Cloudy with a Chance of Innovation: Building ePortfolios using Cloud Computing

National Institute on the Assessment of Adult Learning

Virtual Assessment. Real Outcomes.

June 15 - 17, 2011

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Cloud Computing

• What is cloud computing?
  – Cloud computing refers to the use of resource on demand via a computer network, such as applications, databases, file services, email, etc.
  – In cloud computing, the user's computer may contain almost no software or data serving as little more than a display terminal for processes occurring on a network of computers far away. A common shorthand for a provided cloud computing service is "The Cloud".

• Read more: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud_computing
Cloud Computing

- Cloud computing takes two forms:
  - “utility” computing in which only the hardware and software infrastructure (operating system, databases, etc.) are offered
  - "software as a service" (SaaS), which includes the business applications as well
  - Major features are self service, scalability and speed

Cloud Computing

Use in higher education

– The growing menu of cloud-based applications is causing a shift in the way we think about how to use software.

– This apps-in-the-cloud model in particular seems to be generating a new level of interest in cloud computing in educational circles.

– Cloud Computing allows students to access their resources, such as word processing and collaboration tools, as well as their documents over the Internet.
Cloud Computing

Use in higher education

- The web-based cloud technology delivers technology services beyond the classroom computers and directly to the students, no matter where they are. This opens the possibilities of "extending education beyond the classroom".

![Diagram showing cloud computing in education](image-url)
Cloud computing be it through Google, Microsoft, or other service is universal.
Cloud Computing on Campus
• LaGuardia student email = Microsoft Live accounts = Skydrive/Office Apps
Google Docs = Text/Presentation/Spreadsheets/Drawing/PDF
Cloud Computing & Portfolios

• Documents created in Office Apps or Google Docs
• Files saved in PDF format for upload
• Collaborative work/feedback/online off hours/meetings
• LaGuardia Portfolios created using Digication – server space per student
  – Former portfolios created using Netscape Composer and stored on own server
• Future of Portfolio after graduation?
Cloud Portfolios

• Create content by using various “free” resources
  – Office Apps
  – Google Docs
  – MovieMaker
  – Audacity

• Save artifacts within “apps” folders or collect and save in Dropbox, Box.net, MediaFire, or other online free storage sites
Cloud Portfolios

• Create lifelong portfolio by selecting artifacts or transferring existing portfolio to various platforms such as
  – Wikis
  – Blogs
  – Social Network Platforms
    • Ning
    • Grou.ps

• **Samples** of converted LaGuardia portfolios
• Thank you for attending
  – Cloudy with a Chance of Innovation: Building ePortfolios using Cloud Computing

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