

Digital Writing Activities and Tools

Faculty Seminar Series

Teaching with New Media

Compiled by Mike Truong (mtruong@ucmerced.edu)



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Digital writing entails the use of technology to facilitate the writing process, namely pre-writing, drafting, peer reviewing, and revising. The following table highlights tools and potential uses for various stages of the writing process.

Writing Process	Tools	Potential Uses
Pre-Writing and Brainstorming	• Bulletin Boards (e.g., MightyBell, Lino, GroupZap, Pinterest, etc.) • Mind Maps (e.g., Xmind, Mindomo, MindMeister, Bubbl-us, etc.)	• Use bulletin boards to brainstorm and capture ideas, keywords, images, and videos. • Use mind maps to visualize relationship between and among concepts.
Drafting	• Word Processor (e.g., MS Word, GoogleDocs, PrimaryPad, etc.) • Blogs (e.g., WordPress, Blogger, Tumblr, Twitter, Posterous, etc.)	• Use word processor to create narrative structure with ideas generated during pre-writing and brainstorming. • Use a blog to flush out ideas and to scaffold key concepts into larger narrative.
Peer Review and Revision	• Word Processor (e.g., MS Word, GoogleDocs, etc.) • Blogs (e.g., WordPress, Blogger, Tumblr, Twitter, Posterous, etc.) • Peer Review (e.g., TurnItIn, PeerMarks, CPR, etc.) • Audio/Video Feedback (e.g., OneNote, VoiceThread, etc.)	• Use comment and in-text features within word processors to provide feedback. • In GoogleDocs, multiple users can simultaneously work on the same document, providing feedback via in-text, chat, & comment features. • In addition to text responses, feedback can also be in audio and visual forms.
Writing Meetings	• Web Conference (e.g., Skype, BigMarker, ReadyTalk, etc.)	• Using web conferencing to hold writing conferences between instructor and students and among students. • Use desktop sharing to view document during meeting
Multi-modal Writing Projects	• Storyboarding (e.g., XtraNormal, GoAnimate, Pixton, StoryBird, etc.) • Video Essays (e.g., Animoto, Stupeflix, Picasa, etc.)	• Use digital storytelling tools to compose multimodal essays, including audio essays, photo essays, video essays, presentations, and remixes. • For more ideas, strategies, and examples of digital writing, please visit: http://digitalwriting101.net.