

UND2015—Tech Tools For The Classroom **Course at a Glance**

Instructor/Presenter: Shannon J. Holden

Length: 45 hours

Dates: Rolling admission

Number of Professional Development Credits: 3, from the University of North Dakota

Introduction

Each year, thousands of students arrive in classrooms wanting to be educated, entertained, and inspired by their teachers. Unfortunately, many educators feel like they are unprepared to meet the needs of their students. Teachers try teaching the way THEY were taught, and find their students sleeping, daydreaming, misbehaving, and disengaged from the learning process.

Teachers are told to integrate technology into their lessons – but are overwhelmed by the ever-changing list of tools available to them. They ask many of the same questions when trying to navigate this new frontier in education:

“How much does this cost?”

“Can we afford it?”

“What about student privacy concerns?”

“Am I going to get in trouble for using this?”

“How does it work?”

“Does this technology REALLY impact student learning?”

This course is designed to lessen the pain, suffering, confusion, and lessen the time it takes for educators to understand how to use the BEST educational “TechTools” available.

I have discovered that teachers will NOT use technology unless it meets these four criteria: 1. It has to be inexpensive (FREE is BEST). 2. It has to be EASY to implement. 3. It has to save a teacher time, effort, or work. 4. It has to result in an increase in student learning or engagement (BOTH is BEST).

In my roles as a school administrator, educational consultant, website builder, and webinar presenter for the past 25 years – I have been exposed to hundreds of educational technology platforms. To meet educator needs, I have put together a collection of my “Top 20” FREE TechTools that educators can integrate into their lessons tomorrow!

Course Objectives

After completing this course, educators will know:

Free online platforms and mobile apps that work in the real classroom
Tools that make it possible for teachers to do formative assessments on students in real time
Ways to involve parents in their student's educational endeavors
Motivational strategies that will work on disconnected students
Where to find free online resources to help build an educator's repertoire of teaching techniques

Session Topics

1. Digital Portfolios
2. LiveBinders
3. TedED, Sophia, Khan Academy
4. YouTube Video Editor
5. Wikispaces
6. Using Pinterest & EduClipper to Curate Materials
7. Quizlet & StudyBlue
8. SlideShare
9. Choosing the Right LMS For Your School
10. Flipping Your Classroom Without Internet
11. Getting Organized With Evernote & Dropbox
12. Plickers
13. Blogging
14. EdPuzzle
15. TodaysMeet
16. Actively Learn
17. Using Screenshots
18. Blubbr.tv
19. Kahoot
20. Streaming Educational Content With Periscope & The Cube

Methods of Instruction will include:

Individual lessons

Multiple-choice quizzes

Assignments

PowerPoint presentations (200 + slides)

Final reflection assignment

Text and/or Other Materials

Video, screen captures, multiple-choice quizzes, and PowerPoint presentations (210 slides) are provided by the instructor in this online course. There are NO required textbooks.

Assignments

This course has seven assignments, including a final reflection assignment.

The course includes twenty multiple-choice quizzes.

The final essay encourages participants to write a reflection on what they have learned during the course.

Percentage of Course Credit:

Quizzes 70%

Assignments 30%

Due Dates of Major Assignments, Projects, and Examinations:

This online, self-running program can be started and completed at the student's own leisure **within four**

months from the beginning of the course.

Grading and Evaluation Activities:

This online course uses S/U grading (Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory).

The course administrator will review students' answers and provide feedback. Students will be evaluated on their quiz grades, assignment grades, and the quality of their reflection at the conclusion of the course.