

Social Annotation Tools Comparison Chart

Category	Google Docs	VoiceThread	Perusall	Hypothes.is
Annotations	Students can highlight, add comments, and reply to their peers.	Students add comments or replies in the form of text, audio, or video. Comments can be threaded or private replies.	Students can highlight and comment. Features also include tags, chats, and upvoting polls.	Students can select the text, add notes, tags and other media. Includes threaded discussions.
Types of Documents	Google Docs, Slides, Sheets, Microsoft Word Documents, Powerpoints, and PDFs	Instructors can upload multimedia (images, videos, audio, documents) into a slideshow format.	Word documents, PDFs, ePUB, Excel, web pages, videos , podcasts and e-textbooks.	Limited to web pages and PDFs
Group Management	No, but instructors can assign groups and manually create folders to manage social annotations in larger classes.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Grading	Not available	Yes, through Blackboard,	Instructors can assign a score or allow Perusall	Not available

		instructors can set graded assignments that directly connect to the GradeCenter.	to determine a grade based on customizable parameters	
Integration with Blackboard	Students can upload files from cloud services such as Google Drive.	Instructors can enable VoiceThread in Blackboard.	Currently not integrated at UM.	Currently not integrated at UM.
Anonymity	<p>Yes but it is a multi-step process. Instructors must first share the folder using "anyone with the link can comment"</p> <p>Students can then paste the link in a new window through incognito mode to comment anonymously</p>	Not available	Allows for anonymous comments for student interactions. Names are not hidden from instructors	Restrictive settings available but comments cannot be anonymous
Accessibility	Learners have access to screen reader support along with braille display, screen magnifier, voice-to-text feature, and, keyboard	Screen reader available via VoiceThread Universal along with closed captioning.	<p>Learners can have comments and texts/assignments read aloud within the platform</p> <p>Resizable and</p>	<p>Keyboard shortcuts available</p> <p>Currently working with Inclusive Design Research Center (IDRC) to map and improve the current</p>

	shortcuts		<p>responsive user interface</p> <p>Users can tailor their profile with an array of accessibility options such as open dyslexic font, color contrast, keyboard shortcuts, etc.</p>	accessibility status
--	-----------	--	--	----------------------