

Screen Recording to Support Teaching and Learning (Session Overview)

Screen recording software allows for the recording of any activity on a computer screen that can then be produced as videos and easily played in any web browser. This has opened up a wide range of opportunities for instructors to easily create instructional content to support learning in their courses. This workshop will show how short topical screen recordings, or "screencasts," can be used to introduce subjects, illustrate concepts, provide tutorials, guide website navigation, etc., and consider how they might save valuable class time and/or provide a resource that may be used for just-in-time learning or review. Participants will use a free tool called Jing to create a simple capture of activity on their computer screen and learn how to load this into their Blackboard course site. They will also be introduced to Camtasia, which departments or individuals would have to purchase.

By the end of this session you should be able to:

- Provide multiple examples of instructional use of screen recordings.
- Make a simple screen capture such as a web tour.
- Describe key considerations in planning to use these tools to support teaching and learning.
- Publish screen recordings to the web.
- Describe ways screen recordings can support key principles of good practice as outlined in *The Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education*.
 - encourages contact between students and faculty
 - develops reciprocity and cooperation among students
 - encourages active learning
 - gives prompt feedback
 - emphasizes time on task
 - communicates high expectations
 - respects diverse talents and ways of learning

Key Questions:

- What are some instructional advantages of screencasts?
- Are there opportunities for saving time or enhancing your course(s) and the student learning experience?
- How much time will you need to invest in order to create and use screencasts?
- When considering time for production, what is just good enough (JGE)?



Introduction

- Brief introductions and poll to determine prior knowledge and interests
- Overview of screencasting
- Show a few examples of screencasts and how and why screencasts can be valuable to teaching and learning:
 - Instructional
 - Tutorial
 - A web tour

Create a Screencast – Demonstration

- Introduction to Jing Recorder
- Demonstration of recording process (create a short web tour)
- Guide participants to Jing site and how to set up a Jing account

Guided Hands-on Exercises

- Participants create a basic screencast with narration (web tour) and play the file – perhaps do it again to gain more confidence (using Jing)
- Participants will save a screencast as a SWF file
- Upload a Jing recording into a Blackboard course

Additional Demos and Discussion

- Examples of Jing Pro capabilities
- Examples of Camtasia recordings and discussion of more advanced potential need for editing capabilities such as titles, callouts, transitions, etc.

More Time for Participant Hands-on Work Opportunity to practice this or anything we have covered earlier

- Chance to capture something that is more personally relevant
- *Instructor will address questions*

Reflection / Discussion

What opportunities do you now see for using screencasting in your own courses?
How might screencasting help you achieve your educational goal(s)?

Requirements and Options for Making Screencasts with Jing

- Free Jing Account (or optional low cost Jing-Pro account)
- Computer
- Headset / mic if you are recording narration
- Any software or internet resources you wish to capture

OPTIONAL – tablet PC – this will allow the capture of handwritten notes, emphasis of particular areas, real-time development of math problems, etc.

- NOTE: if you want to experiment with Camtasia do not have the resources, the CTE has a lab or laptops with Camtasia version 5, which may be used by appointment

Tips

- Determine your educational goals and design to meet them
- Determine the quality of production and time investment you want to make
- Storyboard your project – keep it short and simple – break into segments
 - This allows for easier edits and updates if needed later
 - It keeps the files smaller and reduces the rendering time when outputting the file
 - Note: some people prefer to write a script or have a guide to assist in voice narration
- Define area to be captured
- Practice cursor movement – move slower than usual
- (In Camtasia) Use F9 to record or pause recording and F10 to stop – this gives you a lot of control and allows you to pause while you change content on your screen to be recorded
- If you have audio problems, try the following:
 - Check your headset to be sure it is not muted
 - Make sure your computer is recording sound by recording via Windows Accessories
 - Check the setting to make sure the proper audio device is selected as the input (example: Logitech Headset) Note: sometimes when you come back into Camtasia, the sound input defaults to another source
- Think about screen resolution and how you will use the screencast in order to plan the actual size of the movie (do you want it to fit inside a certain size Blackboard window?) Note: at a screen display of 1024 x 768, you can fit an 800 x 600 image

Resources:

- *The Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education*, Chickering, A, and Gamson, Z., accessed on September 28, 2007 at <http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/intranet/committees/FacDevCom/guidebk/teachtip/7princip.htm>
- 7 Things You Should Know About Screencasting
A brief 2 page article from Educause
<http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7012.pdf>
- Screencasting, from Wikipedia
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Screencast>
- What is Screencasting? By Jon Udell
<http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/a/oreilly/digitalmedia/2005/11/16/what-is-screencasting.html>
- TechSmith – Jing product page <http://www.techsmith.com/jing/>
- TechSmith Learning Center – Camtasia Studio Tutorials
<http://www.techsmith.com/learn/camtasia/getting-started/>
- Camtasia Studio
Higher Education Best Practices
<http://www.techsmith.com/community/education/highedcasestudies.asp>
- Screencast on saving a Camtasia screencast as a Flash file and uploading that file into a Blackboard class.
http://blackboard.vcu.edu/bbcswebdav/users/wdeihl/Public/Screencasting_procedure_for_Bb/Screencasting_procedure_for_Bb.html

Access to a CTE Blackboard Organization titled *Teaching with Blackboard* for faculty who have taken classes - this will be a growing list of resources

CTE Staff consultation is available by appointment to address your specific use and development of screencasts

NOTE: The CTE has tablet PCs with Camtasia Studio available for loan, which may be used to create screencasts.

For more information, contact Bud Deihl (804-828-4383 or wdeihl@vcu.edu)

