CURRY COLLEGE

General Education ePortfolio Assignment

COURSE INFORMATION	
INSTRUCTOR NAME	COURSE NAME
Deanna Gordon	Communication Technology
COURSE NUMBER	SECTION
AC 1030	2 or 4
SEMESTER	YEAR
Fall	2020
GEN ED REQUIREMENT(S) SATISFIED BY COURSE	
First Year Communication Core	
Description of the Assignment	
Write a 5-page research paper taking a position of either pro or con on an assigned topic. Procedure: Research the topic and write a summary paper to persuade your audience of your assigned position on the subject. A 5 -8 minute presentation will also be delivered. A 5-slide PowerPoint presentation will be a companion to the presentation. All of the data points will be supported by citations.	
Expectations of the Assignment	
Successful completion of a research paper, presentation, and delivery.	
General Education Learning Outcomes Assessed with this Assignment	

From the Communication First Year Core this assignment assesses Learning Outcomes 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7.
 	
   2. Demonstrate effective listening, speaking, and perceptual habits and skills;
   4. Analyze communication contexts and audiences to make strategic decisions about what, when, and how to communicate;
   5. Employ critical thinking to develop audience-appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication practices;
   6. Employ basic evidence and reasoning to support arguments and claims when speaking and writing;
   7. Design and deliver informative, interesting, effective speeches and presentations that begin to demonstrate your emotional, intellectual, and aesthetic potential, and that employ basic academic research skills.	

Pro's of Cloud Storage and Security

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Abstract

This paper explores the benefits of cloud storage in using the cloud to save them some money on costs for this type of system. It also goes into how secure the cloud is and the features you can use to keep it safe. It then explains the benefits of how scalably the cloud is and how easy it is to expand it for the business or user's needs. It also describes the extended history of the cloud and when it all began from the earliest time of technology that was key in creating the cloud as we know it today.

"The cloud" is one of the most trending techie words these days, according to Hur (Hur, 2017). Most people have a good idea of what cloud storage is, but the slang can be misleading. Cloud storage and online storage are generally the same as they allow users to store their files online. So, you may be asking what the cloud is? Well, the cloud will enable users to access and store their data throughout the Internet. According to Hur, this means that a user can store a file on a hosted server like Dropbox and retrieve it on any Internet-connected device. (Hur, 2017). Cloud storage has many reasons why it's beneficial to the user. Some of these reasons include low cost, Disaster Recovery, Ease of use, Access from anywhere, Scalability, and security.

When most people talk about the cloud's history, many people only go back to the 2000s, and maybe the 90's according to Hur. (Hur, 2017). Its accuracy goes back to the late nineteenth century to appreciate how far we have come with technological advances indeed. According to Hur, we would not be able to progressively build upon data storage technologies without these advances to what we know today as online storage. (Hur, 2017).

The history of cloud storage or data storage goes back to 1725 when Frenchman Basile Bouchon invented the first form of data storage. "He invented a way to control the weaving patterns of loom using a big loop of paper with precisely punched holes." (Hur, 2017). Semi-automated looms sold very modestly after further improvements by other inventors, according to Hur. According to Hur, in 1805, Joseph-Marie Jacquard's full automation version completely revolutionized the textile industry using a series of punched cards. (Hur, 2017). As late as the Presidential election in 2004, punch cards

were still being used as electronic systems had not entirely replaced them by the 20th century.

By 1894 New York City became the home to the first movie theater. Thomas Edison played a significant role in creating audio, and video storage, with his first recorded words of "Mary, had a little lamb," according to Hur. (Hur, 2017). This, of course, led the way for the first motion picture film.

In 1956 IBM designed a hard drive for businesses that needed a way to track accounting in real-time. And the IBM 350 "disk storage unit" was born. "It was able to store 3.75MB of data. (Hur, 2017). In 1982 IBM again made an advancement in technology when it created the ethernet adaptor. With this advancement, it paved the way for the cloud to be born as people could not connect online.

According to Hur, during the 1990s or the dot com boom, Internet-based storage was born in the form of backup services. (Hur, 2017). By 2006 the cloud as we know it was here with the creation of Amazon Web service. Few people expected it to revolutionize the industry, but it did. As the years when on, other wells know brands that we know today were coming online. Dropbox started up in 2008, followed by Google Drive in 2012. We can only imagine what is yet to go with the way we have come. Most of these services have become mainstream as they are consistently used throughout the day to store data online.

When you use your computer, you are at a much higher risk of losing all your data. Unlike businesses, most users don't think about data recovery until it's too late. But with cloud storage, "in the event of a hard drive failure or other hardware malfunction, you can access your files on the cloud." (Mister, 2019). According to

roboticbiz.com, the risk of data loss to system failure decreases because all data is stored and backed up thousands of miles from your location on external devices. (Editorial, 2019). "Disaster recovery involves maintaining a mirror image of the production environment at a different location so that it can be activated in the event of a disaster." (Weinberg, 2020). According to Weinberg, backing up data has always been important, but it has increased urgency in the age of ransomware attacks. (Weinberg, 2020). He says that the low cost eliminates the need for companies to maintain redundant facilities in cloud storage. Which also enables companies to restore their data without paying a ransom. (Weinberg, 2020).

Another way in which cloud storage is excellent is with its scalability. With scalability, users and businesses can set a small amount of storage and a given point. When they outgrow that amount of storage, they can then upgrade to a higher storage level without losing a second of their time to deploy more significant storage devices. According to roboticsbiz.com, you only pay for the amount of storage that you need. (Editorial, 2019). As the cloud is very flexible and scalable. According to Singh, you can allow upgrade the plan if your run out of run and you don't need to move any data from one location to another. (Singh, 2020).

The next way in which cloud storage is excellent is with its low cost of service. "With this technology, the company itself does not need any inner power and support to manage and store their data; the cloud storage vendor handles it all." (Singh, 2020). Cloud storage is cheaper than onsite equipment because the company is not paying for all the equipment and license to host the data on their site, that they would have to maintain and upgrade over time. Instead, when using cloud storage, the company is on a

'only pay for what you use model' which is cheaper than spending millions on your systems to manage, according to Weinberg. (Weinberg, 2020).

Another great feature of cloud storage is accessibility. With accessibility, the "cloud gives you access to your files from anywhere there an Internet connection." (Mister, 2019). According to Weinberg, with cloud storage, you can access and share your data from anywhere from any device, no matter where you are working. (Weinberg, 2020). Cloud storage can also be useful as it can also help your team work together even if they are located at different corners of the world, according to roboticsbiz.com. (Editorial, 2019).

As with anything, security always plays a role. Cloud storage security is so much easier because you don't have to worry about anything. The cloud storage company will take care of it for you. "Cloud storage companies offer password-protected data storage." (Editorial, 2019). But according to Nield, with cloud storage now so tightly integrated into the operating systems than ever before, it can open doors to someone else to get your data. (Nield, 2020). If you are smart with your security for cloud storage, there will be no issues with others gaining access to your data. "All the standard security tips apply to your cloud accounts as well." (Nield, 2020). Try to create strong passwords but also ones you can remember. The password should include a minimum of eight characters, one uppercase, one lowercase, a number, and one symbol. If available, you should also turn on two-factor authentication, which will be sent a code to your phone if someone tries to log in to your account, according to Nield. (Nield, 2020).

Along with god passwords, you should also audit your files and folder share. It would be best to see any folders or files that don't need to be shared anymore.

According to Neild, it is also a good idea to run a regular audit of all the shared folders on your account. (Nield, 2020). "Many cloud storage services run a recycle bin of sorts, keeping deleted files around for a few days or weeks just in case you want them back." (Nield, 2020). This feature could also come in handy if someone tries to wipe your account to recover all the needed files. According to Nield, another useful security feature you should use is deactivating all old devices that still have access to your account. (Nield, 2020). This is an excellent feature to use as it makes sure that an ancient device that you no longer use or have in your provision can no longer access your cloud accounts.

Cloud storage in modern times is very beneficial to users in the ways that it offers its services. Some of the benefits include accessible from anywhere globally, completely scalable to fit the user's needs. Cloud storage is also very cost-efficient as you only pay for what you need, and you can up your storage needs at any time. It is also very secure that they manage all the security aspects for you and the infrastructure for you, so you don't have to worry about any of the hardware and software upgrades they would need to be done. It is also a solution to retrieve your data if a disaster happened to your computer that needed recovering.

Cloud storage has also come a long way as technology has improved. At its earliest time, cloud storage wasn't known for data available online. Still, it was known just for data at an offsite center that you had to go to if something when wrong at the companies location that they needed to recover the data for the users to finish the work that they had started months ago and it would cost to much time to start from the being again.

References

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PRO'S OF CLOUD STORAGE AND SECURITY

MICHAEL TEMPESTA

HISTORY

- Created in 90's
- goes back to 1725
- Dropbox came online in 2008
- Amazon Web Services was started in 2006

SCALABILITY

Can scale as business grows

No need to move data

Allowed to upgrade plan as needed

DISASTER RECOVERY / BACKUP

- No onsite solutions
- Hosted 1000's of miles away
- Managed by the remote team
- Can access when needed

LOW COST

ONLY PAY FOR WHAT YOU NEED

DON'T NEED A SUPPORT TEAM TO MANAGE THE DATA

NOT PAYING FOR LICENSES TO HOST DATA ONSITE

ACCESSIBILITY

Access from anywhere

Can share with anyone

Useful when working as a team