

Podcasting for Learning

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Workshop overview

- How can podcasting support teaching and learning?
- Equipment and software
- Hands on tasks:
 - Record a podcast using Audacity
 - Edit a podcast using Audacity
 - Export a podcast as MP3 file
 - Upload a podcast to Moodle and to the NDLR



What is a podcast?

IPod + **Broadcast** = ***Podcast***





Examples

- John Fothergill: “Radio broadcast”/lecture summary style
 - News
 - Announcements/feedback/what you should be doing this week
 - “Fun bit”
- David B. Miller: Pre and post casts
- Temple University: Heartbeat sounds; Impact
- University of Edinburgh: Guest speakers
- Student podcasts



What will you podcast?



Why podcast?

- Podcasts may
 - Enhance flexibility of learning
 - Assist 'auditory' learners
 - Assist students with dyslexia
 - Assist students for whom English is a second language





Possible disadvantages

- Technology/Broadband access: keep file sizes small
- No possible to scan in advance
- Limited interactivity: best suited to informational content
- Excludes students with a hearing impairment:
 - Provide a full text version
 - Limit number of voices & background noise
 - Ensure pace of audio is not too fast





General Equipment

- PC/Mac
- Microphone/Headset (to record)
- Digital recorder
- Software: Audacity
- Speakers/headsets (to hear podcast)

Hardware for Recording

- Digital recorder (Dictaphone)
- Head set with microphone
- Microphone
- iPod/MP3 player and sound recorder (iTalk)



Software for recording podcasts

- Software: Audacity
 - Free, easy-to-use audio editor
- Audacity can:
 - Record live audio.
 - Cut, copy, splice or mix sounds together.
 - Change the speed or pitch of a recording.
 - Export recordings to MP3.





Recording a podcast

Firstly prepare what you would like to record.




Plan the podcast:

1. What is the learning objective of the podcast (have this clearly outlined at beginning of podcast)
2. Who are the audience
3. What length should the podcast be
4. Write a script for the podcast

Recording a podcast

1. Ensure the headset is connected to the laptop!

2. Launch Audacity **Start -> Programs**

- Start recording select **record** 
- Begin speaking into the microphone
- Select the **stop** to end the recording 
- Select the **play** button to listen 



Audacity Extras

- Removing “room tone”
 - [Example 1](#) – before
 - [Example 2](#) – after
- Increasing the volume of a recording
 - Example 1- [low volume](#)
 - Example 2 – [high volume](#)
- Export as file MP3



Podcasts in Moodle

- How add podcasts to Moodle



Summary

- Intro to Podcasting
- Reasons to use podcasts
- How to create podcasts – Audacity + hardware
- Resources and references on worksheet
- **Next** try the activities on the worksheet