CASE STUDY EDUCATION

“Using the visual learning technique of mind mapping for note-taking, my students are engaged and get the most out of our class discussions.”

Nancy Morris
University Lecturer & Teacher Trainer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. REGION</th>
<th>Higher Education SECTOR</th>
<th>Gannon University ORGANIZATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lecturers can <strong>facilitate</strong> learning through engaging collaborative lessons</td>
<td>Mind maps are prepared before sessions and edited by students in <strong>real-time</strong></td>
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<td>Students create collective team presentations using <strong>Google Slides</strong></td>
<td>Revision mind maps can be created, with links to <strong>Google Docs</strong> embedded</td>
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CASE STUDY EDUCATION
How to facilitate collaborative learning in higher education with MindMeister and G Suite

With a background in elementary and special education, Nancy Morris has been an instructor and teacher trainer at the School of Education at Gannon University in Pennsylvania for over five years. Having developed a love for using technology to facilitate learning, Nancy shared with us how MindMeister and G Suite have assisted her in training future classroom teachers.

Disseminating Knowledge vs. Facilitating Learning
Throughout her career in teaching and lecturing, Nancy found that instead of facilitating learning, through engaging classes, lecturers would simply take a “sage on the stage” approach to disseminating knowledge:

“Anyone who's worked in higher education will have watched as a professor talks to an auditorium of half-asleep students, reading from static PowerPoint slides,” Nancy shared. “There is minimal interaction, engagement, and metacognitive strategies occurring. What's more, the students are most probably not learning.”

“As a result, instead of asking students to simply note down facts from a slide, mind mapping makes the learning process more meaningful and memorable for students. Using the visual learning technique of mind mapping for note-taking, my students are engaged and able to get the most out of our class discussions.”

To turn the ideas generated in the mind maps into essays and presentations, Nancy’s class use G Suite:

“I use G Suite in my classroom to enable students to complete collaborative activities,” Nancy shares. “We use Google Docs to allow students to work collaboratively on a class assignment within small groups, as each group’s work and thoughts are captured on a single document that can then be referred to within a larger group discussion. We’ve also used Google Slides to allow students to create collaborative presentations, in which students write a couple of slides each, based on independent study, and together create a group presentation to provide in class.”

With MindMeister, Google Docs and Google Slides can be linked to directly from topics within a mind map, enabling students to use the mind maps for revision, later in the semester. Additionally, mind maps can be exported to Google Drive, to create backups on Drive, with all relevant documents attached.

The result: Facilitating Engaging Learning

“From lectures, to collaboration, to more effective note taking, mind maps are a tool that are in my opinion central to improving instructional practices in the education sector. The role of a University Professor has moved on and we must now engage our students. Mind maps support this practice and, in my experience, are a perfect tool for students in the 21st Century classroom.”

If you’d like to see how MindMeister could work for your organization or business, contact sales@mindmeister.