Strategically Integrating Technology into Teaching & Learning

Questions to ask when brainstorming ideas for a digital alternative:

- Is there a learning objective that can be better supported with media?
  - For example, is there an oral presentation objective for the course?
  - Is the learning heavily visual?
- If replacing an in-class presentation:
  - Is there a media that allows recording of voice and images and can be saved for later viewing?
  - Is there a media that allows feedback easily? (audio on SoundCloud does this)
- Will the technology you choose distract from or add to the learning occurring?
- Does the topic suggest spatial movement? (a video may work here)
- Is there a timeline involved that could be visual?
- Is there a process involved that could be demonstrated?

Possible Digital Activities and Their Tools:

Informally quiz the class to assess learning or start discussions.
  *Tools: I-Clickers, Socrative*

Create an audio-visual presentation that includes pictures and voice over.
  *Tools: Jing, Voice-Threads, Screencast-o-matic, Explain Everything Ipad app, Goanimate, Camtasia*

Create a presentation other than a Powerpoint.
  *Tools: Zoomit, Prezi*

Create an audio recording/podcast that can be shared and commented on.
  *Tools: Audacity, Sound Cloud, Phones*

Find pictures and curate pictures with comments.
  *Tools: Flickr, Pinterest, Thinglink*

Create images to share or organize words, ideas or data.
  *Tools: Infographics, Wordle*

Create a place for students to share their work with each other and the world.
  *Tools: Google Sites, Wordpress, Tumblr, Wikis*
Communicate synchronously with experts  
*Tools*: Skype, Google Plus Hangout

Coordinate a peer review session.  
*Tools*: Calibrated Peer Review, Now Comment

Brainstorm ideas and outline  
*Tools*: Bubbl.us, Pearl trees

Create a timeline that includes text, pictures and video  
*Tools*: Dipity, XTimeline, TimeRime, Timetoast

Create an audio-visual demonstration of something on the web  
*Tools*: Jing, Screencast-o-matic

Have an asynchronous online discussion about a text  
*Tools*: Book2Cloud

Have an asynchronous online discussion about a website  
*Tools*: Diigo

Critically examine ideas with partner: Think-Pair-Share Tech  
*Tools*: Think/Blog/Respond using a blog, Think Draw Share using Drawing tools  
[http://blog.teachercast.net/thinkpairshare-variations/](http://blog.teachercast.net/thinkpairshare-variations/)

---

**More Reading on this Topic:**

NspireD: Explore new ways to integrate technology into teaching & learning  
[http://ltlatnd.wordpress.com](http://ltlatnd.wordpress.com)  
A blog by Chris Clark at Notre Dame. Assistant Director, Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning

---

*Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike*  
Originally created by Keene State College – Center for Engagement, Learning, and Teaching. September 2012  
Modified by Natalie Sampson, University of Michigan – Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, November 2012