Keep Teaching Collaboratively Using VoiceThread

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Zoom Controls to Communicate during this Webinar

- **Mute or Unmute your microphone.** Muting helps to reduce background noise.
- **Start your video, if you would like to show your face through your webcam.**
- **Type a text message into the chat for the participants and I to see.**
VoiceThread

sound + images = impact^2

MEMORY RETENTION

Source: The Weoss-McGrath Report

10% VOICE
20% VISUALS
65% VISUALS & VOICE
VoiceThread

What is VoiceThreading?

Five One-Minute VoiceThreads
Technology - You Need

- **Browsers - HTML5 Fully Supported**
  - Google Chrome
  - Mozilla FireFox

- **Speakers & Headphones – Audio**

- **Recording**
  - Webcam & Microphone

- **VoiceThread Universal – Screen Readers**
What Can You Do With VoiceThread?

- Deliver lecture materials with Voice for asynchronous conversations.

- Upload, share and discuss
  - Documents
  - Presentations
  - Images, audio files and videos

- Instructor/student interaction by commenting and providing feedback
  - Audio
  - Microphone
  - Text
  - Video/webcam
Pedagogical Use

- Interactive Mini-Lectures
- Asynchronous Office Hours
- Interactive Syllabus Review
- Threaded Discussions/Debates with images
- Meet Your Classmates
- Group Project Presentation
- Peer Review of assignments
- Instructor Feedback with audio/video/doodles
- Student Group brainstorming
- Icebreaker Activity
How to Get Started – Think Big Picture!

1. Collect/create digital materials (PPT’s, PDF’s Word docs, short videos)
2. Upload media into VoiceThread (after you have an account set-up)
3. Add VoiceThread link in Blackboard
4. Set up your VoiceThread from within Blackboard (i.e. VoiceThread set-up page)

NOTE: Step 4 is fairly complex and will depend on your overall goal/objective.
Step 1 – Collect Digital Materials

✓ Collect digital materials (PPT’s, Word Docs, Images, Video’s)
Step 2 - Add VoiceThread Link in Blackboard

1. Decide on Blackboard content area (Left navigation menu or inside a folder or module)
2. Create link inside Blackboard content area
   • Do this for EACH VT
3. Select Tools>VoiceThread... (Demo)
Step 3 – Setting Up VT Options
Decision Time

1. What do you want students to see when they click on the VT Link?
2. Best option for your needs?
3. Graded assignment integrated with Bb gradebook?
   • Must use “Assignment Builder”
**Use Case:** Students comment on each other’s work or students review ALL course materials prior to exam

- Collection of ALL VT’s shared with course
- Instructor/Students click thumbnail of VT to participate
- Options:
  - Add VT’s or select from those already created
  - Sort by criteria – click menu icon
  - End of Semester – Disable course to turn off course for students
Use Case: Simple portal into VT without directing students to any specific content

- Students view own home page
- See VT’s shared with them or created

Sidebar Icon – Shows student all their courses using VT

- Ability to select course and view collection of VT’s shared with that course
## Individual VT

- **Use Case:** Best for VT Discussion board or lecture
- Point students to ONE specific VT vs. collection
  - Great for using VT already created as conversation space
  - Select from list & share with class
- Create new VT
  - Upload media, name title, save
  - Select comment to record your comments
  - Share with class & students see only this VT
Integrates with Blackboard gradebook

Setting up assignment

- 3 types of assignments:
  - **Create** VoiceThread
  - **Submit** Comment
  - **Watch** VoiceThread
Submit Comment Assignment

- Allows **BOTH** Viewing & Commenting
- Instructor sees all VT's created by them
- Select VT you want students to comment on or create new VT
- Provide description and set # of comments required by students
- Select moderation or not
- Share with class (default) & select ‘create assignment’
Comment Moderation Feature

- Great option for assessment!
- Students can’t see one another's answers or comments
- Default – NOT Enabled
**Use Case:** Require students to create a VT of their own to submit

- Projects
- Group project creation

**NOTE:** Students must click "Submit Assignment" button in order for Instructor to be able to grade work!
Student watches full VoiceThread

If a student has not watched 100% of every single comment, they will not be able to submit the assignment.

How do you guarantee students were actively listening?
Private – Default

Decide:

1. Who gets to see VT?
2. What level of permission?
   - View
   - Comment
   - Edit
Submitted vs. Not Submitted Assignments

- Not Submitted
  - Reminder email to complete feature
- Submitted
  - Select students name and work loads on left
  - Selecting comment jumps directly to comment
  - Listen/watch/enter grade
Create Your Avatar

- Depicts teaching presence
- Encourage students to upload professional ‘facial’ image
- Avatars are also great for Role Playing/debate discussions
Large vs. Small Class

- 20+ Students = fairly heavy
- Consider length of comment time & pedagogical use case
- Limit number of students commenting on slide
Time-Saver & High Quality Conversation Tips

- Model ideal level of participation
- Record your own exemplary voice/video comment – sets the tone of conversation
- Time limit on comments Feature
- Re-ordering quality comments to the top of conversation channel
- Speed Playback Feature
UAlbany Help Resources

- **Vendor 24/7 Support for Faculty & Students!**
  - Help request submission – Captures UAlbany Credentials [https://wiki.albany.edu/x/CpfzAw](https://wiki.albany.edu/x/CpfzAw)

- **AskIT Wiki Articles:**
  - VT Main - [https://wiki.albany.edu/x/zY-zAw](https://wiki.albany.edu/x/zY-zAw)
  - Student Guide - [https://wiki.albany.edu/x/A5XzAw](https://wiki.albany.edu/x/A5XzAw)
  - FAQ - [https://wiki.albany.edu/x/ogTBAw](https://wiki.albany.edu/x/ogTBAw)
VT Vendor Help Resources

- Support instructions, tutorials, & more [https://voicethread.com/howto/](https://voicethread.com/howto/)

- **Digital Library** – Guidance & Inspiration on successful VT projects [http://voicethread.com/about/library/](http://voicethread.com/about/library/)

- **Tutorials** - [https://voicethread.com/myvoice/#browse/threadbox/44](https://voicethread.com/myvoice/#browse/threadbox/44)

- **YouTube Channel** - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXggZ2yUPudu9EKx5ZtrdAw/feed](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXggZ2yUPudu9EKx5ZtrdAw/feed)

- **Workshops** - [https://voicethread.com/workshops](https://voicethread.com/workshops)

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