The Pros

1. Using technology in the classroom allows you to experiment more in pedagogy.

As an academic professional, you'll learn more about how to effectively design and execute a class guided with technology. Whether it's a dramatic change such as teaching with a flipped-classroom, or just adopting a single tool for a specific project or term, you'll learn something new in modern academia! Being well-versed in technology can also help build your credibility with students, and even with fellow colleagues.

2. There are countless resources for enhancing education and making learning more fun and effective.

From apps to organizational platforms to e-textbooks and more, there are many amazing tools that can help you. In my recent article <u>Top Ten EdTech Tools to Set Your Class Up for Success</u>, I highlight tools that will help both students and professors alike collaborate, share ideas, stay organized, and more to get the most out of learning.

3. Technology can automate a lot of your tedious tasks.

As highlighted in my Top Ten EdTech Tools list (above), there are engagement tools like <u>Top Hat</u> that can automate grading for you and keep track of student performance. Similarly, tools like Top Hat can help you streamline grading for writing assignments, discussions, and participation, and answering common student questions, which otherwise can seem daunting due to their objective nature.

4. Your class has instant access to information that can supplement their learning experience.

It shifts the classroom experience from the sage-on-a-stage approach to a more collaborative environment. Imagine that your student raises her hand and says, "I know exactly what you mean! I saw a similar case on YouTube last week. May I share it with the class?" Student rushes to the lectern, finds it on Youtube, and everyone (including you!) learns something new. Researching on the spot becomes easier. Here are 11 Ways to Use the Internet in Your Classroom, which range from research to inviting remote speakers in virtually and beyond.

5. Students can learn life skills through technology.

Creating presentations, learning to differentiate reliable from unreliable sources on the Internet, maintaining proper online etiquette, and writing emails; these are all vital skills that your students can learn in the classroom and master before graduation.

6. We live in a digital world.