

# Media, Technology, & Social Media Resources

<http://arendale.org>

## General Resources for Instructional and Learning Technology

1. Learning Support Centers in Higher Education (LSCHE), <http://www.lsche.net/>
2. Online Tools and Applications for Learning Technologies, <http://www.go2web20.net>
3. Video learning technology tutorials, <http://arendale.org/tutorials/>
4. Teacher Training Videos and free monthly enewsletter by Russell Stannard, <http://www.teachertrainingvideos.com/>
5. The Teaching, Learning, and Technology (TLT) Group and weekly webinars <http://www.tltgroup.org/>
6. Pang, Alex Soojung-Kim. (2013). *The distraction attraction*. New York, NY: Little, Brown, and Company.
7. Subscribe to podcast “Geeks Life”, “Tech Whisperer”, and “Lights! Camera! Web!” through iTunes for great technology tips which are part of the Geeks Life channel produced by Cali Lewis and others. Formerly called “Geek Beat”.
8. Lucy MacDonald Web Site, <http://lucyonline.com/> and <http://www.howtostudy.org/>
9. Social Media Today Website and Daily E-Newsletter, [http://socialmediatoday.com/?utm\\_source=smt\\_newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=newsletter](http://socialmediatoday.com/?utm_source=smt_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter)
10. Nonprofit Tech for Good: A social and mobile media blog for nonprofits. <http://www.nptechforgood.com/> Heather Mansfield, Author of, *Social Media for Social Good: A How-To Guide for Nonprofits*. Daily enewsletter, webinars, and books applicable for commercial, nonprofit, and educational use.
11. TechLearning Website and daily email. “Subscribe” to the email by clicking on button at the upper-right hand corner of page <http://www.techlearning.com/index>
12. New Media Consortium. International community of experts in educational technology, <http://www.nmc.org/>
13. Tennessee Board of Regents Emerging Technologies and Mobilization Resource Site, <http://emergingtech.tbr.edu> One of the largest directories mobile device apps. Searchable by device type, academic area, education level, and others.
14. BookBub. <http://landers.bookbug.com/> Free daily email of limited-time free or deeply discounted eBooks. Customize the email by selecting from categories or subcategories such as mysteries, romance, fiction, nonfiction, and sci-fi.

# 1. Podcasting

- A. David Arendale Podcasting Resource Web Page, <http://podcasting.arendale.org>
- B. Sample academic podcasts:
- Then and Now: Global History and Culture Podcast*, <http://thenandnow.org>
  - Historic Voices: Global History and Culture Podcast*, <http://historicvoices.org>
  - Paul Harvey Podcast*, <http://paulharveypodcast.org>
  - Peer Assisted Learning Groups Podcast*, <http://palgroups.org>
  - List of apps, directories, and websites to subscribe or listen to the above podcasts by David Arendale, <http://www.arendale.org/david-arendale-my-podcasts/>
- C. Other people's academic podcasts and podcast episodes
- History according to Bob Podcast* (audio). To subscribe, <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/history-according-to-bob/id73331096>
  - Grammar Girl: Quick and dirty tips podcast* (audio) To subscribe, <http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=173429229>
  - Precalc problems explained podcast* (video) To subscribe, <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/precac-problems-explained/id288458906>
  - ENGL 026: English as a second language podcast* through iTunes U collection at Harrisburg Area Community College PA (audio and video) To subscribe, <http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=424630410>
- D. Software sources for listening and managing subscriptions to podcasts
- iTunes** (free) for either Apple or Windows computers, <http://iTunes.com>
- E. Software sources for creating audio podcasts
- Audacity** (free) for Apple and Windows, <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/> You will also need to download the LAME mp3 encoder. These can be found on the Audacity website and are necessary in order to export your audio recording as an .mp3 file. [MAC: Lame Library v3.98.2 for Audacity on OSX.dmg](#) with [MAC instructions](#)
  - GarageBand** for Apple computers. Includes sound effects, jingles, music transitions, and music loops
- F. Sound effects libraries approved for free use on podcasts
- GarageBand**. As described above, the software comes with sound effects, jingles, music transitions, and music loops. Additional "jam packs" provide more music loops in different music genres. Download the software as an app for \$15.
  - MixCraft**. <http://acoustica.com/mixcraft/> \$49.99 - \$89.95 - \$164.95 Mixcraft's enormous collection of **royalty-free** studio-quality loops is organized into Song Kits, so it's incredibly easy to build your own tracks — no musical training required! Build unique beat in seconds with over 650 professional drum samples,

both acoustic and electric. Put the finishing touches on videos or ambient compositions with comprehensive collection of sound effects and music beds.

- c. **Audioblocks**, [www.audioblocks.com](http://www.audioblocks.com) \$99/annually. The online service provides unlimited downloads of free music and sound effects.

G. Online audio sound effects and music libraries approved for free use on podcasts

- a. **Free Music Archive**, <http://freemusicarchive.org> Close to 90,000 audio tracks are available. The Free Music Archive offers free downloads under Creative Commons and other licenses. All music you'll find here is free, meaning that it is available for you to download at no cost. What else you're allowed to do with the music beyond your personal use depends on the type of Creative Commons license associated with each track. You can search music in lots of ways, <http://freemusicarchive.org/search> Search by (1) artist, album, or song name; (2) 22 different moods (angst-ridden to spiritual); and (3) 15 music genres with many categories providing additional subcategories. Click on the Frequently Asked Questions page (<http://freemusicarchive.org/faq>) for more specifics on music usage rules.
- b. **Opuzz Podsafe Music**. <http://www.opuzz.com/> This is one example of many on the Internet that sells music that is then royalty-free. Music is reasonably priced. Royalty free music allows you to use the background music without having to pay any additional licensing fees. You may use the Opuzz royalty free background music library for broadcasting, advertising, corporate, education, websites, podcasting, telephone on-hold...etc. for just one low fee. You simply pay once & use forever. You are free to use our background music for any usage - podcasts, TV, radio, advertising, corporate, educational, websites, telephone on-hold...etc. Music downloads from just \$2.99. Downloadable albums from \$49 (and decreasing when purchasing more). You're getting quality background music with great value. All 100% royalty free background music.
- c. **Creative Commons**. <http://search.creativecommons.org/> A limited collection of video clips, clip art, and music that can be used royalty-free.
- d. **CCmixter**. <http://ccmixter.org/> 45,000 music artists provide free music to use royalty-free. Plenty of music, somewhat difficult to search. But it is free.
- e. **Royalty Free Music**. <http://www.royalty-free-music.pro/> A large collection of royalty-free music for a one-time payment of about \$35 for use on podcasts. Read the fine print for use, costs, and availability of sound effects and music.
- f. **Royaltyfreemusic.com** If you are an educator who would like to use royalty-free music in your classroom, click the [Free Music Programs](#) link to submit an application to [download stock music](#) free of charge. Royaltyfreemusic.com's free music program gives educators free access to tracks from our stock music library to use in a variety of educational projects. Educators can download royalty-free

stock music, slideshow music, sound effects, and more for use in educational projects to enhance learning. Computer science teachers will enjoy our catalog of loops for PowerPoint, Flash, and web, perfect for instructing students about adding slideshow music to their PowerPoint presentations. Instructional technology and media teachers will find our collection of sound effects useful, making it easy for students to add crowd sounds and other sound effects to their films and video yearbooks. Whatever your needs are, royalty-free music from Royaltyfreemusic.com's Free Music Program is certain to enhance any curriculum.

- g. **Freeplaymusic.com** A collection of 15,000+ music tracks that can be searched by 100 categories. Depending on how you plan to use the music, it is free or requires a fee. Use on YouTube videos is generally free for individuals. Personal use through social media of a song is \$0.99 for each. The tracks are also free for use in the classroom by students and teachers. However, fees are required for playing on the Internet. Read the complicated instructions.
- h. **American Rhetoric**, <http://AmericanRhetoric.com> This site provides a database of and index to 5000+ full text, audio and video versions of public speeches, sermons, legal proceedings, lectures, debates, interviews, other recorded media events. These could be incorporated into an audio podcast, inserted into a class presentation, or simply linked through a website. Read carefully the copyright notices for each item whether they are approved for podcasting.
- i. **Internet Archive**, <http://archive.org> Internet Archive is a non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music, and more. The Archive is a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded to build an Internet library. Its purposes include offering permanent access for researchers, historians, scholars, people with disabilities, and the general public to historical collections that exist in digital format.
- j. **RadioEchoes**, <http://radioechoes.com> The website provides free access to old time radio programs. The genres range from adventure, historical, mystery, to western old time radio shows.

#### H. Online hosting services for podcasts

- a. **Libsyn**, <http://www.libsyn.com> Plans begin at \$5/month. A paid account through Libsyn in addition to distributing content also provides a blog page so that others can listen to individual episodes or download media. It is easy to insert into other webpages and blogpages a player for the media. Liberated Syndication (libsyn) pioneered the system to host and publish podcasts in 2004. And since then has grown to the largest leading podcast network with over 2.5 billion downloads annually from 25,000+ podcasts delivered to more than 20+ million monthly audience members. The Libsyn custom smartphone app for podcasters engages audiences beyond your regular audio or video episodes. With four different kinds of content accepted by the app (audio, video, PDF and text) you can offer your

audience extras, blog posts, transcripts and more all in one place. The apps make it easy for users to share their favorite episodes on popular social media outlets and star and download episodes for offline entertainment.

- b. **SquareSpace** [www.squarespace.com](http://www.squarespace.com) \$8 or \$18/month depending on features desired). Using the blog function on SquareSpace, a podcast can be created associated with each blog post. Then a RSS feed can be created and registered through iTunes so others can subscribe. SquareSpace offers unlimited storage.
- c. **YouTube** [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and [tunestotube.com](http://tunestotube.com) (free) Audio episodes can be hosted by YouTube. While not the same as traditional podcasting where episodes are automatically downloaded to a computer if they are “subscribed” through iTunes and the iTunes software is installed on the computer. In this variation, a YouTube “channel” is created to host the audio episodes. People can subscribe to the channel to see new episodes that will appear in a person’s own YouTube account. To learn how to create a YouTube channel, do a search on YouTube or search Google. A requirement for hosting audio content on YouTube is that an image must accompany the audio content. To do this, use the free service available at <http://tunestotube.com> It is a simply operation to merge the audio content with a visual image of your selection. It is recommended to NOT include music as part of the podcast since the computer filter on YouTube will probably assume it is actually commercial music and delete the entry of it. And probably receive a scolding email from YouTube telling you to never do that again or they will cancel your YouTube account.
- d. **Box** <http://box.com> Access your documents securely from anywhere with Box for Android, iOS, Windows, or Blackberry. Use to sync documents among cloud storage at Box.com with your desktop and mobile devices. Send up to 250MB files. Granting “viewer” status to a file through an open link permits it to be accessed by others, such as an audio or video file for a podcast. The free version permits file storage of 10GB. Paid accounts start at \$5/month for 100GB storage with higher capacity for additional monthly charge. When making files available to others by providing a link to them, a challenge may occur since the link does not end in the file extension of .mp3 or similar. The iTunes directory generally does not recognize them then. You will need to experiment when using Box or other products. However, [dropbox.com](http://dropbox.com) described below does work.
- e. **Dropbox** <http://dropbox.com> Similar to Box.com A free basic account provides 2GB of storage. Pro account provides 1TB storage \$10/month or \$100/annually. Placing audio or video podcast files (ending in .mp3 and similar file formats) into the “public” folder makes them available to others to easily download through the iTunes directory. Files NOT ending in .mp3 and similar are sometimes not recognized by iTunes. The Dropbox Term of Service requires that all media shared or streamed from the account does not violate copyright protections.

## I. Creating audio story books

- a. **OmniPage Ultimate** from Nuance (\$99 when on sale, \$499 list price). While the primary promoted purpose for OmniPage is for conversion of PDF documents into editable Word format, it has other features including the ability to optically scan photographs of text and convert into a Word document, export text into ePub format for eBook readers such as Apple iPad, Android tablets, Nook, among others, and additional features. One of the additional features is turning text into a pleasant MP3 audio file with a choice of voices. It provides a male and female voice in U.S. English, male voice in Australian English, and eleven other languages. The output can be set at different speeds and volume levels.
- b. **NaturalReader**, <http://naturalreaders.com> Available for either Windows or Macs
  - a. Free version with limited features. You can test it with copy and paste box on the website or download the free version. More features paid versions (\$49-\$199) works with Mac (currently only for Mac OS 10.9 or LOWER) or Windows computers (including Windows 8).
  - b. Convert word processing documents (e.g., MS Word), PDFs, scanned documents, and photographs of text with cameras into audio files.
  - c. NaturalReader has OCR has functions. **OCR function** works with your scanner to convert printed characters into digital text and it is up to **99% accurate**. This allows you to listen to your printed file or edit it in a word-processing program. Currently Mac version does not include this feature.
  - d. Create MP3 audio files that can be downloaded and listened through MP3 players such as iPods and iPhones or through laptop or desktop computers.
  - e. Paid versions of software permit different computer generated voices. Three English voices for the MAC version and many more with Windows.
- c. **VoiceThread**. \$99 annually for a single instructor. The Single Instructor License includes accounts for one instructor and up to 50 students. Additional accounts can be purchased as needed. The Manager Tool offers a simple way to create student accounts and groups., <http://voicethread.com>;  
<http://voicethread.com/support/howto/Basics/>;  
<http://voicethread.com/support/howto/Mobile/>;  
<http://voicethread.com/support/howto/VoiceThreads/Creating/>

#### J. Podiobooks

- a. **Podiobooks**, free and inexpensive fiction and nonfiction, <http://www.podiobooks.com>

## 2. Wiki Web Pages

#### A. Sample pages:

- a. History course exam study guide, David Arendale, Global History and Culture, <http://myworldhistory.org>, created through Google Sites (academic support)

- b. Historpedia, <http://historpedia.org> created through Google Sites (academic enrichment and cocreated knowledge)
- c. Wikipedia, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)

B. Free online services:

- a. **PBwiki**, <http://pbworks.com>
- b. **Wikispaces**, <http://www.wikispaces.com/>
- c. **Wikipedia**, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Tutorial>
- d. **Google docs** (collaborate on documents, spreadsheets, & presentations, soon to be expanded in Google Drive with more features), <http://docs.google.com>
- e. **Google sites**, <http://google.com> Permits revision by authorized people.
- f. **Zoho** (collaborate on documents and spreadsheets) , <http://www.zoho.com>

C. Free shareware software for download

- a. **Media Wiki** (software engine used for Wikipedia)  
<http://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/MediaWiki>

### **3. Community Discussion Board (Asynchronous)**

*Free online services:*

- a. **Google Groups**, <http://groups.google.com>
- b. My Fast Forum, <http://myfastforum.org>

### **4. Community Chat Discussion (Synchronous)**

A. Free online text chat room services:

- a. **TinyChat**, <http://www.tinychat.com>

B. Online voice communication

- 1. **Skype**, <http://skype.com>
- 2. **Google Talk and Voice**, <http://google.com>

### **5. Blog Pages** (sometimes also used to host podcasts)

A. Sample blog pages:

- a. History course exam blog page, David Arendale, Global History and Culture, <http://thenandnow.org>
- b. History Twitter account, Global History and Culture, <http://twitter.com/pst11251> (academic enrichment)
- c. Professional blog page, David Arendale, <http://arendale.org> (through <http://squarespace.com> \$8 to \$16 a month depending on features desired)

- B. Free online hosting of blog pages
  - a. **Blogger (Google)**, <http://blogger.com>
  - b. **Twitter**, <http://twitter.com>, **Twitterific**, <http://twitter.com/twitterrific>, and **TweetDeck**, <http://Tweetdeck.com>
  - c. **Loopt** (micro blog and person locator), <http://www.loopt.com/>
- C. Free collector of blog feeds
  - a. Guide to aggregators of blog and other online media feeds, <http://getgini.com/google-reader-alternatives>

## **6. Online Academic Social Communities** (academic support and professional development)

- A. Sample web pages within social communities
  - a. (MySpace) University of Minnesota's Northrup Auditorium Summer Music Jam, <http://vids.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=vids.channel&channelid=367331838>
  - b. (Webs) SI for History, Angelo State University (TX), <http://www.freewebs.com/cpreas/>
  - c. (Webs) Cal Tech University, <http://caltech.webs.com>
  - d. (Facebook) Central Michigan University SI Page, <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?sid=8646afa6df0fd183b5ba80b369b0ad45&qid=26754738395>
  - e. (Delicious Social Bookmarks). <http://delicious.com>
    - a. iPadsineducation Delicious page, <http://www.delicious.com/ipadsineducation>
    - b. Delicious Social Bookmarking, (tutorial video), <http://www.commoncraft.com/bookmarking-plain-english>
- B. Free online social communities
  - a. **Second Life**, <http://secondlife.com>
  - b. **Facebook**, <http://www.facebook.com/>
  - c. **MySpace**, <http://www.myspace.com/>
  - d. **Webs**, <http://web.com>
  - e. **Google Docs**, <http://google.com>
  - f. **Google Sites**, <http://google.com>
- C. Online resources for Second Life
  - a. Linked Campuses International Network, <http://lcin.wordpress.com>
  - b. Second Life homepage, <http://secondlife.com>
  - c. Second Life Wiki Web Page, <http://wiki.secondlife.com>
- D. Free online time scheduler web page:

- a. **Doodle**, <http://www.doodle.com> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5Uf1W3vd7o>  
<http://www.doodle.com/about/services.html>  
<http://www.screencast.com/users/rhmott/folders/Jing/media/f1f5f0d7-4858-4644-b525-deebc9d34abf>
- b. **Google Calendar**, <http://www.google.com/intl/en/googlecalendar/tour.html>

## **7. Sharing Images, PP Shows, and Videos with Others**

### A. PowerPoint Slide and Image Shows with Others

- a. **Slideshare**, <http://slideshare.net>
- b. **Prezi**, <http://prezi.com>
- c. **Popplet**, <http://popplet.com>

### B. Photographs with others

- a. **Flickr**, <http://www.flickr.com/>
- b. **Pinterest**, <http://pinterest.com>
- c. **Google Picasa**, <http://picasa.google.com>
- d. **Twit Pics** (using Twitter), <http://twitpic.com/>
- e. **Twitterific** (using Twitter), <http://twitter.com/twitterrific>
- f. **Instagram** (using Twitter, Facebook, and tumblr), <http://instagram.com>

### C. Free software for downloading YouTube videos (and often other videos as well)

- a. **SaveTube**. <http://www.savetube.com> The basic version is free. Copy and paste the URL of the specific media you want to download (such as Youtube) and paste into the box labeled "VID>" Choose the button immediately to the right of this box to download as a video (click on "VID"), audio file (click on "MP3"), or as a ringtone for your cell phone (click on "RINGTONE"). You can also download an extension for FireFox and Chrome browsers. You can also pay a fee to have online cloud storage from the company. Ironically, there are also YouTube videos that demonstrate how to use the software to download YouTube vids.
- b. **Anything2mp3** <http://anything2mp3.com> They support most of the popular video service providers so try out the converter and see if your favorite works.
  1. Search for the video or audio you would like to convert to mp3;
  2. Copy the link from that video;
  3. Paste the song or video link into our converter box;
  4. Click Convert;
  5. Wait a minute or two for the conversion to complete and then click the download link.
 Most people use our service to convert SoundCloud and YouTube to mp3, but we have many supported services. Many people like to

convert SoundCloud and YouTube videos to MP3, so they can enjoy great music on MP3-compatible devices like PC, Mac, iPod, iPhone, Smartphones, PSP, Zune, Zen, and so on. Enjoy! Most other video conversion sites require you to install and run their Java program. Our conversion tool is completely server based so you don't have to run anything!

There are many other online conversion systems available. Check out the following: [www.youtube-mp3.org](http://www.youtube-mp3.org); [www.youtubeinmp3.com](http://www.youtubeinmp3.com); [www.vidtomp3.com](http://www.vidtomp3.com); [www.clipconverter.cc](http://www.clipconverter.cc); [www.flvto.biz](http://www.flvto.biz); [www.listentoyoutube.com](http://www.listentoyoutube.com); [savetube.com](http://savetube.com); and many others. Search Google with a search term of "youtube converter"

Described later in this handout the free, online service called "zamzar.com" allows conversion of about anything (media, text, etc) into about anything else.

- c. **RealPlayer**, <http://www.realplayer.com/> Place mouse cursor inside YouTube viewing screen and record button appears in upper right-hand corner. Video placed in RealPlayer subdirectory on your computer. To play the video, begin the RealPlayer software and then go to your "library" tab to locate and play it.
- d. **If using Chrome or Firefox Web Browser**, download the plug-in for "Easy YouTube Video Downloader". Record button will then appear directly below YouTube video player window. When given choice, choose "MP4" format. Not sure where the YouTube file is actually saved.
- e. **"YouTube Downloader"** \$29.90 [http://download.cnet.com/YTD-YouTube-Downloader-Converter/3000-2071\\_4-10647340.html](http://download.cnet.com/YTD-YouTube-Downloader-Converter/3000-2071_4-10647340.html) A popular program that enables you to download and convert online videos (legal content, to which you have the rights) for later viewing on your desktop or mobile device. It can convert files to MOV, MP4, 3GP, WMV, AVI, or MP3. When you find a video you'd like to download, copy the URL of the video page and open YouTube Downloader. From there, you'll notice that the program automatically pastes the URL into the appropriate field. Choose your desired Download quality (Best Available is a nice option) and your destination folder, then hit Download. Once your download is finished, hit the Play tab to watch. The Convert tab lets you export to a different file format for playing elsewhere, and gives you a convenient mini editor for making minor alterations before your export. You can change video volume (or remove audio altogether) and splice footage by setting specific start and end.

#### D. Computer screen capture

- a. **Screenflow** (\$80 with education discount), <http://www.telestream.net/screen-flow/overview.htm> Robust features with unlimited recording time,
- b. **Screencast**, <http://screencast.com>
- c. **Jing**, [www.techsmith.com/jing.html](http://www.techsmith.com/jing.html) Limited to 10 minutes or so.

- d. **Screenr**, <http://www.screenr.com/> A web-based screen recorder. Just click the record button, capture your screen and voice, and then share the link. Nothing to install or download. Resize the screen to select what you want to visually record from your computer. Works with Mac or PC. Plays everywhere, even on iPhones. Video recordings limited to 5 minutes. There are paid plans beginning at \$19 monthly that allow for 15 minute video recordings, ability to limit who can view them, and other features.
- e. **Camtasia**, <http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.html> works with Mac or PC. This is a commercial product with a wide variety of features.
- f. **Screencast-O-Matic** <http://screencast-o-matic.com> The free version allows screen and web cam capture of up to 15 minutes. Free hosting of the recorded video at the software website. Can publish to YouTube or download as MP4, AVI, or FLV movie. The \$15 annual license has no time restriction on video recorded and comes with many other features.
- g. **Ocam**. <http://www.snapfiles.com/get/ocam.html> oCam is a free screen recorder that enables you to capture video from your computer screen. It offers a resizable recording frame that you can drag over the area to be recorded, and you can also choose from several preset sizes or record your desktop in full-screen. The program is easy to use, once you have selected the area to record, simply press the "Record" button to start capturing video. You can stop the recording manually or set a time limit (e.g. 10 minutes) to end the capture automatically. oCam can use any video codec installed on your system. If you don't have any suitable codecs, the software provides a link from where you can download Xvid, x264 or vp8 codecs.

E. Download streaming videos, <http://keepvid.com>

F. Mindmaps, Flowcharts, Org Charts, and more

- a. **Bubbl.us** <http://bubbl.us> Free for 30 days. Create up to 3 mind maps. Export to image and share images with others. Instructions for creating, <https://bubbl.us/help/gettingstarted> Other help topics: <https://bubbl.us/help/topics> Premium service plan (\$6/monthly) allows unlimited mind maps. Attach images and files, create backups, and receive priority assistance. Save 20% by purchasing annual plan for \$59/year. No contracts, cancel anytime. These prices discounted for students and teachers. To apply for educational discount, first create a free account.
- b. **Xmind** <http://www.xmind.net> Use XMind to clarify thinking, manage complex information, run brainstorming, and get work organized. Since XMind is open source project, it is free to download and free to use forever. XMind Plus edition exports to PDF, Word, PPT, Excel, and SVG and a more creative toolbox, \$79. XMind Pro includes the previous features plus brainstorming mode, presentation model, Gantt view, and more extensive business toolbox, #99.

- c. **Timelines.** <http://www.tiki-toki.com/> Tiki-Toki is web-based software for creating beautiful interactive timelines that you can share on the internet. Tiki-Toki's free account lets you create a fully-functional timeline that you can share with friends and colleagues. Sign up here. Premium accounts allow you to make multiple timelines and embed them on your website. More info found on the web page.

- d. **Popplet**

- e. **Inspiration.com**

G. YouTube tips.

- i. Watching YouTube on a regular TV. Head over to <https://www.youtube.com/tv> to load an interface designed just for TVs. You can easily navigate videos using the keyboard arrow keys, "S" to search and "G" to open the left-column guide.
- ii. Turn off annotations. Stop the pop up ads that appear at bottom of the screen. To turn these off, click the gear icon at the lower right of the video player, and next to "Annotations," click "Off." To turn off annotations across the site by default, click your profile icon in the upper right corner of YouTube, then click the gear icon to visit your YouTube settings. In the left column, select "Playback." Under "Annotations and interactivity," uncheck "Show annotations ..." Then click the "Save" button.
- iii. Change video speed. On any video, click the gear icon in the lower-right corner of the video player and click the drop-down box next to "Speed." You can drop the video speed to half or a quarter of the normal playing speed. Or, ispeed the video up by a quarter, half or double.
- iv. Share a video at the right time. Cue video to start of the section you want your others to see. Then right-click the video and select "Get video URL at current time." Copy the link that appears and paste it into an email or on Facebook. When someone clicks on the link, the video will start at exact spot you wanted.
- v. Autoplay. YouTube added an autoplay feature that advances you to a new video when your current video is done. It bases the next video off of related videos and what you've watched in the past. But what if you want to stay on the same video? Just click the gear icon in the lower-right corner of the video player, and next to "Autoplay" click "Off." You can also turn it on and off from the "Up next" area of the right-hand column next to the video.

## **8. Digital Story Telling**

Center for Digital Storytelling, <http://storycenter.org/> Based at UC-Berkeley.

### *A. Digital systems to create and edit*

1. **Animoto Music Videos**, <http://animoto.com> Sample videos on web page.
  1. Free account to make 30 second music videos.
  2. Six examples for education videos, <http://animoto.com/blog/education/education-videos/> Personal account to make unlimited music videos \$30/annually
  3. Anyone can purchase an annual license for \$30 to create music videos of up to 20 minutes.
  4. Educators can receive free and discounted access for their students. Check these two web pages for more details: <http://animoto.com/education> and <https://animoto.com/education/classroom>
  
2. **GoAnimate Videos** (Google/YouTube Animation). Three different account plans
  1. Available three ways with different fees
    - a. Individual, <http://goanimate.com/plusignup> Free limited trial, Three month, \$18; One year, \$58
    - b. School, <http://goanimate4schools.com> Free limited trial (click on button in upper right corner of splash web page), Annual plan depends upon number of teachers and students. Student license can be reused with different students following semester. \$150+
    - c. Business, <http://goanimate.com> \$80+ monthly More features
  2. Users control: video background, choice of characters, limited actions, dialogue (limited to 180 characters for each actor statement), preview work-in-progress, and other actions. Steep learning curve.
  3. Samples of GoAnimate videos Animation created by using a template provided by GoAnimate of the last Republican presidential primary contest, <http://goanimate.com/videos/0eSfRpK-ATIU/1> Collection of GoAnimate YouTube tutorials, <https://www.youtube.com/results?q=goanimate+tutorial> Collection of assorted GoAnimate videos. Use search term "Go!Animate" Caution, objectionable language may appear unexpectedly in some of them. [https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=go!animate](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=go!animate)
  
3. **PowToon**. <http://www.powtoon.com> A dynamic alternative to Power Point with animations and cartoons. Drag-and-drop to create presentations. Overview video, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=plzUDmqI\\_9M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=plzUDmqI_9M)
  1. Three plans: free, educator, and premium.
  2. Free, No cost, <http://www.powtoon.com/account/signup/>
  3. Educator, <http://www.powtoon.com/edu-home/>
  4. Premium, <http://www.powtoon.com/premium/> Two plans, business and pro. Chart on this page compares the features of these paid plans and the free account available.
  
4. **YouTube Videos** <http://youtube.com>
  1. Kahn Academy, <http://www.khanacademy.org/>
  2. Sample use of YouTube for academic purposes, University of Toronto at Scarborough, <http://www.youtube.com/utscace>
  3. Rochester Institute of Technology SI Program, <http://www.youtube.com/user/SIatRIT>

5. **Vimeo Videos** <http://vimeo.com> Free account with basic services and advanced with paid plan. With the click of a button, you can share a video (or several videos) with anyone you want. Vimeo has easy-to-understand privacy controls so you can decide who sees the videos. Vimeo Video School can help anyone sharpen technical skills.

6. **Eyejot email videos.** <http://eyejot.com> Video email service using a web browser and hosting the content online. Cost: Basic (free) 5 minutes; Pro (\$29.95/year) 10 minutes; and ProPLUS (\$99.95/year) 15 minutes; All video hosted by Eyejot. Works on desktops, laptops, smartphones, and tablet computers. Apps cost \$4.99. Compare plans at [http://www.eyejot.com/upgrade\\_selector](http://www.eyejot.com/upgrade_selector) Can upload Excel spreadsheet of last name, first name, and email address to the Eyejot address book. Can upload video or record live using the computer's webcam. Suggestions for making messages, [http://www.eyejot.com/help/msgs\\_first](http://www.eyejot.com/help/msgs_first)

7. **Voki** <http://www.voki.com> Create speaking avatars and use them as an another way to express yourself. Basic Voki is free. Voki Classroom is \$29.95 annually. Voki Presenter is \$39.95/year. Voki Classroom and Presenter Bundle is \$49.95/year. The paid plans have a free trial period of 15 days.

- a. Click the "Register" button in upper right-hand corner of screen to create your free Voki account. After you have completed registration, following these steps.
- b. Click on the Create tab to create your avatar.
- c. Customize your character by clicking on the Choose Your Character button and selecting your avatar features. (Tip: Do not select the characters with a graduation cap--these are only for use in Voki Classroom.) When you are done, click Done.
- d. You can customize the head, clothing, and bling. You can tweak the mouth, nose, body, height, and width. You can change the color of the mouth, make-up, eyes, skin, and hair.
- e. Give it a voice by clicking on the Text to Speech button and typing in your text response to the above questions. Select the accent and voice. Click Done.
- f. Change the background.
- g. Click Publish.
- h. Copy the Permalink.
- i. Paste the link or share through an email.

8. **DigitalFilms.** <http://DigitalFilms.com> Free. Make Your Own Movie Online! Unleash your creativity and make your digital film for free! Choose a background scene, characters, animated actions, dialog, introduction, and ending credits. Put your name as the producer and email the movie to your friends! You can also signup for free as a registered user, which gives you access to more advanced features, such as being able to save or edit the movies that you create.

9. **Wideoo.** <http://Wideoo.co> Make and share awesome videos online. Start from scratch or use our awesome, easy to edit templates to capture your audience and bring your brand to life. All plans include YouTube export, unlimited audio and images import,

and access to template galleries. Free to create 45 second videos. Special discounts for education: \$1/month for 90 second videos. \$4/month for videos up to 15 minutes in Full HD. Private accounts: \$79 annually to create 90 second videos with unlimited downloads in web quality.

10. **Common Craft.** <http://commoncraft.com> The videos use stop-action animation with whiteboards and paper cut-outs to illustrate the topic. This style of animation has been used by teachers and students for class presentations and assignments. The developers of this style of explanation animation have published an enhanced ebook with video tutorials and samples on how to create similar animations for use in the classroom by teachers and students. <https://www.commoncraft.com/art-explanation> To make it even easier to create the animations, thousands of cut out images can be downloaded under one of the annual license plans. Go to YouTube and use search term “Common Craft” and many videos will appear in the list that include Common Craft-produced videos, videos made by high school teachers and students demonstrating how to produce videos, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCl1zoxs3Zo> and videos made by students to explain various education topics.

11. **StoryMapJS.** <https://storymap.knightlab.com/> StoryMapJS is a free tool to help you tell stories on the web that highlight the locations of a series of events. It is a new tool, yet stable in our development environment, and it has a friendly authoring tool. It has two significant, related features: (1) *Gigapixel* can tell stories with large photographs, works of art, historic maps, and other image files. Because it works best with pixel-dense files, we call these "gigapixel" StoryMaps. Learn more. (2) *SnapMap* is a tool to help you quickly create a StoryMap. It places your 20 most recent geo-tagged Instagrams on a map that can be shared instantly. You can also edit it in StoryMap's authoring tool, adding media from other sources.

12. **TimeLineJS.** <http://timeline.knightlab.com/> TimelineJS is an open-source tool that enables anyone to build visually, rich, interactive timelines. Beginners can create a timeline using nothing more than a Google spreadsheet. The instructor could make the Google spreadsheet accessible by students in the class as a group project. Experts can use their JSON skills to create custom installations, while keeping TimelineJS's core look and functionality. It can pull in media from a variety of sources and has built-in support for Twitter, Flickr, Google Maps, YouTube, Vimeo, Vine, Dailymotion, Wikipedia, SoundCloud and more. Tips & tricks: A. Keep it short, and write each event as a part of a larger narrative. B. Pick stories that have a strong chronological narrative. It does not work well for stories that need to jump around in the timeline. C. Include events that build up to major occurrences — not just the major events.

12. **TimeMapper** <http://timemapper.okfnlabs.org/> It is an open-source software program. Step one: create a spreadsheet with your dates and places in a Google spreadsheet. Step two: Connect your spreadsheet with TimeMapper and customize the results. Step three: Publish your TimeMap at your own personal website, then share or embed it on your website.

13. **Comic Life** <http://plasq.com/apps/comiclife/macwin/> 30 day free trial. Purchase for \$30 Works on Mac or Windows PC. Make a stunning comic from your own images. Packed with fonts, templates, panels, balloons, captions, and lettering art,

14. **Timelines.** <http://www.tiki-toki.com/> Tiki-Toki is web-based software for creating beautiful interactive timelines that you can share on the internet. Tiki-Toki's free account lets you create a fully-functional timeline that you can share with friends and colleagues. Sign up here. Premium accounts allow you to make multiple timelines and embed them on your website. More info found on the web page.

B. Image, audio, and video collections to use in creating digital stories

1. **Google images**, <http://www.google.com/imghp?hl=en>
2. **Univ. of MN library images collections**, <https://www.lib.umn.edu/media/imageguide>
3. **ARTstor**, a nonprofit digital image library for education and scholarship, <http://www.artstor.org/>
4. **FreeFoto** <http://freefoto.com> Extensive collection of free digital images.
5. **Unsplash**, <http://unsplash.com> Free images
6. **Stocksnap.io**, <https://stocksnap.io> Free images
7. **Pixabay.com**, <https://pixabay.com> Free images
8. **Wikipedia Creative Commons** for images, audio, video, and other free collections: [http://wiki.creativecommons.org/Content\\_Directories](http://wiki.creativecommons.org/Content_Directories) A more comprehensive collection is available at <http://searchcreativecommons.org>
9. **Internet Archive** Nonprofit organization provides a digital library of nearly 8 million items for free use by educators, scholars, researchers, and the general public. The collection includes video, live music concerts, audio files, and texts. <http://www.archive.org/>
10. **Pics4Learning.com** is a safe, free image library for education. Teachers and students can use the copyright-friendly photos & images for classrooms, multimedia projects, websites, videos, portfolios, or any projects in an educational setting. <http://www.pics4learning.com/>
11. **AmericanRhetoric.** <http://AmericanRhetoric.com> Extensive collection of speeches from history both text and audio recordings.

## **9. Sharing Yourself with Others**

### A, Enhanced video calls with recording capability

- a. **Call Recorder for Skype**, <http://www.ecamm.com/mac/callrecorder/> Try it for free and full-featured version for \$29.95. Mac only. Companion software from same company does the same with Apple FaceTime.
  - i. Records Skype audio and video calls directly to your Mac. With Call Recorder you get stunning, high-quality, HD recordings. You can record your Skype video sessions, podcasts and interviews as you see them, or in our unique side-by-side and split-screen modes.
  - ii. Feel like sharing? Easily convert your calls into MP3 files for podcasting or internet-ready movies for YouTube and Vimeo.
  - iii. Doing some editing? Call Recorder's multi-track recording feature lets you split tracks after a call.
  - iv. Record automatically, or use the record and stop buttons.
- b. **Free Call Recorder for Skype**, <http://www.dvdvideosoft.com/products/dvd/Free-Video-Call-Recorder-for-Skype.htm#.VJG9UKbwNFo> Simple, straightforward interface. Positive reviews online for the free download software.

### B. Broadcast yourself and chat with viewers

- a. **Vokle**, <http://www.vokle.com/> **Vokle** is a free service for hosting and recording live web conferences. Using **Vokle** you can host a live conference in which participants can chat with text while you broadcast yourself. You can also broadcast a conversation of yourself and another person who has their webcam enabled. The text chat room can be used to organize a line-up of people who would like to broadcast themselves to the other chat participants. **Applications for Education:** In testing **Vokle** and by watching recorded **Vokle** sessions, the real utility of the service would be to host an interview with someone while using the chat area as back-channel for questions. **Vokle** could be used in a classroom to bring in an author, scientist, or other person of interest to your content area. You could conduct the interview and use the chat area for students to ask questions and exchange comments. **Vokle** allows screening of calls and text messages before they appear to the viewing public.
- b. **Ustream**, <http://www.ustream.tv/> Designed for high definition video broadcasting for businesses and institutional use. Fairly expensive but probably worth it.
- c. **Uvlog**, <http://uvlog.com> Free broadcasting service
- d. **Livestream**, <http://livestream.com> Create live events or future broadcasts. Free plan stories events for 30 days online. Lots of features.

### B. Personal web site

- a. **SquareSpace**. Plans are \$8 or \$16 monthly. Example, <http://arendale.org>
- b. **Godaddy.com** Host web site as well as license custom web addresses as low as \$2 annually.

## **10. Converting Files from One Format to Another**

A. Convert between document, image, music, video, audio, and eBook formats.  
<http://www.zamzar.com/>

B. Convert text to audio files

1. **NaturalReader**, <http://naturalreaders.com> Available for either Windows or Macs
  - a. Free version with limited features. You can test it with copy and paste box on the website or download the free version. More features paid versions (\$49-\$199) Works with Mac or Windows computers.
  - b. Convert word processing documents (e.g., MS Word), PDFs, scanned documents, and photographs of text with cameras into audio files.
  - c. NaturalReader has OCR has functions. **OCR function** works with your scanner to convert printed characters into digital text and it is up to **99% accurate**. This allows you to listen to your printed file or edit it in a word-processing program. Currently Mac version does not include this feature.
  - d. Create MP3 audio files that can be downloaded and listened through MP3 players such as iPods and iPhones or through laptop or desktop computers.
  - e. Paid versions of software permit different computer generated voices.
2. **OmniPage Ultimate** from Nuance (\$99 when on sale, \$499 list price). While the primary promoted purpose for OmniPage is for conversion of PDF documents into editable Word format, it has other features including the ability to optically scan photographs of text and convert into a Word document, export text into ePub format for eBook readers such as Apple iPad, Android tablets, Nook, among others, and additional features. One of the additional features is turning text into a pleasant MP3 audio file with a choice of voices. It provides a male and female voice in U.S. English, male voice in Australian English, and eleven other languages. The output can be set at different speeds and volume levels.

C. Convert scanned text into format edited by word processor

1. Using a desktop computer, <http://www.onlineocr.net/>
2. Using an iPhone or iPad, <http://lifehacker.com/5829568/the-bestimage+to+text-app-for-iphone> This article discusses several iPhone/iPad apps that take photographs of text and then converts it ready for processing on a computer. Reviewer recommends TextGrabber for \$5.99

3. As described above, Omni Page Ultimate has OCR capability to convert scanned or photographed images of text and turn into editable format by word processor.

D. Convert audio to text files

1. **Dragon Speak**, [www.nuance.com/](http://www.nuance.com/) Price varies below \$100, Mac or Windows
  - a. Convert voice into text. This function currently only works with Mac version. Open MP3 and other formatted files into application for automatic conversion to text file. Editing required to finalize text for readability.

E. Convert Web Pages into PDF Documents, <http://pdfmyurl.com>

F. **Readability**. Converting web page articles into more readable format.

<http://readability.com> Readability is a free web and mobile app that zaps online clutter and saves web articles in a comfortable reading view. Download the web browser plug-in to easily reformat an article to print or to save it and read later.

## 11. Classroom Response Systems

1. **Socrative**. <http://www.socrative.com/> Socrative is a FREE smart student response system that empowers teachers to engage their classrooms through educational exercises and games via smartphones, laptops, and tablets. It takes teachers 3 minutes to set up and takes their classes 20 seconds to load. So easy. Video overview: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzNrXd5Xpu4#t=33>
2. **Plickers**. <http://plickers.com> Free for Apple and Android devices. Use the mobile device camera to capture the response choice of the students who hold up a card oriented to their choice of answer (change orientation of card for different answers). Many teachers project questions and answer choices on the board from the Live View tab of the website, give students a designated thinking time to problem-solve, and then countdown to a "show cards!" moment. Live View will update with student results in real-time, indicating which students' responses have been captured with a checkmark next to their names. Teachers can also choose to reveal which answer(s) were correct with the "Show Answer" button and even review class data from the "Graph" tab.
3. **Poll Everywhere**, Free and paid plans for class or conference response system allowing input through Twitter, web site, or text messaging.  
<http://polleverywhere.com>
4. **Understandit.com** <http://understandit.com> Free and paid plans for same as Poll Everywhere. Students can respond simply by pressing the "understand it" or "confused" button with immediate results provided to the speaker.

5. **Twitter** could be used as a classroom response system using a hashtag that uniquely identified the class.
6. **Nearpod** <http://www.nearpod.com> Interactive learning environment set up by teachers for students. Four steps: 1. Teacher creates or downloads interactive multimedia presentations. 2. Teachers shares interactive lesson with students and controls the student's activity in real time. 3. Students interact and submit response through any mobile device or PC/MAC. 4. Teacher monitors and measures student results on an individual and aggregate basis. Four levels of Nearpod: Read the comparison of the plans at <http://www.nearpod.com/upgrade/>
7. **IntuiFace** <http://intuilab.com> With IntuiFace, multi-touch, gesture and tag-driven environments are now accessible to any business, regardless of skill set. Rapidly create natural user interaction-based experiences without writing one line of code. For both the board room and the classroom, the tradeshow and the showroom, the museum, the store, the sales call .... It's your content, your way. Fully interactive applications with cutting edge appeal, functional depth and endless capability. Currently operates most easily on Windows computer. Free plan available at <https://myintuiface.intuilab.com/register.aspx>
8. Kahoot. <http://getkahoot.com> Up to 1000 student play at <https://kahoot.it> Free game-based software used in 180 countries for P-12 and college students for online quizzes, collaboration, and many other learning activities. See the FAQs for more information including compatibility using Explorer 11 on Windows 8.

## **12. Enhancing Video Files of Others**

### A. Captioning video files with text

1. **MovieCaptioner**, <http://www.synchrimedia.com/>
  - a. Caption video. License \$99 for use on either Mac or Windows computers. Free 14-day trial software to try out before you buy. Recommend also purchasing the SCC Caption Decoder to allow editing of the captions later. It is only an additional \$12.50 to purchase. See website for more infor.
  - b. After you load your movie, just click the Start button and MovieCaptioner will play a 4 second loop of the movie. You type what you hear and hit the Return key and it records your caption and the start time. It automatically moves to the next 4 second loop. Once you get all the captions in, you can export to many different formats. The caption track can be added automatically to your movie. You can also create transcripts with timecode. Already have transcripts and just need to add them as captions to your movies? MovieCaptioner will allow import of text as captions. It will also import many other caption formats keeping the timecode intact. It's a simple way to convert between captioning formats.
  - c. Click the link to see how Motorz-TV creates captions for their TV program. <http://chrisduke.tv/973/close-captioning-videos>

- d. Download the free ebook from the company to help get started with the software, “*Getting started with video captioning.*”

#### B. Annotating video

1. **VideoANT**, <http://ant.umn.edu> Take video posted to YouTube and add annotations to them. Video appears on the left side and annotations on the right-hand side of the screen. Annotations and comments by instructors and students possible with various options. *Instructions:* <http://www.arendale.org/storage/pdf-documents/lt/VideoANTInstructionsEmailSignon.pdf> Sample: <http://z.umn.edu/LetsDance2>

2. **VidBolt**, <https://beta.vidbolt.com/> Review of VidBolt, <http://www.arendale.org/storage/pdf-documents/lt/VidBolt%20Annotate%20YouTube%20Video.pdf>

### **13. Hosting Data Online and Syncing Between Personal Computers**

1. **Box**, <http://box.com> , 10GB free account with limit of 250MB files. Paid accounts provides more storage.
2. **Dropbox**, <http://dropbox.com> 2GB free account, <http://dropbox.com> Pro account provides 1TB storage for \$10/monthly or \$100 annually
3. **Google Drive**, 5 GB free account, <http://drive.google.com>
4. **SugarSync**, 5GB free account, <http://sugarsync.com> 100 GB \$75/annually. Files can be synced to all personal computers, PDAs, etc. Change file on one device, it is revised on all devices. Choose all files, or specific ones. Also access all the files from the SugarSync Cloud through any other computer.

### **14. Miscellaneous**

- A. Visually displaying the frequency of words used in text
  - a. **Wordle**, <http://www.wordle.net/> Samples of “word clouds”, <http://www.wordle.net/gallery>
- B. Tablet computers software applications/apps (e.g., iPad)
  - a. *David Arendale's 2015 Guide to Apple iPad Apps*, <http://z.umn.edu/davidipadapps>
- C. Measuring and Evaluating: Monitoring Usage of Web Sites
  - a. **Google**, <http://google.com/analytics/>
  - b. **BudUrl**, <http://budurl.com>

D. Compressing Long Web URL Addresses

- a. **TinyUrl**, <http://tinyurl.com>
- b. URL Shortener, <http://is.gd>
- c. **BudUrl**, <http://budurl.com>
- d. **Bit.Ly**, <http://bit.ly/>

E. Speed Test for Internet Connection

1. **Comcast cable.** <http://speedtest.comcast.net>

F. Texting Students and Parents

- a. [Http://remind.com](http://remind.com) A safe way for teachers to text message students and stay in touch with parents. Free for teachers. Most often used in secondary education. Student choose whether to provide text number. Students and parents can easily sign up by text, email or online through a unique class code.
- b. <http://Signalvine.com> A fee-based system to send and receive text messages. Signal Vine has developed a web-based text messaging platform with rich functionality to allow two-way text messaging, personalized messages, and scheduled message programs. The platform's functionality targets high-volume, large participant interactive communications in which data can inform the timing and content of a message to make it highly relevant to participants. As a result, response rates are as high as 70% and engagement levels are as high as 90%.