

First-Year Writing Workshop, February 23, 2009
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GREAT online Google Apps Tutorial: <http://services.google.com/apps/resources/overviews/welcome/topicWelcome/index.html>

Workshop materials (PDF of presentation, handout, actual slideshow) can be viewed/downloaded from <http://itcboisestate.wordpress.com> (Click the Writing Workshop page tab at the top) Please post any comments to this page about this workshop.

Technology + Meaningful Learning = Engaged Learners!

Google Apps: Suite of applications that allows you and your students to become more efficient, productive, and to collaborate, revise, and publish.

Once you have migrated, you can access Google Apps at Boise State through:

<http://apps.boisestate.edu> Login with your BroncoWeb username and password

Once you log in, you will see the links at the upper left of your browser, for Documents (Google Docs), Sites (Google Sites)

Google Docs: Collaborative word processing programs that is free, web-based, works on any platform

Ideas for using Google Docs in your classes:

1. Individual writing assignments, especially those that require peer-review, editing, revising, publishing
2. Collaborative writing projects where students might work in groups, doing group editing and revisions over a period of time
3. Turn emails/attachments into Google docs and then share with others, turning an email sharing document into a Google Doc
4. Create and provide rubric feedback to individual students

Google Sites: Collaborate website (wiki) that can be private or public, created quickly and easily with no knowledge required of HTML.

Ideas for using Google Sites in your classes:

1. Collaborative class book that is published and public
2. Resource, research site for student/teacher collaboration, developing over time
3. Student portfolios

Blogger: Google's blogging software platform, free, web-based, and uber-easy to use.

Ideas for using Blogger in your classes:

1. Collaborative class blog, offering practice using blogger and the blogging tools
2. Individual student blogs, on a topic they self-select
3. Podcast platform, using Blogger to post audio files and create feed to podcasts (<http://www.freevlog.org>)

(Blogger is not part of the Google Apps Suite, but students should be able to log in to Blogger once they've logged in to Google Apps at Boise State)

- Go to <http://blogger.com> and login or create an account.
- There are great tutorials on the Blogger site to help you and your students get started, but it's fast and pretty easy.