

The Difference between Dropbox and Google Drive

	Dropbox	Google Drive
Storage	Starts you off with 2GB of free storage but you get referral perks, that is 500 MB of extra space for every friend you refer Dropbox to. More than 35 referrals later, you'll be able to earn a maximum of 18GB, giving you a grand total of 20GB inclusive of your initial 2GB.	Readily available within your Gmail account. From there you start with 5GB worth of storage space.
Support	The Dropbox desktop application is available on Windows, Mac OS and Linux. Dropbox is also available on iOS, Android and BlackBerry. Dropbox is the only service that currently natively supports Linux; and also the only service to support BlackBerry.	Google Drive is available for Windows and Mac OS; however unlike Dropbox, it has no native support for Linux and relies on third party programs. In terms of mobile, Google Drive is available only on iOS and Android.
Features	<p>Version history. Deleted files are kept intact for 30 days before being permanently deleted.</p> <p>Selective folder syncing. Allows you to sync only files or folders you need when you access your files from another computer.</p> <p>Events tracking. Allows you to monitor activities on folders or edits on files.</p> <p>Customized sharing permission. Sharing on Dropbox is limited to just the download link for access to the file.</p>	<p>Version history. You get to keep 100 document revisions.</p> <p>Selective folder syncing. Allows you to sync only files or folders you need when you access your files from another computer.</p> <p>Events tracking. Allows you to monitor activities on folders or edits on files.</p> <p>Customized sharing permission. You can not only customize who gets to see which files, users also get to simultaneously edit documents online and comment on the files.</p>
File Type Support	Dropbox does not have any online document editor which means files only can be downloaded. However, for the Dropbox app on your smartphone or tablet, you are able to view Microsoft Office files, Apple iWork files, audio/video files, images, and PDF files. Documents cannot be edited with the app but can be opened with another editing app.	The Google Drive website supports unique files like Adobe Illustrator (.AI) and Photoshop (.PSD) files, Autodesk AutoCad files and Scalable Vector Graphics files. You can also view Microsoft Office documents, but can only edit it after converting it to a Google Docs file type. The Google Drive app does not fully support viewing the unique files like its website counterpart does. However, you can do basic edits to Google Docs files and view movie files.

Commenting	Comments are added in the individual files in the student's Dropbox. You need to have software on your computer that can open and edit the student's files. If a student sends a file that does not have comment capabilities, you can create an external file. Used for grading and commenting rather than collaboration.	Comments are added in the browser using Google Docs. Once a comment has been made, the file is automatically saved in the browser, and the shared users can access those comments immediately. Must convert any non-Google file type to a Google Doc. Multiple users can work on a single shared document at the same time.
Conclusion	<p>Dropbox is a powerful and simple sharing tool that has been around the longest among these 2 services. Its referral system to earn storage space is also unique and a great crowdpuller. It is also very secure with 2-step verification, and a 4-digit passcode lock for the mobile app. Other benefits include natively supporting Linux and Blackberry unlike the other.</p> <p>Using this service is easier than Google. Because you are sharing a folder, you have access to all files within that folder as long as you have the software to open those files. If a student sends a file that has no commenting capabilities, then you need to use an external file, which can get messy.</p> <p>Students can use their gaggle account to create a Dropbox account, and you can create an account using your ghchs email account, keeping everything professional.</p>	<p>Google Drive has unique file type support (Adobe, AutoCad files) which makes it easier to view those files online. Although you can edit documents online, you'll have to convert it to a Google Document that might mess up the formatting of the original Microsoft Office file. It is also secure with 2-step verification which is linked throughout your Google account and other services.</p> <p>To use Google Drive effectively, it would be a good idea to create contact lists and groups so that you can mass email your students and send out grades. To effectively use Google Drive, your students must use Google Docs – or else you have to convert the files, and formatting changes. As of now, Google Docs have connection issues on campus.</p> <p>Everyone must use Google email.</p>