

Google+

for Faculty & Staff

We're pleased to introduce you to Google+, an online resource that helps you **connect** with people, **find** information, and **share** content- all in new ways. You can connect with everyone from colleagues to students to experts you have never met to share anything from research to opinions to videos. Use Google+ with simplicity and ease, from your computer, tablet or phone.

Where do I sign up?

To get started, visit www.google.com/+. If you don't have a Google account, this site will help you create one at no charge in just a few minutes.

How can Google+ help educators and faculty?

We've developed a number of tools that aid you in teaching, connecting, and searching.

Hangouts



Hangouts let up to ten people enjoy a **shared video conference**, at no charge. Use this space for anything from collaborating with colleagues all over the world to holding foreign language labs with several students.

- Hold **office hours** with groups of students without having to traipse across campus in a snowstorm.
- **Bring speakers from around the world to your class** without having to pay for a flight or arrange difficult logistics.
- Give **off-campus lectures** without actually heading off-campus.
- Keep up with campus life by posting a public **Named Hangout** to check in with students.
- Share your screen and Google Docs on **Hangouts with extras**.
- You can even join Hangouts from your **mobile phone**.

Instant Upload



With your permission, your Android phone can send photos that you take on your device **straight to your private web album** on Google+, ready to **share as you see fit**.

- Have students in your journalism class take photos on a **campus photo hunt** to post to the class.
- Post **photos from your conferences and talks** in real-time.

Circles



Circles make it easy to organize your online world by putting **different people in their own groups**.

- Put your ECON 101 students in one circle, department colleagues in another, grant and research folks in another – then easily **post different updates to each Circle**.
- You can create as many Circles as you want and change (or abandon) any of them whenever you want. If you post something to someone in two circles, **they only receive it once**.
- Instead of printing handouts, share info with students through **Circles created for each class**. Conversations on your stream are archived, so you can share them later with new students.
- Create **Circles of other professionals** working on relevant research topics to stay current with ongoing work in your field.

Stream



Your Google+ **Stream** is where you publish updates, photos, links, news and events. It's also the **place to see all the posts** that people in or out of your Circles have shared with you. Google+ lets you easily select the sources of your Stream.

- Encourage students to comment on **content you've shared** to foster class engagement on topics of interest.
- **Finish the discussion you started in class** by posting an update to all or some of the students in your stream.

Search

Type your search term into the **Google+ search box**, and your results will include Google+ public posts (including your own), trending topics from the web, and people (whom you can add to your Circles).

- Use search to **find class starters**. For a lesson on the “iron curtain” you might find an interesting story about Berlin when the wall went up or old photos from Eastern Europe.
- **Stay current on trending topics**. Search for “occupy” and find some of the latest news, links and pics about the financial sector protests.
- **Follow interesting people**. Find an old classmate from your PhD program or an expert you've never met; connect with them both.