Working in the Cloud with
Google Docs, Prezi & Dropbox

Center for Educational Excellence - Tech Talk
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The Cloud

- What is working in *the cloud*?
  - Working online
    - Storing online
      - “Guaranteed” backup
    - Accessing your data from anywhere, anytime (w/ Internet)
  - Is data secure?
  - Is transportation of data secure?
  - Sharing docs… maybe with too many people?
Ask yourself…

- What do you do if you aren’t connected to the Internet?
- Will I need to change my behavior?
  - Emailing attachments vs. sharing
- Will others I collaborate with ‘buy in’?
- What happens if/when your paid account expires?
- “Who owns the data”?
- FERPA issues?
Implications

- Performance relates to Internet connectivity:
  - Enterprise connectivity, e.g. USD = 500Mbps+
  - Starbucks = ~2Mbps
  - AT&T/Verizon (3G, 4G LTE)= ~3Mbps
  - JetBlue = 80Kbps
  - Cox Communications = at least 12Mbps
Cautions:

- Not backed up like your “USD home drive”.
- If your account is compromised ITS sadly cannot help.
- Who can help?
  - Make sure you read the fine print regarding customer service
Helpful Tools for Working in the Cloud

- GoogleDocs
- Prezi
- DropBox
GoogleDocs

- Free
  - all you need is a Gmail account
- Allows you to share your documents with others
- No limit on the amount of space you need
- Types of files you can create are:
  - Documents (can convert to a .doc)
  - Presentations (… .ppt)
  - Spreadsheets (… .xls)
  - Forms
  - Drawings
Prezi [http://prezi.com](http://prezi.com)

- Free and cost versions
- Good way to group and present ideas
- You always start with a large clean canvas
  - Zoomable canvas makes it easy to look at details and the big picture
  - Begin to chart ideas using different font sizes and colors to emphasize importance
    - Highlighter, pen, shapes are also available
  - You can add images, background images, and videos
Prezi continued

- You can import your *MS PowerPoints* and *GoogleDoc Presentations* and start from there
  - [http://prezi.com/arinrm5xa_g_/demo-from-presentation-created-on-googledocs/](http://prezi.com/arinrm5xa_g_/demo-from-presentation-created-on-googledocs/)

- You can share presentations with others
  - [http://prezi.com/0fulwsncuyzt/final_asaro/](http://prezi.com/0fulwsncuyzt/final_asaro/)

- Prezi Desktop also available “for maximum and working offline.”
DropBox

- Free and cost versions
- Easy to use
- Allows you upload files in one step
- Can share with others
- Recent breach with DropBox (this week, June 2011)
  - “…for a four-hour stretch, the site's defenses were down.”, CNN.com
Enterprise storage /USD negotiations

- Amazon’s Simple Storage Service (S3)
- AT&T Synaptic Storage as a Service
- Nirvanix: Cloud Storage Network
- Rackspace: CloudFiles
- …many others…

http://www.cloudstorageproviders.org
Many options available / Staying Safe

- Amazon’s Cloud Drive, Kindle, et cetera
- Apple’s iPad, iTunes, iCloud, et cetera
- Evernote
- Flickr
- Online Banking
- Twitter
- YouTube
- and on and on and on …

- Whether we like it or not *The Cloud* is here to stay
- We need to be smart about how we work in it
- Security is always, will always, be an issue
Live the dream!

- Thank you for your attention!
- Questions?
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