Strategy: Google (mostly)

While the internet offers a world of resources, Google specifically has some great tools for educators that can help with, among other things, grading, commenting on student work, and peer review.

Origin

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Williams, G. (May 23, 2011). Better Googling. The Chronicle of Higher Education. Retrieved from http://chronicle.com/blogs/profhacker/better-googling/33564.

Cavendar, A. (March 31, 2011). Using Google Docs for grading. The Chronicle of Higher Education. Retrieved from http://chronicle.com/blogs/profhacker/using-google-documents-for-grading/32173.

Cordell, R. (May 6, 2010). Smarter typing through text expansion. The Chronicle of Higher Education. Retrieved from http://chronicle.com/blogs/profhacker/smarter-typing-through-text-expansion/23725.

Young, J. (July 8, 2011). Professors consider uses for Google Plus. The Chronicle of Higher Education. Retrieved from http://chronicle.com/blogs/wiredcampus/professors-consider-classroom-uses-for-google-plus/32131.

Sells, E. (April 6, 2011). Mapping novels with Google Earth. The Chronicle of Higher Education. Retrieved from http://chronicle.com/blogs/profhacker/mapping-novels/32528.

Application

(1) Google Drive is a great way for students to save their work. It can help to facilitate peer review, speed up the grading, turn-in, and feedback processes, and end the "I lost that homework" excuse with its auto save feature. To check out these options and more, visit: https://drive.google.com

(2) Google for Educators: For lesson plans, activities, resources, searching tips, and more, visit: http://www.google.com/insidesearch/searcheducation/

(3) Text expansion is an extended clipboard where you can store lines, paragraphs, and pages of frequently used text. This may help to save time by automating repetitive typing tasks. With many available applications, you can choose the right one for you.

(4) Google+ is a social networking site that uses "circles," allowing instructors to set up multiple groups that can each have a specific set of contacts and share specific information released only to that circle of contacts. Another great feature from Google+ is Hangout, a video chat option for up to ten people that could be used for group meetings, office hours, etc. Visit https://plus.google.com/ for more info.

(5) Google Earth and Google Maps can be used to create or trace the time and place of events, bringing your content to life in space and place for students.

Reflection

- How does this compare to what you are already doing?

- What strategies do you have for using technology to increase your efficiency? Student learning? Something else?