



Additional Information Pertaining to Technology Tools and Online Teaching Strategies

*Educational technologies evolve rapidly. On a daily basis it seems that a former favorite tool is surpassed by a newer, better option—or it ceases to exist! We do our best to stay up-to-date on these tools, but please know that we welcome your input. If you have information that we need, please tell us.

Creating Microlecture Videos

Videos:

[Make Super Simple Videos for Teaching Online](#)

Dr. Michael Wesch from Kansas State University explains why videos are important in your teaching—and why disliking the making of videos should not keep you from doing it. In addition, he offers specific ways to make this task easier.

[Creating a Screen Capture Video or Narrated PowerPoint in Canvas Studio](#)

In this video Simon explains how to use the Studio tool within Canvas to create your videos.

Book:

[99 Tips for Creating Simple and Sustainable Educational Videos](#) (Costa, 2020)

This book is a fabulous resource if you have wanted to include videos in your teaching but lacked the confidence. You will learn how to build a video library without a major investment of time or money. Embedded QR codes allow you to view sample videos and screencasts that illustrate the book's content.

Annotating Videos

[VideoAnt](#)

Created at the University of Minnesota, VideoAnt is a web-based video annotation tool. You can use it to easily add questions or comments to web-hosted videos. You might also consider asking students to use VideoAnt on an authentic assessment task.



Whiteboard Apps

Blog:

[The 11 best online whiteboards](#) (March 14, 2019)

The best whiteboard app for your purposes will be determined by the features you need. This post describes the most popular online whiteboards and shares the characteristics of each. Many have a free basic version and/or an upgraded version that requires a nominal fee.

Screen Capture Tools

Blog:

[30 Best Screen Capture Software Tools in 2020](#)

This post shares a curated list of the top screen capturing software. Popular features are described along with the latest download links. Don't get overwhelmed by the number of choices. Most of us find a single favorite tool and use it consistently.

Conducting Synchronous Meetings

Videos:

[Videoconferences within Canvas](#)

[Microsoft Teams within Canvas](#)

Simon demonstrates two options in Canvas—Conferences and Microsoft Teams—that can be used for virtual conversations with students. These are good options when you need to conduct online office hours or online advising.

Website:

[Zoom](#)

Many departments on campus support the use of Zoom. This videoconferencing tool allows you to hold synchronous meetings and video webinars. Please just be mindful of the recent privacy issues which remain a bit of a worry for some.



Online Tools for Asynchronous Discussions

Blogs:

[3 Tech Tools to Increase Participation in Virtual Discussions](#) (Goldberg, January 29, 2020)

This blog introduces the tools of **Padlet**, **Flipgrid**, and **Yellowdig** and describes how they can be used to increase engaging dialogue on your discussion board.

[Four Types of Discussion Forums in Online Courses](#) (Boettcher, May 22, 2019)

While not related to technology per se, this blog post will definitely inform your use of technology on discussion boards. Four primary discussion types for online courses are shared and a table summarizes the purpose, design, monitoring, evaluation recommendations, and faculty involvement for each type. This is a worthwhile “at a glance” resource.

Video:

[Online Discussions](#)

Simon describes common issues faced by instructors who attempt to include asynchronous discussions and offers strategies for making online discussions most effective.

Online Instructional Activities

Website:

[Online Instructional Activities Index](#)

The University of Illinois-Springfield shares a treasure trove of online teaching strategies in this resource. More than 40 strategies—from art projects to wikis—are described, with many containing specifics regarding applicable content areas, examples, guiding questions, and ideas for assessment. Many of these resources demonstrate how strategies that are typically used in face-to-face teaching can be used in online environments.