Initiative for Technology Empowered Education

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan

Empowering Teachers and Learners with Google Apps

Obliterating barriers to technology driven communities

GOOGLING BEYOND SEARCH...
WHAT IS GOOGLE APPS?

- A service from Google providing independently customizable versions of several Google products under a custom domain.

- A suite of applications that allows you and your students to become more efficient and productive and to collaborate, edit and publish their work.

- A hosted service that lets businesses, schools, and institutions use a variety of Google products on a unique domain.
  - Gmail
  - Google Docs
  - Google Calendar
  - Google Talk
  - Google Sites
  - Blogger
  - etc

- Free for educational institutions
- £33 per user per year for business.

Dr Yetunde Folajimi  FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
Google Apps

Google Mail
Google Chat
Google Sites
Google Docs
Google Video
Google Sites
iGoogle
Google Earth
Google Groups
Google Maps
Google News
Google Alerts
Google Reader
Google Search
Google SketchUp
Knol
Picassa
Google Calendar
Blogger

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan

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GOOGLE APPS FOR EDUCATION

• A suite of communication and collaboration tools provided by Google
• Consists of Email, Docs, Calendar, Sites and Video,
• Can replace some existing systems in schools
• Contribute to significant cost savings, allowing students and staff to access their information from any device with internet access
• Example:
  • All staff share one calendar, onto which important events can be added.
  • Another calendar is created for parents and embedded within the school website
  • several students work on a group project at once and teachers assess pupils’ work as they complete it.

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
GOOGLE TOOLS FOR THE CLASSROOM

- Book Search
- Docs
- Earth
- Groups
- Maps
- Page Creator
- News
- Picasa
- iGoogle
- SketchUp

Web Search
Google Apps Education Edition
Blogger
Custom Search Engine
Calendar
Google Notebook
Google translate

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
GOOGLE APPS USAGE

TEACHERS:
• Colaborate with colleagues using Google Talk
• Sign up for computer lab or library
• Use Gmail or Google Docs to collect assignments online

STUDENTS:
• Colaborate with classmates using Google sites
• Make presentation with Google Docs
• Keep organised using Google calendar

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan

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• **Free online word processor**
  • word processing documents, spreadsheets,
  • forms (you can create easy surveys),
  • Presentations
  • Import and export variety of file types
  • Share and publish files
  • Open files sent from Gmail directly in google docs and spreadsheets

• **Why Google Docs?**
  • write, edit, revise, publish
  • centralized
  • timely
  • Version history
  • familiar layouts
  • authentic writing process (through writing, review, editing, and revising)
  • world audience

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS  
Department of Computer Science  
University of Ibadan
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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
GOOGLE DRIVE

Recently upgraded to Google Drive

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
WHY GOOGLE DOCS?

• Individual writing assignments
• Collaborative writing projects
• Turn emails/attachments into Google docs
• Share rubrics with students
• Work together online and avoid attachments

• Students can:
  • work on their files from any pc
  • get instant feedback
  • publish papers and presentations to an authentic audience

• Teachers can
  • provide timely feedback to stds at any point
  • collaborate with colleagues (material/assessment)
  • publish handouts for stds and parents

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan

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TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- get in the habit of using Google docs yourself.
- Require students to use Google docs in most of your writing assignments.
- Have them share the Google doc with you.
- Require them to name the file with conventions that will help you identify their work quickly and easily and then put all student work in the same Google Docs class folder.

Explore my Google Drive

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Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
- A collaborative website (known also as a wiki) that currently can be private or public for teachers and private or viewable to domain name holders or for students.

- In the past we've been relegated to using some of the free, web-based wikis, such as pbwiki, wikispaces, or wetpaint
  - We don't know how long they will be around or how they will be maintained.

- Google Sites provides a website, wiki, and a constantly developed resource that SHOULD be stable and reliable.
WHY GOOGLE SITES?

- You already have it!
- No specialized skills
- Collaborate
- Customizable
- Easily Updated
- personalized home page
- at-a-glance access to key info
- educational gadgets
- easily removed/ added
- Dependable
- create course website quickly
- include subordinate pages to each unit
- share documents, videos, calendars, charts and other information all in one place
- offers control over who has access

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Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
WHY GOOGLE SITES?

- **Students can**
  - manage a to-do list for their assignments
  - create a personal portfolio of their work
  - collaborate and share ideas for group work and peer tutoring

- **Teachers can**
  - create a class page
  - allow students to create pages
  - include tutorial videos
  - collaborate with other teachers/school-wide projects
  - manage international projects

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Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
IDEAS FOR GOOGLE SITES IN YOUR CLASSROOM

• Collaborative class book
  • create and host a collaborative class book that is published and public

• Group research site
  • Use Google Sites as a place for all students to collect, sort, and evaluate research

• Student portfolios
  • Host student portfolios, where students design and post their original work throughout your program, ending with a rich resource. Google Sites allows the embedding of all sorts of material, and students could include many types of digital media on their site.

• Course website
  • Students help to build course, incorporating student ideas into your course design and development
GOOGLE SITE EXAMPLE

https://sites.google.com/site/folajimiclass/

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
A free, web-based powerful blogging application by Google

blogs are personal journals, online micro-publications, that allow writers to explore writing, invite comments, and begin to develop a voice.

Since students are already using a lot of Google tools, they might find the simple sign-in process and access to blogger very convenient.

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
Why Blogger?

- **Authentic voice/personal interest**
  - Blogs can help our students write in an authentic voice, on a topic in which they are truly interested. Writing from their interests might increase output and quality.

- **Public audience**
  - Blogging is public and viewable by a world-wide audience. Instead of only the teacher reading student work, now the world does. And the world comments too! Students might be more motivated to write their best when their audience is public.

- **Self-assess**
  - Through reading classmates’ blogs, students can compare their own writing. Through this type of self-assessment, learners might be motivated to continuously improve, getting ideas from better writers, and trying out new techniques.

- **Quick, easy, professional, slick**
  - Super-quick and easy to set up and might provide just the right amount of motivation for a student to start writing.

- **Habit-forming**
  - Once they see how easy it is to write one post, students might be encouraged to keep writing. It could become habit-forming.
Why Blogger?

- **Students can**
  - keep a reflective learning journal
  - post messages, photos, videos
  - share schoolwork

- **Teachers can**
  - post resources, assignments, homework, lessons
  - keep parents updated
  - reflect on their teaching practices
  - follow std's progress
  - share ideas with other educators
  - organize project work

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Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
IDEAS FOR BLOGS IN YOUR CLASSROOM

• Collaborative class blog
• Individual student blogs
• Podcast platform, using Blogger to post audio files and create feed to podcasts
• Getting started:
  • Go to http://blogger.com and login or create an account
  • Great tutorials on the Blogger site
  • Watch how fast and easy it is to create a blog
• Note:
  • Blogspot have to be used with Blogger, but Blogger doesn’t have to be used with Blogspot. However, both are designed to work together in providing free blogging experience for their users.

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan

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• Personalised home page
• At a glance access to key information
• Educational gadgets
• Easily removed/added

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan

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iGoogle gadgets (themes selection)

- "Framed Photo" displays a series of photos
- "GoogleGram" creation of special daily messages
- "Daily Me" displays user's current mood and feelings
- "Free Form" allows the user to input text/images
- "YouTube Channel" displays videos from a YouTube channel
- "Personal List" allows user to create a list of items
- "Countdown" countdown timer

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
Why iGoogle?

- **Students can**
  - Stayed informed, news & events
  - Add gadgets: class calendars to-do lists encyclopedias & dictionaries
  - Create customized tabs for assignments, activities, personal interests

- **Teachers can**
  - unleash stds creativity by having them make their own gadgets
  - keep up-to-date with their blogs
  - plan/organize their instructional day
  - develop a custom tab to access their professional network

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
• Free, downloadable
• combines satellite imagery, maps, 3D terrain, 3D buildings
• explore organizations (NASA, Discovery Education)
• explore species/ night sky

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
WHY GOOGLE EARTH?

Students can:
create tours of their school/community
study climate change/effects of global warming
track earthquakes in real time
explore animal kingdom with National Geographic content

Teachers can:
set the scene for various lessons
adapt abstract lessons to the real world: interaction with real-time data
explore night

http://www.googlelittrips.com/

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
WHY GOOGLE GROUPS?

- **Students can**:
  - extend class discussion online
  - share ideas, store docs, organize web resources working on a team project
  - create a private group for school clubs/sports teams to share latest news, announcements, pix

- **Teachers can**
  - make class handouts, reading material, assignments, web links available for stds and parents
  - send email announcements to parents
  - centralize resources & communication

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Dr Yẹtunde Fọlagbẹ́mi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
GOOGLE MAPS

• free web mapping service application
• http://www.google.com/maps
• It provides:
  • terrain maps
  • satellite imagery
  • photographic street views

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
WHY GOOGLE MAPS?

• **Students can:**
  • keep track of class penpals
  • virtual tour countries (transportation/hotels/sight-seeing)
  • learn about plant/animal life by embedding info on habitats in maps

• **Teachers can:**
  • plan a field trip with stds
  • create a school map
  • teach historical events by embedding docs into interactive maps

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*Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS*
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
WHY GOOGLE NEWS?

• **Students can**
  • compare and contrast events
  • find primary docs (+200 years)
  • access news from cells

• **Teachers can**
  • personalize their news page: stay informed
  • search news for particular story relevant to lesson
  • model for stds to examine bias and reliability

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
Google Alerts

- email updates of the latest relevant Google results (web, news, etc.) based on your choice of query or topic.
- alerts can be delivered via feed to Google Reader or to your iGoogle page

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Six variations of alerts:

- news
- web
- blogs
- comprehensive
- video
- groups

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
WHY USE GOOGLE READER?

• **Students can:**
  • keep updated on current events and news
  • collect, annotate, share research for collaborative project
  • read items teacher shares for current assignments

• **Teachers can:**
  • keep track of stds blogs all on one page
  • read other educators blogs and folllow best practices
  • share news articles with colleagues and stds using the “Shared items” feature (+ annotations!)

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan

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WHY SKETCHUP?

• **Students can**
  - visualize geometry/ mathematical concepts
  - create model buildings
  - learn about architecture
  - design full scale 3D environments
  - share designs with others via web

• **Teachers can**
  - engage stds in the 3D world around them
  - recreate historical settings
  - illustrate theoretical concepts

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
GOOGLE CALENDAR

- Editable and sharable by multiple people
- Mobile
- Keep track of all your life's important events in one place
- Add events and send invitations
- Share your schedule with friends and family
- Teachers can share class schedules and timetable with students
- Search for events you might enjoy
- Set up automatic event reminders

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
Google Scholar

- texts of scholarly literature: scholars who have contributed to their fields over the centuries
- includes most peer-reviewed online journals
- claims to cover more websites, journal sources and languages

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Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
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http://picasa.google.com/
- organize, edit, share pictures
- locates pix and sorts them out into visual albums
- makes advanced photo editing simple
- allows photos to be uploaded easily
- access an online slideshow and download pix

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rskC6c_5L1M

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan
WHY USE PICASA?

- www.picasa.google.com
  - Students can use it to:
    - organize/manage photos for projects/reports
    - quickly edit photos/images
    - share photos of school events

- Teachers can use it to:
  - create an album for each std
  - create a slideshow for open house □ share fieldtrips online
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STRATEGIES

• Sign up for the Google Educator newsletter
• Join the Google Educator Community
• Concentrate on one tool
• Start with improving your own productivity
• Make generic student accounts for projects
• Advocate and educate in your district about the power of these tools

Dr Yetunde Folajimi FBCS
Department of Computer Science
University of Ibadan

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