



PODCASTING

Podcasts are digital audio or video recordings, made available as resources online, which can be easily viewed at any time or place on a range of devices.

Podcasts, vidcasts and screencasts are now an integral part of our teaching at Plymouth, with Lynda.com being used to support learning on a range of subjects and Panopto being used to automatically capture lectures and deliver them within our DLE.

The tools for making podcasts are easily available to all, and can be made using nothing more than a headset with microphone or a smartphone. Audio recordings can be made using Audacity which is available for all PCs through the software store and a free download for Apple Mac. Simple screen recordings can be made many ways, including by using Panopto. More complex recordings will need dedicated software such as Camtasia. Video can be captured on a number of small devices including most smartphones and then edited in Movie Maker or iMovie.

Normally we 'cast' our podcasts by making them available through Moodle. This can be done directly within Moodle or via Panopto, although they could also be made available through public channels such as YouTube or SoundCloud.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Enhancing teaching and learning through technology

Case Study

Dr Roy Lowry created video podcasts to support Chemistry students. The podcasts are used to introduce students to labs and specific equipment within them. The clips were extremely popular and significantly reduced the time wasted in labs discussing how the equipment is setup.

"The feedback from students has been phenomenal, they really love them. They like flexibility and a human voice guiding them rather than black and white."

<http://bit.ly/uop-podcasting>



"Lotsa Tracks" by Andy Melton
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“Recording a Podcast” by Teaching and Learning with Technology’s is licensed under CC BY 2.0 <http://bit.ly/image-source-1>

Why use Podcasts?

Podcasts are a great way of taking the learning experience outside the classroom and even beyond the campus, providing a blended approach to learning that encourages engagement with the subject.

They can be designed to accommodate a wide range of content that can be core or complimentary and work well with a flipped teaching model.

Students can listen or watch when and where they want, making it possible to use time that they would not normally wish or be able to work, such as when travelling or sitting in bed or doing their washing.

Pedagogic benefits

- In general, students are happier to listen for longer than they will read or even watch

- Podcasts can allow you to cover content in more depth than would be possible in a lecture - as you know students can listen multiple times until they are confident of the content
- They can bring in content from external experts who cannot visit in person
- Recording your lecture can help provide a consistent experience for all students, giving everyone equal access to the content
- Rather than a way of providing content, students or student-groups can be asked to create their own podcasts, which can then be assessed or shared with their cohort
- Creating Podcasts can encourage collaboration in a cohort and teach teamwork, along with critical analysis and reflection

Top tips

- Use the best microphone you can, but a USB headset is normally good enough for most
- Preparation is important – know what you are going to say and if necessary, use a script, storyboard or mind map to remind you of any critical words or sentences
- Find somewhere really quiet to record your podcast where there is no background noise
- Give yourself sufficient time; it takes a while to learn the skills to produce a high quality result
- Be careful to make sure you have permission to use any copyrighted materials

The Model: 5 Conflict Modes

Different styles have different goals:

- **Competing:** The goal is to win
- **Accommodating:** The goal is to yield
- **Avoiding:** The goal is to delay
- **Collaborating:** The goal is multiple participation
- **Compromising:** The goal is to find middle ground

The slide also features a diagram with five boxes representing conflict modes: Competing, Accommodating, Avoiding, Collaborating, and Compromising, arranged in a circular pattern around a central point.

