Overview
Pinterest is an online pinboard that allows you to collect, organize, and share anything you find on the web. Many people use Pinterest as a visually-rich way to bookmark their favorite recipes, wedding dresses, photographs, and more. Pinterest can also be used in teaching and research to share resources with students, organize course-related content, and visually represent course materials.

Pinterest as a Tool for Teaching
- Compile online resources for students to access for a class and have the students comment on the pins: http://pinterest.com/derekbruff/math-216-pins
- Demonstrate the intersection between different disciplines: http://pinterest.com/taliawhyte/journalism-technology-digital-activism
- Show visual representations of a class topic: http://pinterest.com/jeickemeyer/geometry-in-creation
- Have students develop a collection of resources based on current events, a class topic or research assignment: http://pinterest.com/libartsprof
- Follow other educators to see how they are using Pinterest: http://edudemic.com/2012/06/25-great-educators-to-follow-on-pinterest/
- ... and more: http://www.onlineuniversities.com/ways-educators-use-pinterest

Terms that are helpful to know
- **Board**: When you find a webpage you want to save and share in Pinterest, you “pin” it to a “board.” A board is where you store your saved webpages. It is common to have boards based on a theme, like social media in education, gardening, or anything else. You can create an unlimited number of boards on an unlimited number of themes.
- **Pin**: When you pin a web page to your board, you select 1) the image from that webpage you would like added to your board and 2) the board that you want the image to display on. Each pin displays as an image on a board.
- **Re-Pin**: While browsing others’ boards, if you come across an image you want to include on one of your own boards, you can re-pin the image. Adding the image to your own board means that you have “re-pinned” it.
- **Follow**: You can subscribe to another users’ boards, and you will be notified anytime they pin something new. You can “follow all” of their boards or just “follow” particular ones.

Anatomy of Pinterest
Turn this page over to see an example of a user’s boards.
• **User:** Staley Library is the user. They have 14 boards with 555 webpages pinned to boards.

• **Board:** A collection of pins associated with a theme. In this case, they have a board with a theme of Teaching Tools & Technology, and they have 18 pins on the board.

• **Follow All:** Clicking on the “Follow All” button will subscribe you to all of the user’s boards. You will see when they update current boards and add new ones to their collection.

• **Follow:** If you are interested in one particular board of a user, you can click the “Follow” button at the bottom of that board. You will see updates for that one collection of pins.

When you click on a board, you see all of the images that have been pinned on that board. This is an example of a board called “Teaching Tools & Technologies.” When you roll your mouse over an image 3 options appear at the top of the image.

• **Repin:** This will add the image to one of your boards. The user who first pinned that image gets credit, and the original source is maintained.

• **Like:** When you like a pin, it is added to your “Likes” section of your profile. This is different from repining because you cannot categorize it under one of your boards.

• **Comment:** You can engage in a conversation about the pin.

**Ok… Ready to Get Started?**

1. **Create an Account:** Go to pinterest.com. You’ll see the Join Pinterest button. Fill out the required information to sign up.
2. **Customize your profile:** Upload a photo and add a description of either yourself or the purpose of your account.
3. **Browse others’ pins:** Use the search feature to find categories you may be interested in and browse others’ boards. Follow users or their boards.
4. **Start pinning:** Pin a website or create a new board by clicking “Add+” in the upper right hand corner of your profile.
5. **Make pinning easier:** Install the “Pin It” button to your browser, and download the Pinterest app for your mobile device.
6. **Connect with others:** Allow other users to contribute to your boards through your account settings. Link your boards to your blog, Twitter account, or Facebook account. Comment on other’s pins.