

# ENGAGE WITH YOUR AUDIENCE: TECH TOOLS FOR ACTIVE LEARNING

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## Content Management/Development

**Canva** (<https://www.canva.com/>)

Canva is an online tool that allows you to design posters, Facebook headers, cards, flyers, and much more.

- Cost: Free.

**Desire2Learn** (<https://d2l.msu.edu/>)

Desire2Learn is the learning management system at Michigan State University. You can create an online course site for collaboration or teaching. Users not affiliated with MSU use a Community ID (similar to NetID) to access the system.

- Cost: Free.

**Fotobabble** (<http://www.fotobabble.com/>)

This tool allows you to add an audio message to a photo. Once you are finished you can email the message, share to social media, or embed on a web page.

- Cost: Free.

**Google Drive** (<http://googleapps.msu.edu/>)

All faculty, staff, and students at Michigan State University have access to Google Apps for Education. This offers a greater amount of security. You have access to Google Drive (Docs), Calendar, Classroom, and Google Sites. Do not store sensitive or confidential data on Google Apps.

- Cost: Free.

**Storyline** (<https://www.articulate.com/>)

Storyline is a software tool that allows users to create interactive, online courses, modules, and activities. Users can create drag/drop activities, include audio, embed video, and create animations.

- Cost: \$699 with educational discount (contact Gwyn Shelle if you want to create something with this tool).

**TedED** (<http://ed.ted.com/>)

The TedED tool allows you to create a learning lesson based on a Ted talk. You can add quiz questions, discussion forums, and additional resources. Once you create your lesson you can share it with your participants or students.

- Examples: [Ted Lessons](#).
- Cost: Free.

**Tumblr** (<https://www.tumblr.com/>)

Tumblr is a space for creating a blog. Currently they have 293 million blogs.

- Cost: Free.

## Polling Tools/Assessment

### Google Forms (<http://googleapps.msu.edu/>)

A Google Form can be used for creating online surveys and poll questions. Question types include single answer, multiple choice, and open ended (short and long response). The creator of the poll can display results immediately. If this tool is used as a survey you have the option of allowing respondents to view the responses from others.

- For more details: Login to MSU Google Apps with your MSU NetID and password at: <http://googleapps.msu.edu/>. Click Google Drive. Select the New Button, More, and Google Forms.
- Cost: Free.

### Jeopardy Labs (<https://jeopardylabs.com/>)

Create online jeopardy games for participants in your classes.

- Cost: \$20 to keep your games private. Free if you want to share your jeopardy games.

### Poll Everywhere (<https://www.polleverywhere.com/>)

This tool allows you to create polls with a variety of question types including multiple choice, open ended, true/false, clickable images, and brainstorming. Participants respond via texting or on the web. Live results can be shared online or in a PowerPoint.

- Cost: Free for up to 40 responses (Higher Ed Plan).

### Quizlet (<https://quizlet.com/>)

The Quizlet tool allows you to create various quiz questions such as true/false, multiple choice, matching, open ended and flash cards.

- Cost: Basic features are free. Upgrade to \$24.99/year for additional features.

### Turning Point (<https://www.turningtechnologies.com>)

Turning Point is an iClicker tool that allows you to add polling to a PPT presentation. There are various question types and downloadable reports. You can either have anonymous polls or assign an iClicker to each participant when it is important to track their responses.

- For more details: [Turning Point Technologies](https://www.turningtechnologies.com).
- Cost: Various MSU Extension staff members have Turning Point clickers. Contact Gwyn Shelle if you need to borrow some for an event.

## Social Media/Communication

### Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/>)

Facebook is a social networking site for individuals older than 13 years of age where you can share posts, images, and videos. This tool can be used as a marketing and communication tool.

- Resource: [MSU Guidelines for Social Media](#).
- Cost: Free but ads can be purchased for a fee (or you can boost a post).

### Remind (<https://www.remind.com/>)

Remind is a free texting service that allows you to send reminders to participants/students in a class. There is also a Remind App available for download.

- Cost: Free.

### Snapchat (<https://www.snapchat.com/>)

Snapchat is a picture and video sharing app that is very popular with teens. Once the video is viewed it is deleted. A recent feature is the My Story feature allowing people to view a series of videos or images. This has been used for scavenger hunts or virtual field trips.

- For more details: <https://www.snapchat.com/>.
- Cost: Free.

### Twitter (<https://twitter.com/>)

Twitter is a social media networking tools where users can send/read 140 character messages called “tweets” that can include pictures and links. Registered users can re-tweet or like posts.

- For more details: <https://twitter.com/>.
- Cost: Free.

## Video/Podcasts

### Audacity (<http://www.audacityteam.org/>)

Audacity is an open source software tool for recording and editing audio. This is a common tool for recording podcasts and has editing options.

- Cost: Free.

### Camtasia (<https://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.html>)

Camtasia is a video editing software tool that can be used to develop online lectures, screen recordings, and for editing video. Additional features include being able to incorporate quiz questions, callouts, zooming in on specific areas, and hot spots.

- Cost: \$167 (with educational discount through MSU Computer Store).

### Interviews

Using DIY tools you can record interviews with your iPhone, iPad, or video camera. Using a microphone is very important.

- For more details: Contact Gwyn Shelle for information on borrowing equipment.
- Cost: Varies by equipment.

### My Way to Wellness Videos (<https://www.facebook.com/mihealthmatters/videos>)

Ellen Darnell has been creating some great videos which demonstrate how to make certain recipes.

- Cost: Varies by equipment.

### Podcasts (<http://spartanpodcast.com/>)

Podcasts are a series of media files shared on the web. An MSUE Educator recently was holding a face-to-face breakfast series and would interview the speakers after the event and share the podcast with local radio stations. He was simply using a microphone and iPhone.

- Cost: Varies by equipment.

### Zaption (<http://www.zaption.com/>)

This tool allows instructors to add interactivity to videos. You can add quiz questions and text slides throughout the videos. Students/participants can also create their own videos.

- Cost: Free for basic account.

## Zoom

### Breakout Feature (Zoom Meetings) (<http://msu.zoom.us/>)

The Zoom Breakout Room feature allows a host to split participants up into separate Zoom rooms with full audio, video and screen sharing options. The host must enable the break out room feature in the settings in their profile. The host can either manually or randomly assign individuals to the break out rooms.

- Instructions: [Zoom Meeting Breakout Feature](#).
- Cost: Free for hosts and participants.

### Chat (<http://msu.zoom.us/>)

The chat feature allows a participant to send a chat message to panelists or other attendees. However, a panelist has to reply to the message for all attendees to view it (the chat is moderated by panelists).

- Instructions: [Zoom Chat](#).
- Cost: Free for hosts and participants.

### Polling (Zoom Webinar) (<http://msu.zoom.us/>)

The polling option in Zoom allows you to ask 5 poll questions with up to 10 questions in each poll. Question options include single response and multiple choice.

- Instructions: [Zoom Webinar Polling](#).
- Cost: Free for hosts and participants.

### Question/Answer (Zoom Webinar) (<http://msu.zoom.us/>)

The Q/A feature in Zoom webinar allows participants to submit questions to the panelists. The questions are moderated meaning that all questions are private (only seen by the panelists) until a panelist answers the question. Once the question is answered the question text becomes available to the viewers.

- Instructions: [Zoom Webinar Question/Answer](#).
- Cost: Free for hosts and participants.

### Ideas for Interaction (<http://msu.zoom.us/>)

- **Videos:** Show videos to demonstrate a process or an interview with an expert.
- **Moderated Panel of Experts:** A panel of experts can be used as a unique way present content. A variety of speakers can talk about their area of expertise and then have time for questions.
- **Participant Highlight:** Highlight a participant from a course or community in a webinar.
- **Ask questions....often:** Even after 3-4 slides ask questions and see if there are any questions in the Q/A or chat.
- **Question Moderator:** If you have a colleague that can help answer questions this can make a webinar less stressful for a presenter.
- **Social Media:** Share your webinar registration information on Facebook. Use a Twitter hashtag during your webinar or even for follow-up questions after the event.
- **Presentation Materials:** Use more images and less text.
- **Problem Solving Exercise:** Present audience with a problem or case study and have them review in small groups.
- **Storytelling:** Tell stories or show digital storytelling to connect to your audience.