

Pinterest in the Classroom

It's not just for pretty pictures.

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Pinterest is a free image-based curation site that allows users to create themed “boards” onto which they may “pin” relevant links, which appear as tiles. Board creators and viewers alike may comment on the pins.

CURATE CONTENT

Once you’ve determined what you’d like your theme to be (criminal law, perhaps, or world literature), then you can begin to seek out and pin relevant material from across the web, including within Pinterest itself. You may find some similar boards have been created and draw from there.



ADD USERS

Instructors and students can both participate in a Pinterest board, posting and commenting on items of interest. From a particular board (your account can host several), choose the “Edit” option, and from there you can invite users via email.

Who can pin?

The board can then become an informal, virtual discussion platform, where everyone has an opportunity to contribute.

WHAT’S THE VALUE?

- Students are often users themselves and are familiar with the Pinterest user interface
- Ad-free
- As more higher-ed boards are created, the larger the communities within specific disciplines become

WHO ELSE IS DOING IT?

- Skidmore College runs a “Creative Thought Matters” board for all students.
- University of Memphis journalism students are asked to create their own boards, pinning examples of social journalism.
- University of Texas at Tyler hosts a resources board for students, where they can find study tools and other resources that are available online and through UTT.
- University of Virginia hosts a board featuring the biographies and publications of its faculty.

EXPLORE

Find out more about Pinterest, who is using it in higher ed, how they’re doing it, and how effective it is:

<http://pinterest.com/>

<http://pinterest.com/boshays/world-literature-supplemental/>

<http://www.teachthought.com/social-media/how-colleges-are-using-pinterest-in-education/>

<http://www.edtechmagazine.com/higher/article/2012/07/4-colleges-are-using-pinterest-really-effectively>

<http://pinterest.com/almeera77/georgia-state-university/>

