Collaborative Platforms

Twitter: The Basics
What is Twitter?

- Twitter is a micro-blogging service that enables students and instructors to send and read real-time, text-based posts of up to 140 characters, known as "tweets."

- Think of Twitter as a cross between text messaging, instant messaging, and blogging.
This is where you post your updates.

This is the timeline, where you'll find the most recent updates by the people you follow.
Getting Started

- Chose a simple username, that’s close to your own name
- Upload a photo
- Fill in your bio information
What to tweet?

YES
- Information related to your course(s)
- Helpful tips on assignments, projects
- Links to class-related materials, like a blog or news source

NO
- Personal information
- Travel schedule
- “Figuring out” Twitter
- What you ate for lunch

Remember: The more you tweet, the better you become at using it.
This dialogue box will appear. Enter your update here. You can also include links to other websites, should you want to link your students to a resource or helpful website.

To tweet from your profile page, click the blue icon.

This shows you how many characters you have in the tweet. You are only permitted 140 characters per tweet. A good rule of thumb here: Keep it simple.
Who to follow?

- Your students
- Colleagues
- Public service accounts
- Researchers
- NPOs, or other organizations as they relate to your course
- News sources
- Education blogs
Connecting with others in your tweets

- Target specific users with the @ symbol
- Connect your content to a conversation with the hashtag (#) symbol
Through the "Connect" tab, you can view who is interacting with your content.

Using the @ symbol, you can directly contact specific users.
By using the hashtag function, you can include others in a conversation. By creating a unique hashtag for your class, you can connect your students to real-time conversations in and beyond the classroom.
How can Twitter enhance my course beyond the classroom?

- Remind students of upcoming due dates and assignments
- Sync Twitter to your class blog or website
- Connect with professionals, guest speakers or lecturers
- Post supplementary material
- Connect remote classrooms
- Take a poll
- Ask questions
- Take and share notes
- Coordinate assignments
- Create a running news feed
The more you use Twitter, the better you become.

Questions or comments?
Contact the Digital Pathways Communications Liaison:
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