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INT 1471: TechEd 2009 - New Face of Tech

TechEd 2009 Project

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POWERPOINT/CAMTASIA INVERTED CLASSROOM LESSON PLAN

Background – I am using two technologies new to me in this lesson: PowerPoint and Camtasia. The lesson is based on ideas gleaned from the CS 661 Power-CounterPoint (“Summaries” 3) and LAB 823 Camtasia Studio: Best Practices in Education (“Summaries” 2) sessions. I have up until this point in my career successfully avoided PowerPoint. However, the Power-CounterPoint session gave me the confidence and motivation to learn this program. Coupled with Camtasia, PowerPoint becomes a powerful online lecture delivery tool.

The Camtasia Studio: Best Practices in Education session highlighted an interesting new education model: the inverted classroom. The standard model of a class is to lecture in front of students and then send them home to put the lessons of the lecture to use in a project. However, through the use of Camtasia, an instructor can flip the old model on its head to create an “inverted classroom” where students are assigned to watch and study a video lecture at home. The students then come to class ready to discuss the ideas and put them to use. One benefit of this model is that students will be able to watch and review the lecture over and over until they understand the information clearly. Another benefit is that, since students have prepared and reviewed the material in advance, class time can be spent actually implementing the techniques and information of the lecture with instructor supervision.

Lesson Overview – The lesson I have created is for a Cerro Coso basic skills writing course called English 40: College Writing Skills. The lesson is entitled “How to Create a Thesis Statement.” In the two parts of this lesson, I describe the concept of the thesis statement and provide beginning writers tips on how to construct clear thesis statements of their own.


Steps Taken – Here are the steps I took to create this lesson.

1) First, I created the PowerPoint lesson, attempting to use the PowerPoint best practices described at TechEd.
2) Then I wrote a script of the lecture to accompany the PowerPoint presentation. (See the included script).
3) Next, I used the Camtasia PowerPoint add-in to record the lecture.
4) Then, I fully edited the presentation using the Camtasia editor. I copy/pasted my script and then synced up the script with the narrative in order to create captions for hearing impaired students.
5) Finally, I created the MP4 files, uploaded them to my school server, and made the lessons available to my students via links on my website.

Completed Project – The completed project can be found under the “Narrated PowerPoint Lessons” section of my school homepage:

http://home.cerrocoso.edu/enss