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Technology Training and Tidbits

Technology training information, updates, and tips for
Goucher faculty and staff.

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Choosing the Right Web Browser

Web browsers are the gateway to the internet, and choosing the right one can improve your experience, security, and speed. While most browsers serve the same basic purpose, each one is optimized differently based on your operating system and browsing habits.

Many browsers are cross-platform browsers, meaning they work on multiple operating systems like Windows, iOS and Android. Many also sync across devices so your bookmarks, tabs, extensions and browsing history syncs to other devices making the experience consistent regardless of the system or device you use.

Listed in alphabetical order, here’s a breakdown of the top browsers including their pros and cons, to help you choose the best fit for your system and needs:

Browser	Pros	Cons
Apple Safari Best for Mac and iOS users	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent energy efficiency and speed• Strong privacy features built-in• Optimized for Apple hardware and syncs across Apple devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited extensions• Only available on Apple devices
Google Chrome Best for cross-platform users who rely on	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fast performance and frequent updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High memory usage• Limited privacy controls by default

extensions and Google services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive extension library • Syncs easily with Google accounts and services 	
Microsoft Edge Best for Windows 10/11 users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built on the same engine as Chrome with strong performance and battery efficiency on Windows • Cross-platform and integrated with Microsoft 365 tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited extension library compared to Chrome • Some privacy controls but require digging to find them
Mozilla Firefox Best for privacy-conscious users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low system resource use with good cross-platform performance • Blocks ads and trackers by default • Open source with strong privacy tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slightly slower website rendering than Chrome on some sites • Fewer integrations with productivity tools

Another browser frequently mentioned is Brave, a Chromium-based browser admired for its strong privacy controls and built-in ad blocking. It appeals to users seeking a more secure, ad-free experience. However, some users report occasional slow page rendering and compatibility issues, particularly on secure or interactive websites, making it a mixed choice overall.

Most browser issues reported to the Help Desk are often resolved by clearing cookies and cache. To learn more, see the article, [How to Manage and Clear Cache and Cookies](#). Since the steps vary by browser, refer to your browser's support page for guidance.

Each browser brings something different to the table - consider your device, security needs, and workflow to make the best choice.

For more information and full browser reviews check out these resources:

- [Best Browsers in 2025: Chrome vs. Firefox vs. Edge vs. Brave](#)
- [Chrome, Edge, Firefox, Opera, or Safari: Which Browser Is Best for 2025?](#)

To view these and other informative editions of the Technology Training & Tidbits newsletters, [click here](#).

Quick Tip: Five Summer Tips to Recharge, Declutter, and Prepare for Fall

With the academic year on pause and campus a bit quieter, summer offers a valuable opportunity for faculty and staff to reflect, refresh, and prepare. Whether it's catching up on tasks or investing in personal well-being, these downtime tips can be both restorative and productive:

1. Digital Declutter

Use the quieter months to organize your files and inbox. Archive old emails, clean up your desktop, and organize files in OneDrive or shared drives. A tidy digital space sets the tone for a smoother fall semester.

2. Review and Refresh Course Materials

Update your syllabi, reorganize course content in Canvas, and review feedback from the previous term. Now is a good time to delete those files you haven't used in a while. Even small adjustments now can make a big impact later.

3. Reconnect and Reflect

Stay connected with colleagues through a team huddle, a quick email to check-in or a casual chat over coffee. Take time to reflect on what worked (or didn't) last year. Summer is a great time to realign your goals, share ideas and reconnect with your academic community.

4. Catch Up on Training

Take time to complete IT training or explore new tools like Microsoft Teams, OneDrive, or Canva. We offer free workshops throughout the summer months that fit your schedule - perfect for skill-building without the pressure.

5. Prioritize Well-Being

Take breaks, go for walks, read for fun, or just unplug. Rest is valuable - coming back refreshed benefits both you and your students.

Taking time this summer to recharge, organize, and reconnect will set you up for a more focused, productive, and rewarding academic year. A few small actions now can make a big difference when the new semester starts.

Review our [IT Training newsletter from May 9, 2023](#), to find links to resources on how to declutter your digital technology.

To view previous editions of the Technology Training & Tidbits newsletters, [click here](#).

IT Training Events

IT training workshops have been paused in preparation for and celebration of Commencement 2025. We're excited to offer new and returning workshops on each Tuesday in starting in June.

Beyond the Basics - Workshops that build on foundational training.

Excel Calculations; PivotTables

June 24, 2025 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / Online

Teams Interactive Features for Online Meetings

July 1, 2025 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / Online

Design and Deliver – Workshops to enhance content delivery.

Enhancing Visual Presentations

June 17, 2025 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / Online

Creating Visual Aids for Beginners

July 15, 2025 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / Online

Productivity Pros – Workshops geared toward adding new skills for productivity.

Getting Started with Microsoft Forms

June 3, 2025 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / Online

Using AI Safely and Creating Effective Prompts

June 10, 2025 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / Online

Process Mapping and Creating Flowcharts

July 8, 2025 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / Online

Teams for Teams

July 22, 2025 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / Online

[Click here to view course descriptions and register for IT workshops.](#) Seats are limited, and sessions with low interest could be cancelled, so please [register](#) soon to save your spot!

To make a training request for yourself or your department, please contact the Help Desk at helpdesk@goucher.edu.

For information on other IT technologies visit the [Goucher College Technology Knowledgebase](#).