 3) On the left hand side of the screen click “New post” (orange box).
- 4) A blank template will appear. Add your text to the template and add a descriptive title to your post in the top toolbar. This title is the main headline that will describe your forecast.
- 5) Add both your partner’s and your own name at the bottom of the forecast.
- 6) Once you are finished, click publish (orange box) on the top toolbar.

Following the conclusion of your forecast responsibilities, you will have one week to write a **short reflection** evaluating the success of your forecast. For example, what went well? What didn’t and why? What might you do differently the next time? This reflection should be posted as a comment on your second forecast.

COMMENTS:

This blog is meant to serve as a place for the class to have a professional dialogue about upcoming weather throughout the course of the semester. Consequently, each member of the class is expected to engage with the blog by regularly posting comments, questions, and thoughts on forecasts posted by your classmates. Those responsible for authoring the forecast are expected to respond (as appropriate) to these comments and questions. **Please be aware that comments and posts cannot be anonymous and will be moderated at all times. Any disrespectful and inappropriate comments will not be tolerated.**

ASSESSMENT:

Your blog posts will be assessed in accordance with the guidelines below:

- Forecasts include a discussion of the pertinent atmospheric features that are affecting Madison throughout the duration of the forecast period.
- Your reflection is a thoughtful analysis evaluating the success of your forecast and offers tangible examples for future improvement.
- All posts should be polished, concise, well-written, and free of any grammatical and spelling errors.