



What Am I Missing on Twitter?

While the social networking tool Twitter (<https://twitter.com/>) can be used to communicate with students, it may have even greater value as a professional development resource. Subscribing to carefully selected Twitter feeds delivers a wealth of information right to your device without all the searching. And at just 140 characters to pique your interest, you can easily follow links to resources that interest you and skip those that don't.

Here are links to some items you might have missed if you aren't on Twitter:

[Online Course Helps English Learners Improve Skills](#)—an article about ESL/ELL practiced in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

[Two-year College Graduation Rate Jumps to 38%](#)—an article with a link to a report from the U.S. Department of Education's *Enrollment in Postsecondary Institutions, Fall 2012* (Pub. Dec. 2013)

[Tracking Alternative Certification](#)—an article about the new U.S. Census report on workers who hold certificates, professional certification and licenses.

[Ask a Community College Dean: How Accurate is Community?](#)—an interview with a college dean comparing the television comedy to real life

[Twitter Adoption Matrix](#)—a graphic providing food for thought about the ways in which Twitter can be used and its pedagogical implications

Most NC community colleges have established Twitter accounts; some focus on providing information to students and others address the wider community. You will likely find your campus' Twitter handle (user name) on the college website's homepage. After registering for your own account and following your campus Twitter feed, check out:

NC Community College System	@NCCommColleges
American Community College Association	@Comm_College
Community College Research Center	@CommunityCCRC
Inside Higher Ed	@insidehighered
North Carolina Learning Object Repository	@nclor
STEM Digital Library	@nsdl

Twitter has a fairly intuitive user interface, but this [Twitter Glossary](#) is helpful for learning the nuances of communicating in this forum.

Free Instructional Technology Webinars

[2013 Survey of Faculty Attitudes on Technology](#)

An archived webinar from *Inside Higher Ed* presenting an overview of the 2013 Gallup survey, with particular emphasis on online course management practices, evaluation of course quality and MOOCs.

[Avoiding Death by Powerpoint: Tips, Tricks, Cool Tools from the Web 2.0 Frontlines](#)

A presentation by Dr. Gabrielle Orsi from Colorado Mountain College introducing alternatives to tools you may already be using. Tools covered include Canvas, a course management system; DropMocks, an image file gallery creation tool; PhotoPeach, a slideshow tool; Google slideshow; Windows Live MovieMaker; Jing, an image and video capture tool; TubeChop, a tool for excerpting pieces of YouTube videos; and VoiceThread, an audio tool for narrating or promoting interactive commenting online.

[Using Open Educational Resources for Workforce Training and Job Search Skills](#)

This webinar features projects that are actively engaged in developing and promoting free and open resources to expand student access and improve career opportunities, with particular emphasis on Allied Health professions, English language learners, and low-skilled adults.

[Open Educational Resource Authoring Tools](#)

This webinar features three sophisticated OER authoring tools, two of which—Connexions and PressBook—are free!

[Using ShowMe for Vocational Teaching and Learning](#)

The ShowMe iPad app allows screen annotation, narration and video creation. The videos can be shared in multiple ways. [How to Use ShowMe](#) is a more detailed video tutorial on its features. Sample videos in specific disciplines are available at <http://www.showme.com/>.

[Engaging Students with Google Hangouts](#)

An archived hangout (video) in which college instructors talk about their use of this free videoconferencing tool available through Google+.