Information & Collaboration Tools

Questions? Want to consult or collaborate? Contact Kirsten Dean at kirstend@vt.edu.

Global Information Access

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Open Educational Resources

Quick Guide to Pandemic Misinformation - series of basic steps to fact-check information

COVID-Released Resources from Publishers
- eBooks, streaming video, etc. temporarily available for remote learning
- Software and web tools including Texas Instruments calculators

VT Libraries Guide to OER
- Find open resources here, organized by discipline
- Primary sources in the public domain
- Find both VT-exclusive content and works in the public domain at HathiTrust

[Open Pedagogy Notebook](#)
- Not sure how to incorporate OER into classes? Find example assignments here.

Digital Collaboration Tools

[Goal setting guide](#) for team projects
- Planning guide for students, created by the Libraries' Fusion Studio coordinator

[Hypothes.is](#) - annotate web texts together, share notes and comments

[Mural](#) - visual collaboration tool; basically a virtual whiteboard

[Google Apps](#) - share files with Drive, message with Chat, create Forms and Sites, etc.

[Padlet](#) - bulletin-board style posts, files, etc. to organize and share notes and media

[Dropbox](#) - file-sharing and storage (an alternative to Google Drive)

[CATME](#) - create groups with Team-Maker tool and facilitate confidential student evaluations of team dynamics using research-based Peer Evaluation tool

[Wheel of Names](#) - randomize your selection of student names for questions, teams, etc.

[Kaizena](#) - feedback tool that makes it easy to leave voice comments in response to assignments

[Trello](#) - project management and tracking for teams

Media Creation Tools

[Canva](#) - easily create, or have students create, graphics/handouts/social media posts

[Visme](#) - create ebooks, infographics, etc.; up to 5 projects free

[MakeAGif](#) or [Giphy GIF Maker](#) - create custom gifs from existing video or images

[Screencastify](#) or [Screencast-O-Matic](#) - record a quick screen capture and use basic editing tools

[Animoto](#) - drag-and-drop video creation

[Wordpress](#) - make free websites and blogs

Blogger - another free blog creation tool

Timeline JS - quickly create interactive timelines using simple Google spreadsheets

Alternatives to Zoom and Google Meet

Discord - recommended for text chats & for smaller group calls with screen sharing; voice chat feature allows breaking into small groups

Microsoft Teams - hold chats and meetings, organize groups, share files

Slack - chat service that facilitates multiple channels; integrated file sharing and apps

WhatsApp - messaging and calling service

VoiceThread - web-based tool to share and comment on files