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Week 8

Proposal

The emergence of web applications in the past few years has radically changed the possibilities available to teachers, staff, and students for efficient, creative, and collaborative work. The web applications have created the ability for people across arbitrary distances to collaborate on a completely unprecedented level. Unfortunately, most of these applications remain relatively unknown. In order to provide information about these tools, including their availability and how to use them, I am proposing a workshop entitled, "How Web Applications Can Save you Time and Money."

After attending this workshop, learners will be able to integrate web applications into their existing work flow to increase productivity, communication, and collaboration. The target audience for this workshop is the Faculty and Staff of the UMKC School of Education.

According to a survey conducted in the target audience, most potential learners did not have any understanding about what web applications were and what the possibilities there are. Those who were familiar with web applications didn't know how to locate web apps that can help them with a specific task. Finally, the feature of web applications potential learners were most interested in was the collaborative aspects.

Based on these results, the workshop would be divided up into three major sections. The first will be covering the basics of web applications. This would cover what they are and the general similarities between web applications, including browser support, integration, and differences between them and desktop applications. This will also cover an introduction to "cloud computing" and the concept of saving things up in the cloud, including the problems with it.

The second part will contain strategies for finding web applications that can be used for specific tasks. These strategies will be comprehensive, and by the end of the session, after being given a task, students will be able to locate and evaluate a web application that will help them accomplish that task

The third and final part will cover two web applications in depth. The two web applications are Google Documents and Webspiration. Both of these web applications provide tools that are similar to their desktop equivalents, with the addition of the benefits of Web Applications. Both of these are tools educators use often for many different tasks, and both are tools that people can start integrating into their workflow immediately.