

# Creating Engaging Instructional Videos

(on a budget)

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# Welcome!

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# Overview

- General editing options
- Areas to add engagement
  - Interesting elements and visuals
  - “In-the-field” shots and interviews
  - Creating interaction and sourcing content from students
- Hodge-podge of craziness
- Advanced Tips



# Overview

- General editing options
  - Areas to add engagement
    - Interesting elements and visuals
    - “In-the-field” shots and interviews
    - Creating interaction and sourcing content from students
  - Hodge-podge of craziness
  - Advanced Tips
- ✓ Practical Application Tips – The theory of it
  - ✓ Technology Side – The nuts and bolts of it
  - ✓ Examples



# General Points and Disclaimers

- Everything should show YOUR personality
- Bring your extravert side
- All videos should be landscape orientation (widescreen)
- SHORT clips
  - 5-10 minutes
  - If longer, change of pace or add creative element(s) every 5 minutes → see upcoming ideas

# General Editing Options and Resources

## Canvas (LMS) Studio Editing Features

### imovie

- Free for Mac or any ios device

### Adobe Spark

- Free version with Adobe Spark logo, \$10/month with custom logo

### Adobe Premiere

- Students and teachers \$20/month for ALL Adobe – Your university may have free downloads

### Final Cut Pro

- For Mac devices, \$299 or free 30-day trial - Your university may have free downloads

### LinkedIn Learning (formerly Lynda.com)

- Tutorials for all things technology, \$25/month



# Adding Creative Elements

Bring concepts to life!

- Practical Application Tips - Brainstorming
  - Make a topic outline
  - Think of visual examples
    - What stories do you think of
    - What words come to mind
  - What questions might students ask
  - Find what you can around the house
  - Show graphs for statistics or animated typography
  - Website examples on screencapture
  - What audio could you use
  - What tv clip relates to this

# Adding Creative Elements

- Tech – Sources for Free and Cheap Elements
  - Unsplash – free images
  - Canva – free and premium version. Design images and purchase cheap stock photos
  - Youtube audio library
  - Fiverr.com – hire out work done. Examples: song, animation, newscast, voiceovers
  - Screencast-o-matic – good for showing website examples.
  - Envato Elements - <https://elements.envato.com/> everything from pictures to music to templates for a monthly price (\$16.50 or \$11.50 for students)



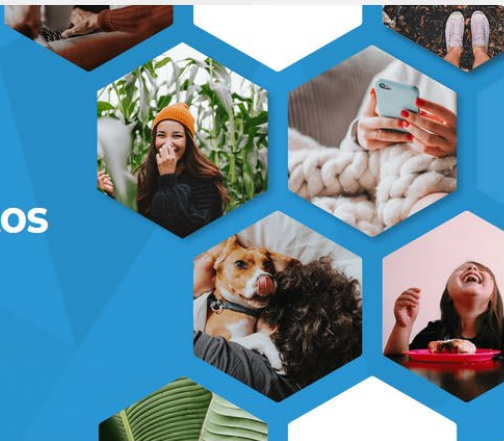
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# Adding Creative Elements

- Sites for free animated stories
  - <https://www.powtoon.com> –The free version has their branded logos....but it's free. (Note that there's also a student plan.)
  - <https://www.rawshorts.com/> is one that is popular and has free templates
  - <https://goanimate.com> – is more complex, takes a little more time, and costs



# In the Field

(Interviews and Live Shots)

- Practical Application Tips
  - Always horizontal orientation (widescreen)
  - Not backlit, quiet area
  - Watch out for background (phones can't film with different depths of field...yet)
  - Introduce the live clip, overlay a title



# In the Field

(Interviews and Live Shots)

- Technology
  - Mic
    - Smartphone condenser mic \$20
  - Tripod
  - Tripod Mount \$5-\$10
  - Lighting
    - Cowboys studio setup \$52
    - Ring light
  - Separate audio (you can even use a second smartphone with mic!)

# Creating Interaction and Sourcing Content from Students

- Practical Application Tips
  - Give opportunities for interaction within the video
  - If you want them to do it – attach points to it 😊
  - Assignment
    - Topic, how-to, top tips
    - Turn in and/or post
    - Watch and comment
    - Re-use or shout-out

# Adding in the Unexpected

- AKA a “Hodge-Podge of Crazyness”
  - Shout outs
  - Secret hidden bonuses
  - Bloopers
  - Randomness
- (I’ll let the video speak for itself)

# Advanced Tips

- Animation templates
  - Titles
  - Animated typography
  - Always brand with your colors and logo
  - Most developers on Envato will customize a bit for your project
- Music 20% of full / speaking volume
- File Size Issues
  - Export Quicktime with alpha channel for animated titles and overlay them.
  - Exporting completed videos as h.264 for small file size
- iPhone/Premiere Compatibility – iPhone variable frame rate



# Thank you!

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