

Going Green with CROPS

Mike Truong (mtruong@ucmerced.edu)
Faculty Development Coordinator for Instructional Technology
Center for Research on Teaching Excellence

Going Paperless

UCMCROPS (or CROPS for short) is the University of California at Merced's project collaboration and courseware system. Students and educators can exchange ideas and coursework in a structured environment. Projects enjoy a central repository for messages, documents, and collaborative tools that encourage interaction and sharing. *Collectively, the tools within CROPS have the potential to enable an instructor to go entirely paperless.*

Making Tasks Paperless

Below is a list of typical tasks in an average class. For each task, there is a suggested CROPS tool that can be used to reduce or eliminate the use of paper. Obviously, this is not an exhaustive list, so for tasks that are not listed, think creatively. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

Typical Tasks	Potential Tool(s)
Taking attendance	Roster, Resources, Excel
Distributing syllabus	Syllabus
Distributing readings & handouts	Resources
Assigning journals	Blogger
Assigning "low-stakes" homework, tests, & quizzes	Tests & Quizzes
Assigning "high-stakes" projects & exams	Assignments
Providing feedback & grades on assignments	Assignments, Gradebook,
Assessing student learning and attitudes	Tests & Quizzes, Polls
Conducting peer reviews	Wiki, Forum, Discussion Forum
Holding virtual OH	Chat Room
???	???