Recording a Class Intro Video

Introduction

First impressions are important, whether you're teaching face to face or online, and so for an online class, it's essential to establish a strong instructor presence right away.

An intro video allows your students to connect to you, their instructor, from the moment they first open your course. It gives you your first opportunity for welcoming them to the class and assuring them that this will be a safe but rigorous educational environment. It also serves as a place for you to introduce yourself to them and for you to set the tone for the semester. Whether you like it or not, your online social presence directly impacts your students' learning. A strong social connection translates to actual learning, perceived learning, and higher satisfaction of students in courses.

Sample Script

Below is a sample bare bones script along with some tips to create an effective class introduction. Feel free to use it as a general template, but please don't follow it exactly, or all ELC courses will sound canned and fake. Besides, part of the goal here is to let your personality show, let your students know who you are and what your values are.

> *"Hello! My name is [Insert Name] and I would like to welcome you to [Insert Course Title, Number, and Section] as well as give you an overview of what you can expect from this course. In [Course Title], you will learn [Insert course topics/skills/etc.]. Additionally, you will be given the opportunity to [insert various assignments/ activities]. We will be utilizing [insert pedagogies] and using [insert technologies] to help you learn. At any time during this course, please feel free to contact me via [insert preferred communication method(s)] with any questions or concerns. I look forward to working with you this semester!"*

Helpful Tips

- Aim to keep your intro video less than three minutes long.
- Use best practices for audio and video recording to ensure good quality.
- Strive to be warm and approachable.
- When saying your name, let students know how you'd like to be addressed.
- Mention some best practices (or advice from previous semester students) for how to be successful in your class. Keep it positive!
- **Don't** mention specific semesters or reference specific dates in your video so that it can be reused for future semesters.
- If possible, upload captions or the audio script to the video file to improve accessibility.

Resources and Tutorials

- **Audio** | **Video** | **Kaltura Mediaspace** | **Using Kaltura Capture** | **Embedding Content in D2L**