Image from: http://blog.apterainc.com

Teaching, Learning, and Technology *...In Print*

Distance Ed Department Blog:
http://teachlearnandtech.wordpress.com

CREATE, ADAPT, & INNOVATE

MOBILE APPS TO CHECK OUT

Mobile Apps? What Are They Really Good For?

A faculty member asked me a great question: Why use (pay for) an app when I can access these resources through my device's web browser?

The short response was: *"Apps are built for your mobile devices so you'll have a better user experience."*

The long version of my response goes something like this:

When you talk about mobile technology, three words are commonly used:

Portability: Portability is probably the #1 reason that you bought your mobile device. The device and apps enable you to access information anywhere you are, anytime you want, when you need it.

Accessibility: Mobile apps extend the computer software or subscriptions you may have, allowing you to access information across platforms. For example, Dropbox, allows you to install the software on your desktop and it has a mobile app you can install on your devices. So, when you update and sync files, you will always have the most updated file at your fingertips, whether you

access the files on your computer, phone, or tablet.

Usability: Mobile apps are built specifically for mobile devices. This means the way you interact with an app will be more intuitive, efficient, and useful.

I am always on the lookout for mobile apps that will help me implement new and different teaching strategies. I look for apps from three general categories.

Productivity: Productivity apps allow me to take notes, plan, collaborate, and stay organized.

Instructional: Instructional apps allow me to create multimedia and interactive content.

Administrative: Administrative apps allow me to manage my course and content, usually by accessing a learning management system, like Blackboard, or communication tools like blogs.

What's currently in my mobile app toolkit?

Doceri, Prezi, Evernote, Kindle, VoiceThread, Blackboard Mobile Learn, Dropbox, Google Drive, Skype, AIM, and Wordpress

Evernote

http://evernote.com

Evernote is a digital organizer that lets you capture text, audio, video, and web clippings. You organize your content into "notes" and "notebooks" that can then be synced across your devices and shared with other Evernote users.
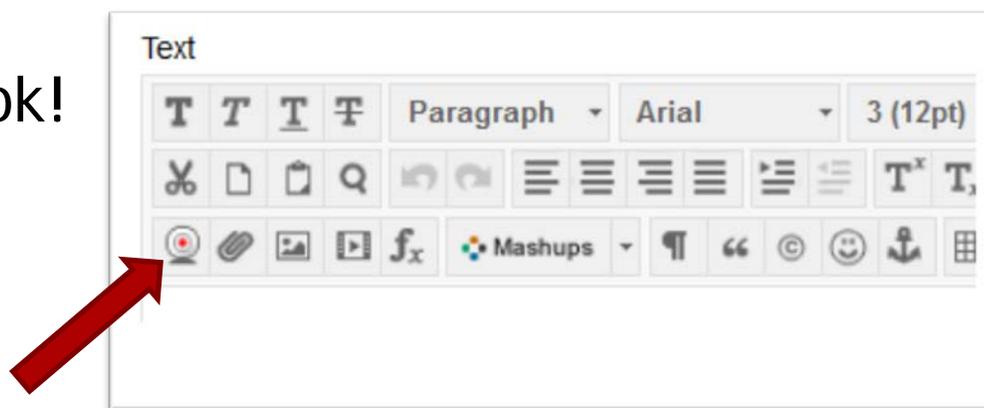
Doceri

http://doceri.com/

Doceri is an interactive whiteboard application that lets you record your lectures, annotate your presentations, and remotely control your computer desktop using the iPad.

Take a Closer Look!

Have you noticed the new textbox editor in Blackboard? Video Everywhere is a feature of the content editor. The "red-eyed" webcam icon located on the third row of the formatting option turns on the video recording feature. The feature provides the ability for both **instructors and students to:**

- Record a video on the fly using a webcam, save the video to your *personal* YouTube account, and have it seamlessly embedded in course materials, interactions, and feedback through the content editor.
- Reuse previously recorded videos by choosing from one's own "library" of videos from YouTube.

Video Everywhere is accessible where ever you use the textbox editor.

So......You and your students can:

- Record a video post within the course discussion boards, blogs, journals, and wikis.
- Record a video question or answer to a test item.
- Much, much more

To use your webcam:

1. Click Recorder and select Record from Webcam.
2. When prompted, click Sign in to YouTube.
3. Click Grant Access.

4. Click Record from webcam.
5. Click Start Recording. When you are finished, click Stop Recording.
6. Click Upload to save your video on YouTube.
7. Click Insert to add the video to the content editor.

More information is available on the Blackboard Help website:

https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_SP_12_and_SP_13/Student/170_Tools/Content_Editor/Video_Everywhere

September DE Workshops

Date	Location	Time	Topic
9/4/2013	Online/ Webinar	11am - 12pm	Blackboard Reporting Tools
9/5/2013	SBVC – LA 208	11am - 12pm	Doceri: Compose/Record/Present with the iPad
9/10/2013	CHC – LRC 110	11am - 12pm	Resources to Flip the Classroom
9/11/2013	Online/ Webinar	1pm-2pm	Using Blackboard Rubrics
9/19/2013	SBVC – LA 208	3pm - 4pm	Resources to Flip the Classroom
9/18/2013	Online/ Webinar	3pm - 4pm	Open Education
9/24/2013	CHC – LRC 110	3pm - 4pm	Doceri: Compose/Record/Present with the iPad
9/25/2013	Online/ Webinar	1pm-2pm	Snapshot: Blackboard Test Surveys, and Pools

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