

Introduction to Wordpress: Building a class online

The screenshot shows the WordPress.org homepage in a Mozilla Firefox browser window. The browser's address bar displays 'wordpress.org'. The page features the WordPress logo and the text 'WORDPRESS.ORG'. Navigation links include 'Showcase', 'Themes', 'Plugins', 'Mobile', 'Support', 'Get Involved', 'About', 'Blog', 'Hosting', and a 'Download' button. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a 'Media Library' section with a list of media items: 'Willie the Puppy' (JPG) and 'Cooking Dinner at the Cabin' (AVI). The right column contains a text block stating 'WordPress is web software you can use to create a beautiful website or blog. We like to say that WordPress is both free and priceless at the same time.' Below this, there is a 'Download WordPress 3.4.2' button. The footer section includes 'WordPress Swag', 'News From Our Blog' (featuring 'WordPress 3.5 Beta 2'), 'It's Easy As...' (a three-step guide to getting started), and 'WordPress Users' (listing 'WIRED', 'MARTHA STEWART', and 'eBay'). The bottom of the page has a footer with links for 'Privacy', 'License / GPLv2', 'Hosted WordPress.com', 'WordPress.TV Videos', 'WordCamp Events', 'BuddyPress Social Layer', 'bbPress Forums', 'WP Jobs', and 'Matt', along with a 'Follow @WordPress' button and the text 'CODE IS POETRY'. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the 'start' button and several open applications: 'Inbox - Mozilla Thund...', 'WordPress > Blog Too...', and 'Microsoft PowerPoint...'.

WordPress > Blog Tool, Publishing Platform, and CMS - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

WordPress > Blog Tool, Publishing Platform... x Dashboard < — WordPress x how do i take a screen shot? | Firefox Su... x +

wordpress.org

Most Visited Getting Started Latest Headlines Customize Links

Search WordPress.org Go

WordPress.ORG

Showcase Themes Plugins Mobile Support Get Involved About Blog Hosting Download

Media Library Add New

All (39) | Images (36) | Audio (2) | Video (1) | Unattached (24)

Bulk Actions Apply Show all dates Filter

File

Willie the Puppy
JPG
Edit Delete Permanently View

Cooking Dinner at the Cabin
AVI

WordPress is web software you can use to create a beautiful website or blog. We like to say that WordPress is both free and priceless at the same time.

The core software is built by hundreds of community volunteers, and when you're ready for more there are thousands of [plugins](#) and [themes](#) available to transform your site into almost [anything you can imagine](#). Over 60 million people have chosen WordPress to power the place on the web they call "home" — we'd love you to join the family.

Ready to get started? [Download WordPress 3.4.2](#)

WordPress Swag

News From Our Blog

WordPress 3.5 Beta 2

Two weeks after the first beta, WordPress 3.5 Beta 2 is now available for download and testing. This is software still in development, so we don't recommend that you run it on a production site. Set up a test site to play with the new version. To test WordPress 3.5, try the WordPress Beta Tester plugin (you'll want "bleeding...").

It's Easy As...

- 1 Find a [Web Host](#) and get great hosting while supporting WordPress at the same time.
- 2 Download & Install WordPress with our famous 5-minute installation. Feel like a rock star.
- 3 Read the [Documentation](#) and become a WordPress expert yourself, impress your friends.

WordPress Users

WIRED

MARTHA STEWART

eBay

... and hundreds more

Privacy | License / GPLv2 | See also: [Hosted WordPress.com](#) | [WordPress.TV Videos](#) | [WordCamp Events](#) | [BuddyPress Social Layer](#) | [bbPress Forums](#) | [WP Jobs](#) | [Matt](#)

Like 446k Follow @WordPress

CODE IS POETRY

start Inbox - Mozilla Thund... WordPress > Blog Too... Microsoft PowerPoint...

11:12 AM

What is Wordpress?

- Online blogging system that has been extended to general content management
- Open source software
- Requires you to have a web server: we can employ university web servers
- Simple interface, easy to use
- Well-supported and widely employed

What can you do with Wordpress?

- Posting news items or blog posting
- Conduct discussions via comment system or a range of available forum plug-ins
- Configurable users with a range of access options allow you to open parts or all of the site to students or colleagues for editing
- Content management allows you to upload files and media and make them available to registered users or the entire Internet
- Themes permit easy modification of the visual design
- Easy to post and maintain the site over time

Why Wordpress over Blackboard?

- Gives you more options
- Designing from the ground up means not having to disable or modify Blackboard templates
- Psychological distinctiveness: not the same as all the other course sites in Blackboard
- Content and site can be opened to the public, isn't tied to semester system
- Multisite allows you to network individual Wordpress sites together

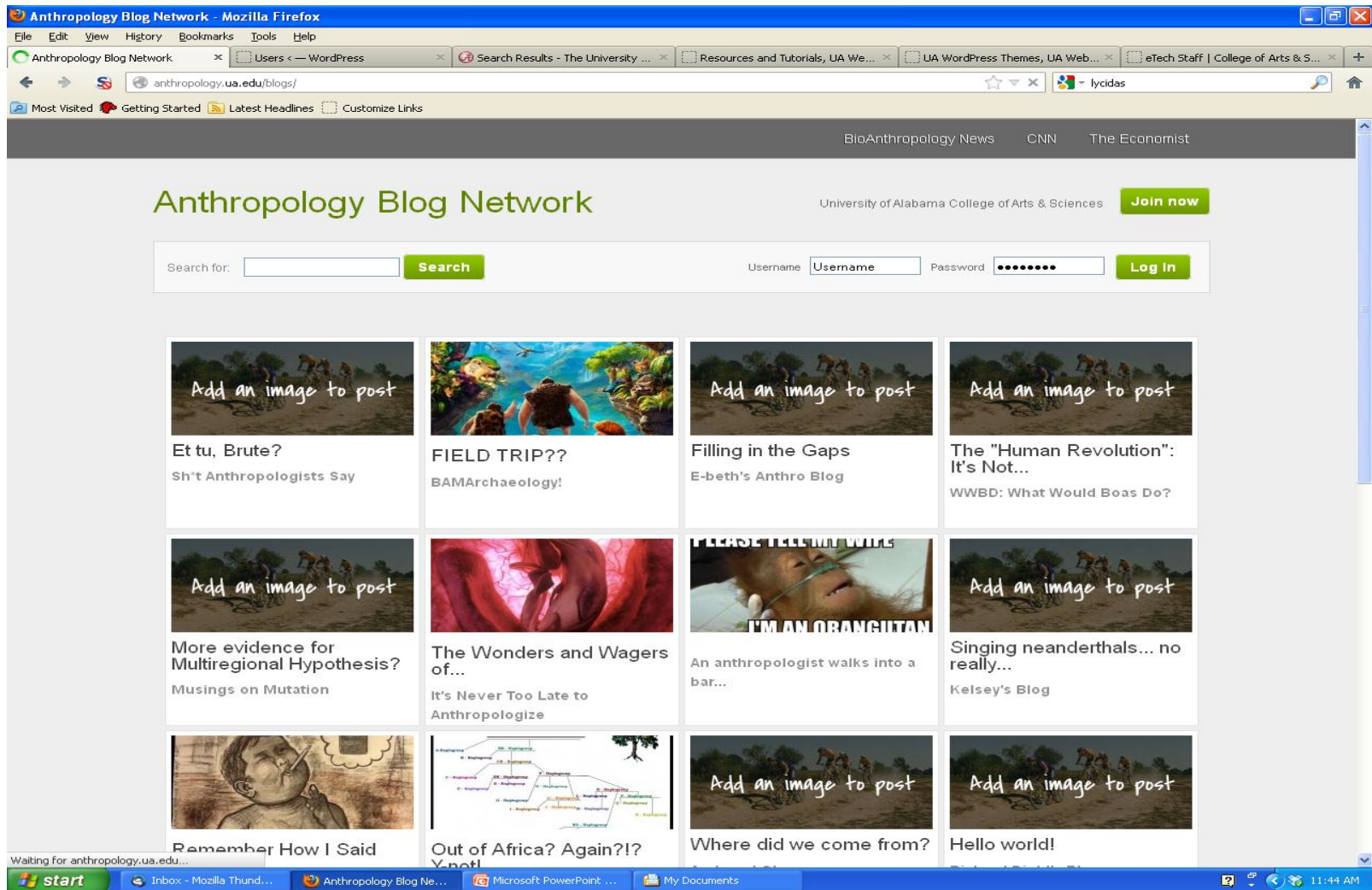
How to start

- Do you need to use Wordpress? What would you like to accomplish?
- Contact eTech for support and a dedicated webspace: at present, you'd e-mail Amy Garner at ardowdle@as.ua.edu
- Want a theme? UA has a dedicated Wordpress theme: see webguide.ua.edu/wordpress.html
- Or you can search through other themes on the Wordpress.org site. Or design your own with eTech/FRC support!
- Plugins? You can find loads on the Wordpress site.

Considering usage and features

- Depends entirely upon what you want to accomplish
- Always helpful to consult (with eTech, with Digital Humanities people, with students or colleagues)
- Wordpress can be easily expanded: don't feel you must make all decisions immediately. Prioritize and go!

Wordpress in action



Edifice Project site

The screenshot shows the Edifice Project website in a Mozilla Firefox browser. The browser's address bar displays <http://edificeproject.ua.edu/>. The website's header features a collage of historical documents and a central tag that reads "THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA Edifice Project Everything Milton". Below the header, there are four navigation buttons: "Home", "About", "Audio Projects", and "Research Library".

The main content area is titled "Paradise Lost marathon reading". The text below the title states: "On Friday April 27th, the Spring 2012 Milton class will conduct a marathon reading of *Paradise Lost* in the Pearce lobby of Gorgas Library. We'll begin reading at 8 AM and continue until we're finished, most likely sometime around 5 PM. Everyone is welcome to join us, either to listen or to read."

Below this announcement, a line of text reads: "April 9th, 2012 Uncategorized | tags: news, Paradise Lost, reading | No Comments".

The next section is titled "Strode Seminar speakers, Spring 2012". The text below the title states: "Here are the speakers coming to campus this spring who may be of interest to members of our class. Steve Fallon will be joining us in class on March 5th. Links provided to bios of the professors in question."

The speakers listed are:

- February 27th (Monday): [Heather Dubrow](#)
5 PM lecture
"Wanting form?": New Approaches to the Early Modern Epithalamium and Other Poetry"
- February 28th (Tuesday): Heather Dubrow poetry reading
- March 5th (Monday): [Steve Fallon](#)
March 6th (Tuesday): 5 PM lecture
"Inspired with Contradiction": John Milton's Conflicting Certainties"
- March 26th (Monday): [Ken Hiltner](#)
5 PM lecture
"Putting Milton in the Cloud: The Milton Society Digital Edition Project"

On the right side of the page, there is a search bar with the text "Search for:" and a "Search" button. Below the search bar, there is a section titled "Pages" with a list of links: "About", "Audio Projects", and "Research Library".

Below the "Pages" section, there is a calendar for October 2012. The calendar shows the days of the week (M, T, W, T, F, S, S) and the dates (1 through 31). The date 30 is highlighted.

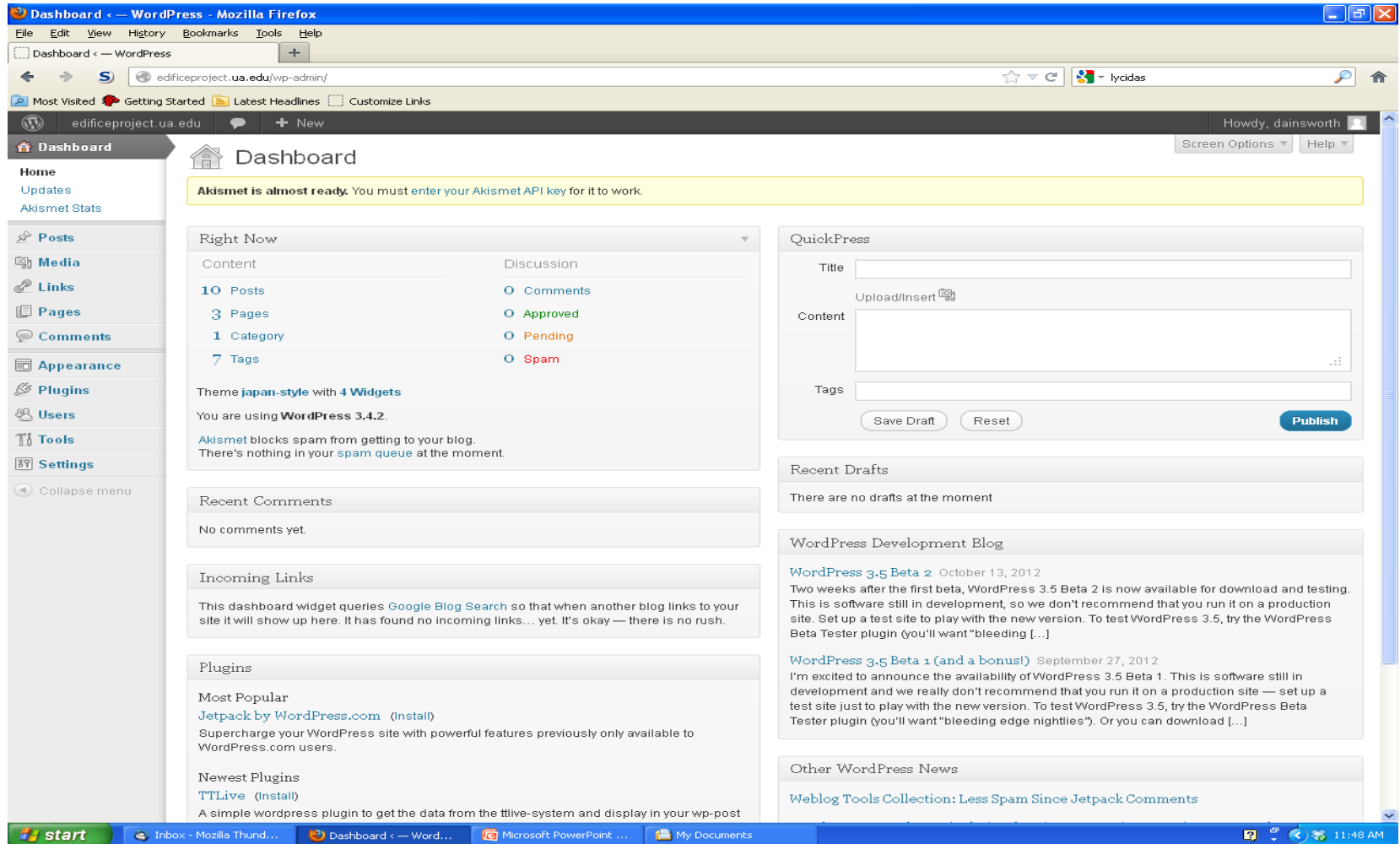
At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled "Paradise Regained" and a section titled "Paradise Lost" with a link to "news".

The browser's status bar at the bottom shows the Windows Start button, the Mozilla Firefox icon, and the system clock displaying 11:44 AM.

Site tour

- What visitors see:
- <http://edificeproject.ua.edu/>
- Administrative tools:
<http://edificeproject.ua.edu/wp-login.php>

Dashboard



The screenshot shows the WordPress Dashboard interface within a Mozilla Firefox browser window. The address bar displays the URL `edificeproject.ua.edu/wp-admin/`. The dashboard is titled "Dashboard" and includes a sidebar with navigation links: Home, Updates, Akismet Stats, Posts, Media, Links, Pages, Comments, Appearance, Plugins, Users, Tools, and Settings. The main content area features a yellow notification banner for Akismet, a "Right Now" widget showing site statistics (10 Posts, 3 Pages, 1 Category, 7 Tags), a "QuickPress" widget for creating new posts, and several informational widgets including "Recent Comments", "Incoming Links", "Plugins", "Recent Drafts", "WordPress Development Blog", and "Other WordPress News". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button and several open applications: Inbox - Mozilla Thund..., Dashboard - Word..., Microsoft PowerPoint..., and My Documents. The system clock indicates the time is 11:48 AM.

Dashboard - WordPress - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Dashboard - WordPress

edificeproject.ua.edu/wp-admin/

Most Visited Getting Started Latest Headlines Customize Links

edificeproject.ua.edu + New

Howdy, dainsworth

Screen Options Help

Dashboard

Home

Updates

Akismet Stats

Posts

Media

Links

Pages

Comments

Appearance

Plugins

Users

Tools

Settings

Collapse menu

Right Now

Content

Discussion

10 Posts

3 Pages

1 Category

7 Tags

Comments

Approved

Pending

Spam

Theme **japan-style** with 4 Widgets

You are using **WordPress 3.4.2**.

Akismet blocks spam from getting to your blog.
There's nothing in your [spam queue](#) at the moment.

Recent Comments

No comments yet.

Incoming Links

This dashboard widget queries [Google Blog Search](#) so that when another blog links to your site it will show up here. It has found no incoming links... yet. It's okay — there is no rush.

Plugins

Most Popular

[Jetpack by WordPress.com](#) (Install)

Supercharge your WordPress site with powerful features previously only available to WordPress.com users.

Newest Plugins

[TTLive](#) (Install)

A simple wordpress plugin to get the data from the ttlive-system and display in your wp-post

QuickPress

Title

Upload/Insert

Content

Tags

Save Draft Reset Publish

Recent Drafts

There are no drafts at the moment

WordPress Development Blog

[WordPress 3.5 Beta 2](#) October 13, 2012

Two weeks after the first beta, WordPress 3.5 Beta 2 is now available for download and testing. This is software still in development, so we don't recommend that you run it on a production site. Set up a test site to play with the new version. To test WordPress 3.5, try the [WordPress Beta Tester plugin](#) (you'll want "bleeding [...]").

[WordPress 3.5 Beta 1 \(and a bonus!\)](#) September 27, 2012

I'm excited to announce the availability of WordPress 3.5 Beta 1. This is software still in development and we really don't recommend that you run it on a production site — set up a test site just to play with the new version. To test WordPress 3.5, try the [WordPress Beta Tester plugin](#) (you'll want "bleeding edge nightlies"). Or you can download [...].

Other WordPress News

[Weblog Tools Collection: Less Spam Since Jetpack Comments](#)

start

Inbox - Mozilla Thund... Dashboard - Word... Microsoft PowerPoint... My Documents

11:48 AM

Edit pages

Edit Page — WordPress - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Edit Page — WordPress

edificeproject.ua.edu/wp-admin/post.php?post=64&action=edit

Most Visited Getting Started Latest Headlines Customize Links

edificeproject.ua.edu + New View Page

Howdy, dainsworth

Screen Options Help

Edit Page Add New

Akismet is almost ready. You must enter your Akismet API key for it to work.

Research Library

Permalink: http://edificeproject.ua.edu/?page_id=64 Change Permalinks View Page

Upload/Insert

Visual HTML

b *i* [link](#) **b-quote** ~~del~~ **ins** **img** **ul** **ol** **li** **code** **more** **lookup** **close tags** **fullscreen**

Part of the Edifice Project involves making the best of student writing and thought available to future classes. Writing assignments will be designed specifically to draw upon this existing research library formed by the students of previous years, overlapping their work without repeating it. The links below will lead to a library of papers based on class and subject. I have edited these papers for minor spelling and grammatical errors and standardized their citations of Milton's poetry and prose.

Parents and Children: Spring 2011

The Tuscaloosa tornado of Spring 2011 resulted in only a single submission for the website, as final paper assignments were made optional for all students.

[The Unnecessary](http://edificeproject.ua.edu/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Unnecessary-Fall.pdf)

Word count: 683

Last edited by dainsworth on October 12, 2011 at 11:45 am

Publish

Preview Changes

Status: **Published** Edit

Visibility: **Public** Edit

Published on: **Apr 8, 2010 @ 10:23** Edit

[Move to Trash](#) **Update**

Page Attributes

Parent

(no parent)

Template

Default Template

Order

0

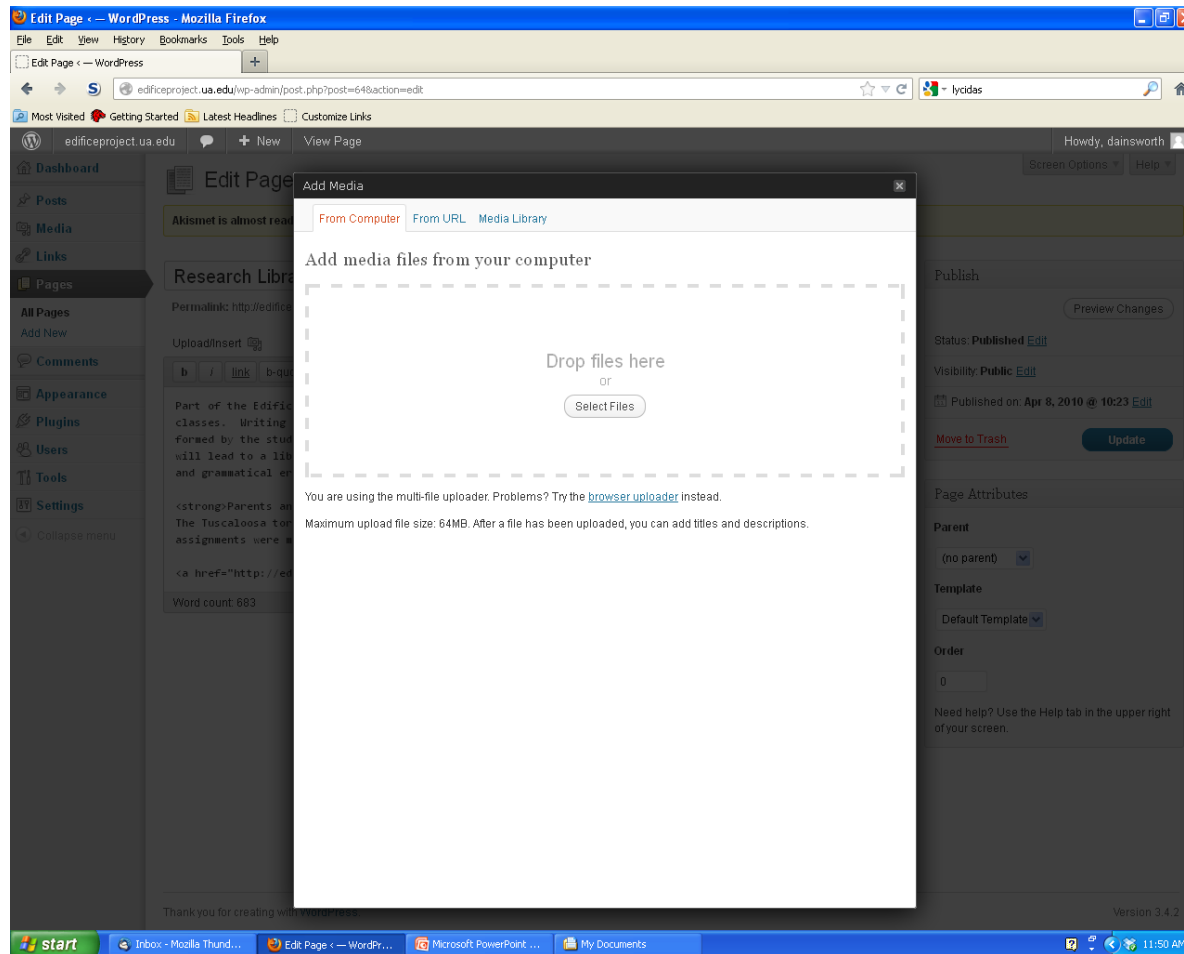
Need help? Use the Help tab in the upper right of your screen.

Thank you for creating with WordPress.

Version 3.4.2

start Inbox - Mozilla Thund... Edit Page — WordPr... Microsoft PowerPoint ... My Documents 11:49 AM

Upload content



Pedagogical utility

- Extend the classroom to the Internet (as opposed to the sequestered space of a Blackboard course site)
- Permit or require posting to comments or a forum
- Permit or require blog posts from students
- Collect and distribute content generated by any authorized user
- Make materials available to Internet browsers at large
- Accrete material over many semesters rather than overwriting and replacing