Tools to create multimedia learning objects and maximize student engagement

Oliver Dreon, PhD Millersville University
Tim Wilson, PhD University of Western Ontario
Ike Shibley, PhD Penn State Berks

TubeChop

Want to just show a section of a YouTube video? TubeChop (www.tubechop.com) lets you easily select the beginning and ending points of a video and create a unique embed code and link for the tailored video. The video also strips the advertising from the video so students can solely focus on the content without a barrage of popups that increase students' cognitive load (and decrease their learning).

Surprise.ly

Want to show the visuals from one video and the audio from another? Surprise.ly lets you easily do this. Simply copy and paste URLs from similar videos and you're on your way. The Surprise.ly site is amazingly simple but the process is really powerful. You can also use the site to create custom start and stop times and remove advertisements like TubeChop. The one advantage is that the tailored video will open full-screen without any fanfare, margin distractions or extra content. Students focus on the selected content and nothing else.

Clea.nr

Showing a YouTube in class but you're worried about all of the distracting content along the margins? Try Clea.nr (youtube.clea.nr). Just put in the URL to any YouTube video and Clea.nr will remove the clutter that could impact student learning and attention.

eduCanon

eduCanon (www.educanon.com) is a site that allows teachers to add questions to videos from YouTube, Vimeo or TeacherTube to assess student understanding and to keep students engaged. The process is pretty simple. Instructors sign up for an account and start building a lesson. After selecting a video, instructors can select specific points of the video where a question would pop up. Instructors can choose to add questions throughout the video or save them for the end of the video.

TouchCast

Want to use your tablet to create a multimedia presentation? Try TouchCast! It's available for iPads and Android devices and uses a unique system that allows users to embed vApps into the presentation. vApps are video apps which pull content from websites, Twitter feeds, videos and from other locations online.

PowToon

Looking for a way to present content in a more entertaining way? PowToon (www.powtoon.com) is a do-it-yourself animated tool that can supercharge presentations and videos! It's free and easy to use and can help instructors teach lessons in a more creative way.

MyBrainShark

Have some great Powerpoint presentations but want to add your own narration? Try out MyBrainShark (www.brainshark.com)! Simply upload your PowerPoint slides and record your voices over each slide. The final product can be easily shared with students for discussion.

Piktochart

If a picture is worth a thousand words, an infographic is worth even more. Infographics are a new trend in media presentation that allows presenters to use shapes, colors, fonts, and backgrounds to enhance content. Piktochart (www.piktochart.com) is a FREE website that not only shows you how to make great infographics, but also gives you a multitude of options to choose from when creating your own. Used instructionally, Piktochart would be great for condensing really difficult numbers and statistics into more manageable visuals.

ThingLink

Want to add some context to an image online? Try ThingLink (www.thinglink.com). Just upload a photo and add hotspots that link to videos, text boxes or other content. Besides the web-based site, there are iPad and Android apps available that allow instructors to create interactive images from their tablets.

ActiveTextbook

Thinking of creating your own multimedia, interactive eBook for your students? Try ActiveTextbook (activetextbook.com) which allows users to upload a PDF and add videos, images, quizzes and other interactive content. The finished product is accessible online through tablets, PCs and Macs.

Screencasting

Looking into screencasting lessons for your students? Wondering what your options are? Check out this table of some selected screencasting applications which compares the cost and ease of use across a variety of systems.

Tool	Ease of Use	System?	Owns the file?	Cost	Length?
Jing	Beginner	Mac/PC	Screencast.com	Free	5 min
Screencastomatic	Beginner	Mac/PC	You	Free	15 minutes
Camtasia	Advanced	Mac/PC	You	$99 Mac $299 PC (Studio)	Unlimited
Screenflow	Advanced	Mac	You	$99	Unlimited
ScreenChomp	Beginner	iPad	Screencast.com	Free	20 min
Educreations	Beginner	iPad	Educreations	Free	30 min
ExplainEverything	Moderate	iPad	You	$2.99	20 min
ShowMe	Beginner	iPad	ShowMe	Free	Unlimited

Need some help or some other ideas?
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