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Delicious - A Bookmark Option for Athletic Training Educators

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ccessing quality internet-based information in a timely manner can help streamline teaching and administrative functions faced by educators. When a good website is found, most individuals save it as a bookmark in Firefox or as a favorite in Internet Explorer. More effective ways exist, however, to bookmark these resources through a service called Delicious. Delicious is a social bookmarking web manager for storing, classifying, organizing, and sharing bookmarks. Delicious was founded by Joshua Schachater in 2003, and purchased by Yahoo in 2004. In September 2007, the name was changed from del.icio.us to Delicious.^{1,2}

Within a Delicious social network anyone can access these bookmarks from any computer and from any location or the links can remain hidden. Delicious can be installed as an add-on to any web browser that allows for one click bookmarking. After installing the add-on, a button will appear that allows you to save and post your bookmarks to Delicious. Current bookmarks in your computer(s) can also be imported into Delicious. After finding an interesting website, you can save it to your personal list. Simply click on "Post to Delicious" and you can enter the appropriate information. The most important feature of Delicious is to provide the appropriate tag(s) to organize and locate it. The tags can be personalized either as a single word (eg, ATEP, rehabilitation, teaching, stretching) or multiple words (eg. athletic-training, critical thinking, learning+styles). Delicious will also provide popular tags already in their website or from your list of tags. When typing in a tag word, Delicious will also provide suggestions related to your entry (eg, at = ATEP or athletic or athletictraining). You can also hide your personal Delicious bookmark(s) from others using a privacy function. After bookmarks are saved, they can be viewed in your Delicious account. You can click on the appropriate tag or related tag for a listing. To search websites in Delicious, you can type in or click on one of your tag word(s). This search can be done in your personal "My Delicious" or on http://www.delicious.com. Other uses for Delicious include research, wish list, podcast, and much more.

GETTING A NEW ACCOUNT AND TOOLS

This is a free service, but you must still register for a new account at https://secure.delicious.com/register. After you register, it is helpful to add Delicious buttons to your web browser. These buttons will make it easy to post to Delicious whenever you come across a web page you want to bookmark.

There are also several websites that provide additional links, addons, tools, and resources.

- Delicious Toolbox 180 Tools and Resources http://mashable.com/2007/08/31/delicious-toolbox
- Absolutely Delicious Tools Collection
 http://www.quickonlinetips.com/archives/2005/02/absolutely-delicious-complete-tools-collection
- Essential Delicious Tools
 http://www.techroam.com/essential-delicious-tools

SAVING OR POSTING BOOKMARKS INTO DELICIOUS

There are two ways to save a bookmark to Delicious:

- 1. On the Delicious website
 - a. Click on the "Save a New Bookmark" link on the Delicious navigation bar
 - b. Enter the URL of the site you want to bookmark
 - c. Click on Save
 - d. On the next page, enter a brief description, notes, and any tags (keywords) you want to use. Separate your tags by a space (do not use a comma).

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- 2. Using special browser buttons:
 - a. Open the URL of the web page you want to bookmark using the web browser.
 - b. Click on the "Post to Delicious" button
 - c. Add notes and tags on the open window. The description will already be filled in from the webpage, but you can edit it as needed.

Figure 1 displays the saving/posting feature.

Viewing Your Delicious Bookmarks

To view your bookmarks, click on your bookmarks link on the navigation bar. You can view older bookmarks by clicking on the earlier link at the bottom of the page. If you only want to see the bookmarks that have a specific tag assigned, click on the tag name in the list that appears on the right side of the page. To delete or edit a bookmark once it has been saved, click on the "edit" or "delete" link to the right of its title. Figure 2 displays a view of a bookmark.

Moving Your Bookmarks into Delicious

Delicious works with any web browser (eg, Firefox, Internet Explorer, Safari, Opera) as it will integrate very easily with the click of a button that is available from the previous add-on websites. The most popular buttons to add include: My Delicious, Tag, and Post to Delicious.³ If you already have bookmarks in your computer or web browser, you can import your bookmarks into Delicious from the Settings panel. Once your bookmarks are imported, you are ready to start using Delicious.

Sharing Delicious Bookmarks

One of the most powerful features of Delicious is the ability to share bookmarks (ie, social bookmarking). By default, Delicious bookmarks are public (except if they are imported, in which case you can mark them as private during the import). You do have the option to enabling private bookmarks by changing your settings. Figure 3 displays a an example of a networking bookmark.

There are several ways for others to access your Delicious bookmarks:

- 1. Using the URLs for your account
- 2. By joining your network
- 3. Using the RSS feed for your user name.

You can also add someone to your network by clicking on the link that appears at the top of their bookmarks page.

Delicious is a bookmark program that allows you to easily tag and access websites efficiently and effectively. Moreover, it allows you to share your bookmarks with other educators, students, researchers and others who may have similar interests. The program can be viewed as a form of collective intelligence that is constantly adding, reviewing, and filtering new information. Having a community of contributors in Delicious allows you to find some of the best resources on the internet without having to trudge through all the junk.

Author's Note: Delicious has recently been bought out by the founders of YouTube, though the plan is to continue with the same functionality and service. Visit http://www.delicious.com/help/transition for more details of this transitional process and how it may affect users.

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Figure 1. Example of Posting (Saving) a Website

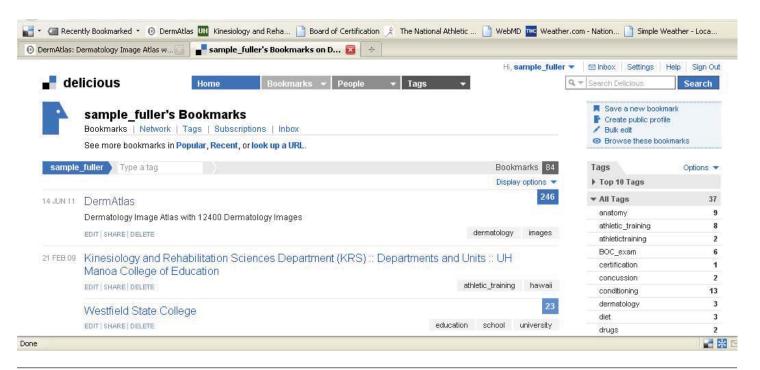


Figure 2. Example of Saved Bookmarks and Tags

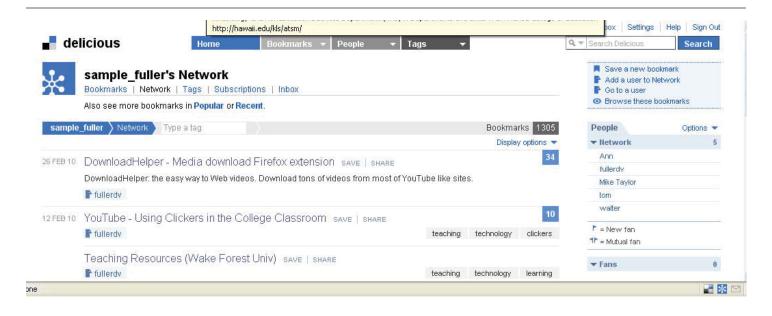


Figure 3. Example of Networking Bookmarks