Twitter Tutorial Transcript

Slide 1
Welcome to the VSU Getting started with Twitter tutorial. If you are completely unfamiliar with Twitter and would like to begin to use Twitter for classroom projects, this tutorial is for you. We will begin by creating a Twitter account and learning the quick basics that will help you navigate and make full use of Twitter.

Slide 2
We will start by opening your preferred web browser and going to www.twitter.com. You will know you're in the right place if your screen looks like this.

Slide 3
You will start by filling in the basic information to join Twitter. Twitter asks you for your full name, you may enter your full name or you may also enter whatever screen name you wish to be connected to your twitter account. Keep in mind, whatever you choose to enter for your name is what everyone will see when they follow you on Twitter.

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Once you have entered the name you wish to use for your Twitter account you will need to enter you email address. You can hide this information, or make it available to the public once your account is established by altering settings.

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Now we must create a password. Make sure that it is one that you can remember and includes a mixture of upper case and lower case letters, symbols, and numbers. Now that all three boxes are filled click the yellow "Sign Up" button to continue.

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At this point the confirmation screen will appear and you may have to adjust your password and or name if they are already in use. Once everything is showing as acceptable, you can read the Terms of Service and finish by clicking the "Create my account" button.

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If everything is done correctly twitter will show you that it is creating your account

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Now that your account is created you will have to opportunity to pick out interests. If you have a specific person, group, or topic you are interested in and would like to follow, you can complete that search by using the search bar.

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For example, you can search education to find classroom appropriate followers.

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After clicking "Search", a list of related results will pop up and you can choose to follow any that you would like. By choosing to follow a specific "Tweeter", You are allowing that person's, group's, or organization's tweets to show up on your tweet feed as they tweet.

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Say you wanted to follow the library of congress, once you clicked "Follow" the button will then appear green and say "Following" and your follow count will then jump to one.

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If you decide you do not want to follow someone you have previously clicked to follow, simply re-click the green "Following" button. At this point, the button will turn red and read "Unfollow". This means you are no longer following that Tweeter.

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At this point search and follow as many tweeters as you wish. The more tweeters that you follow, the higher your follow count will be, and the more tweets will show in your tweet feed. Remember you can track of how many tweeters you are following by referring to your follow count.

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By scrolling down on the Interest page… You can choose to follow any tweeter that is related to your personal interests or classroom studies.

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As you scroll down you will see that all interests are separated into categories. If a certain category stands out to you , Click the "view all" and continue to click "follow" for those that you would want your class to follow. One thing to keep in mind, if you choose to follow a celebrity, politician, author, or any famous person, the blue circled check mark indicates that it is an official tweet site and the real celebrity is writing their own personal tweets.

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Once interests are picked out you can continue by clicking on the blue "Next Step: Friends" link at the bottom, center of the page.

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The next page that will come up is the import page. If you have your entire class saved within the Live System, you can automatically import your class list to be your Twitter followers. I would recommend having each student create an educational Twitter account to keep posts appropriate for classroom usage. You can continue by either importing your class as a group or just clicking the link "Skip Import". You will also be able to search for students individually by searching for their screen names, or informing them to use your screen name to search for you.

Slide 18
This takes us directly to your twitter feed also known as your tweet feed. In the beginning of this process we decided to follow ED.gov which is the US Department of Education and librarycongress which is the Library of Congress. The tutorials' tweet feed is reflecting the tweets of the group that are currently being following.

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Now it is time to write your first tweet. You can tweet one of two ways first by typing your tweet directly in the "What's Happening" Bar or by clicking the tweet icon located at the top right side of the screen. Keep in mind that there is a limit of 140 characters per tweet.

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Once you click on the new tweet icon a "What's Happening" pop up will appear.

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Type in the tweet that you would want your class to see and click "tweet".

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You will now see your tweet feed update your latest tweet. Now there is one last basic you must know in order to make full use of twitter. This would be responding to a specific tweet on your feed.

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By placing your cursor over the tweet you want to respond to it will highlight itself in gray and a tweet taskbar will display beneath the post. If you just agree with the tweet, you can click "favorite". Now, all of your followers will see that you liked the tweet. By clicking "Retweet", you are re-tweeting someone else's tweet to all of your personal followers.

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When you retweet a green symbol will show up in the corner of the tweet feed letting your followers know that you retweeted the post.

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To reply with your own comment to a specific tweet, find the tweet that you want to respond to and click the "reply" button.

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A Reply box will pop up with the specific tweet you are responding to at the bottom, and a message box at the top. You will also notice that the Department of Education's screen name is in the text box posted behind the @ symbol. This is referred to as "Atting". Because of this your comment will go directly to the Department of Education's tweet feed and it will be linked to the tweet you are responding to.

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Type in the response to the tweet and click tweet.

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Now that you know how to set up a Twitter account, search interests, find friends, and create and respond to tweets, you are on the right track to begin to use Twitter in an educational setting. Thank you for watching and enjoy using Twitter in the classroom.