Hello! I reside in Oregon of the USA.

I am your instructor for this course as well as Gender & Technology, Web Design, Web Management, and Ethics in Computer Science courses. I have two grown children and a scruffy, noisy dog. I have a Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, which includes Art, Computer Science, and Instructional Technology. I've been teaching courses at OSU since 2004.

I like to use my phone to listen to web pages and audiobooks when I am riding the bus or it is too hot to use my computer. On my Chromebook, I use the Chrome browser SpeakIt extension to listen to articles I want to add to course materials. Adding an extension to Chrome is easy...I use the 3-dot menu to locate the More Tools > Extensions screen, then scroll to the bottom to add a new one. Once I search for listening, I have a few options to install. These options show up next to the Address bar of the browser so I can just click when I want to listen.

I set up Canvas Notifications for all my courses so I am immediately notified when students have written to me via the Inbox or Assignment Comments. The first deadline is easy to find in the Coming Up list, the Assignment/Module list, or the Calendar. Because I have so many Canvas Discussions to score each week, I use the expand/contract icons, the search, and the reveal arrow to narrow down the amount of scrolling. Because I make a lot of typos, I use the Edit thread menu to fix problems. I use the link, image, media, and list editing icons to improve the way the threads look. To quickly get to Canvas, I just type part of the word "oregon" and Chrome remembers my options. I choose the correctly spelled URL to get here.

At home, I use a 14" Acer Chromebook computer with a 1080px resolution high definition display. The keyboard is compact and the trackpad is big. The Chrome OS operating system is "edgar" version 10176.72.0 (Official Build) stable-channel and the browser is Chrome 64.0.3282.167, which I found by typing: chrome://system/ into the Chrome browser address bar. This screen loads slowly for some reason. I also found it by clicking on the system settings icon clicking the Device option. The Random Access Memory (RAM) holds 2gb of data. Read-only Memory (ROM) is harder to locate. I used a Google search to locate articles that tell me I have 8Mb. The system settings tell me there is an Intel(R) Celeron(R) CPU number N3160 running at 1.60GHz. The computer comes with an internal Solid State Drive (SSD) which holds 32Gb of data. I can plug in two USB devices, one MDMI, and one pair of headphones. It also has a security cable port.

My Chromebook hard drive (SSD) is not well organized because it is mainly a downloads folder, which I delete periodically after moving the files to folders on my two Google cloud drives. I made folders for each class on the drive and within them, add
term-specific folders, then I add ShortCuts (aliases or favorites) to the system menu. All other projects I'm involved in have folders inside folders so I can quickly locate and backup multiple items. Using search is the fastest way to find a file, however. The Chromebook does not have a 'desktop' area, so I can't overrun that area with all of my files, which would slow down processing. Since I learned to use an Apple IIe computer in 1985, I have been typing with keystrokes. I started with Save, then Open, then close the Window, select All, Bold...and many others.

I use the Grammarly for Chrome grammar checker because I am an inaccurate typist. I described above how I added an extension for SpeakIT and the process is the same. Google Docs does have spell checking but it isn't as helpful as Grammarly. It also works well in Wordpress, where I spend a lot of time. I forget to add items to the personal dictionary, which would save me time in the long run.

Extra Credit: I see my Canvas calendar inside my Google Calendar, but it doesn't sync often enough to be helpful. It is there by default when I am logged into my OSU Google account. I can change the settings and activate notifications if I like.

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