

Creating Effective Podcasts (“Flipping” the Classroom) *Strategies and Technologies*

Strategies for Using Podcasts

Purpose:

- Introduce a topic, course, etc
- Present new course content
- Supplement lecture content
- Integrate with an assignment
- Replace a scheduled lecture
- Review key ideas
- Other ...

Planning:

- Select appropriate content for a podcast
- Determine the instructional goal/objective of the podcast
- Design and define content and structure of the podcast
- Produce and edit your podcast
- Incorporate links into your course/share links with students

Critical Considerations:

- Limit and focus the content
- Have a plan and timeline
- Limit cognitive load (complexity and density)
- Cue/signal important information
- Segment (“chunk”) information delivery
 - less is better
 - 5-10 min
 - 10-15 min *max* !!
- Weed out extraneous content
- Integrate visual and aural learning

Reference:

<https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/effective-educational-videos/>

Creating Your Podcast

Format:

- audio only
- video only
- audio/video mini-lesson (sound, images, slides, voice-over, etc)

Production Tools:

- Computer and screen capture software (if showing media such as slides, photos or videos)
- Camera
- Microphone

Technical Considerations:

- Audio is the most important part of a podcast. Find a quiet location. Use an external mic if you need to and have it as close to you as possible without the mic being in the video.
- Video
 - Lighting improves video. Maybe have a floor lamp or desk lamp lighting your face.
 - Consider the background. Don't shoot out a window. Keep the background plain.
 - Position the camera at eye level. May have to put books under a laptop.
 - Talk to the camera. I use an action figure that I place next to the camera as something to talk to.
- Editing - Depends on your podcast
 - If shooting just video of you talking may just have to trim the beginning and ending.
 - If you are adding slides to you talking will need to use software. Camtasia is the software we recommend but there are lots of options and you may be familiar with a specific software.
- Uploading
 - [Set up a Youtube account and upload videos](#)
 - [Use Microsoft Steam to upload videos](#)

If you have questions, please contact us. We are here for your teaching.