Tips for Recording Lectures

Consider this first

You may not need to record at all. Someone else has probably put time into recording the exact concepts you want to teach, and they have probably done it in a polished and produced way. There are many videos that fall under Creative Commons or other public use licenses that you can use in your course to deliver the same concepts to your student.

Recording Tips

Here are some tips to make recordings that students may be more inclined to view, and that might even be useful over multiple semesters (saving you re-record time):

1. ## Keep recordings short

   For example, chunk long videos into segments (e.g. one 40 minute Geology Lecture becomes 4 videos "Introduction to Rock Types" "Sedimentary Rocks", "Igneous Rocks", and "Metamorphic Rocks").

   Why?

   Shorter recordings (less than 10 minutes) have a better chance of being viewed in their entirety.

   Shorter recordings take less time to re-record, in the event you sneeze, cough or spill hot coffee in your lap half-way through recording on your first try.

2. ## Consider making recordings specific to single concepts where possible

   Faculty tend to self-assess and frequently reflect on how their class is going, and how it went once it's over. You may decide to teach some concepts differently, or in a different order. Keeping recordings specific to single concepts allows you to easily "plug and play" as you go along, and even re-purpose them in other courses and in future semesters.

3. ## Avoid referencing current events

   Current events may not be so "current" the next time you offer the video.

4. ## Avoid referencing specific texts, chapters and pages

   Chances are that if/when you change texts or versions, what you reference in your recording may not match up with the book in your students' hands.

5. ## Script before you record
   Here are the benefits:

   - Scripting helps you organize your thoughts, making a better, more concise and shorter video.
   - It helps minimize those "ums" and "ahs."
   - **Scripting gives you a text transcript** in the event that The Disability and Assistive Technology Office contacts you a week or more into your class regarding a student who requires accommodations.

Reminder:

You don't have to record your videos alone. We have equipment and software to help you record and edit – and CITL team members here to help – and a nice quiet space for you to do the work. Contact us at citl@uwsp.edu for more information, or to schedule a time to meet with us.