

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** it all in revolutionary ways – with simplicity and ease, from your computer, tablet or even your 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 for free 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 search.

Hangouts



Hangouts let up to ten people enjoy a **shared video conference**, for free, using this space for anything from collaborating with colleagues all over the world to holding foreign language labs with several students at once.

- Hold **office hours** with groups of students without having to traipse across campus in a snowstorm.
- **Finish that discussion in class** that was interesting to some of your students, but that you didn't have time to get to
- 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 (some Professor and Presidents are already doing this).
- Share your screen and Google Docs on **Hangouts with extras**.
- Hangouts are even available on your **Android phone**.

Instant Upload



What if the instant you took pictures or video, they were sent **straight to your personal web album** on the Internet? We can do that. With your okay, your Android phone can send pics and video to G+ right when you take them, so they're always available across all your devices, ready to **share as you see fit**.

Circles



Finally! Circles make it easy to organize your online world by putting different **groups in their own lists**: ECON 101 students in one, 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. Who said the web can't be like real life?

- 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 attendees.
- Create **Circles of other professionals** working on relevant research topics to stay current with ongoing work in your field.

Messenger



When you need to connect with a group, all at once, use **Messenger** to gather people into one simple **group chat on your Android phone**. A few students managed to get themselves left behind after the conference in the city? Messenger helps you all reconnect easily.

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. You only have to see comments and links from people whose posts interest 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.

Search

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

- **Search on "iron curtain"** and you might find a recent article about the Cold War, photos from someone's recent trip to Eastern Europe, and *actual* iron curtains. You can then **save that search** for future checks of what's new in this particular area of interest.

College campuses all over are using Google+ to change the way their students, faculty and staff interact and educate. Go to www.google.com/+ to join in now.