Online Teaching and Learning

Screencasts for Lecture Streaming and Recording Lectures

Recording Lectures

The following software can be used to record lectures via screencasts:

- Open Broadcaster Software (Linux, Windows, Mac) (OBS Wiki, Quickstart guide, Overview Guide)
- SimpleScreenRecorder (Linux)
- CamStudio (Windows)

To provide your screencast via OLAT, you can upload the screencast file (e.g., mp4) to OLAT via a video element. Please note that other course elements may be restricted in terms of storage volume (i.e., the number of videos that can be uploaded is restricted by the total size of videos).

Streaming Lectures

Open Broadcaster Software also allows to stream the screencast to UIBK's streaming server (just as recording in a lecture hall). You can find instructions on how to stream your screencast live via OLAT here: obs-to-stream.uibk.pdf (by Simon Haller-Seeber).

Meeting Online

Meeting with a Group of Students Online (Seminar, Tutorial)

For virtually meeting with students online, there are a number of tools that can be used:

- Adobe Connect (as suggested by UIBK); can be directly integrated into OLAT as part of the virtual classroom course element, but also used in a stand-alone manner; limited use under Linux.
- Google Hangouts Meet: browser-based video-conferencing for up to 100 participants if used with Google's gsuite for education
- Google Hangout: browser-based video-conferencing for up to 25 people; a comparison between Hangout and Meet can be found here
- Zoom video meetings restricted to 40 minutes (please note that Zoom uses US servers and there are some resulting privacy concerns); requires installing Zoom software
- Twitch screencast and video conferencing (mostly used for gamers); unlimited number of participants.
- Extensive list of meeting tools (in German)

Meeting with a Small Number of Students Online (e.g., Thesis Supervision)

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- all of the above tools
- whereby for meeting with single students. Requires no registration etc. for up to four participants, runs via browser. You create a free account, create your virtual meeting room and send the room url to students (also screen-sharing is possible). Here's a quickstart guide.

OLAT

We recommend using OLAT as a central point of communication with students. For increased communication with students, please make use of the course elements provided. These include e.g.:

- Forum: asynchronous online discussions for different purposes (e.g., answering questions).
- Self-test: students can assess their current knowledge, practice and repeat the test as many times as they want; results of self-tests will be saved anonymously.
- Virtual classroom: voice- and video-based synchronous communication and content mediation.
- etc.

Creating OLAT Tests via R

Achim Zeileis (Department of Statistics, UIBK) has created the R-package r-exams that allows to create tests in R, which can be exported in a format that can be imported in OLAT and used for tests and and self-assessment tests. Here's a video tutorial on how to create a test and import it to OLAT.

Further Resources

- Hochschulen und Corona: Was Jetzt? Collection of links and tools for online higher education (in German)
- Webinars (School of Information Sciences, University of Pittsburgh; requires Zoom videoconferencing software)
 - Strategies for Moving Online, from March 16, 2020
 - Moving Swiftly to Online Teaching: Valuable Tipps from Experienced Educators, from March 16, 2020
- Tipps for transition to online classrooms given university shutdowns on academia.stackexchange.com
- Twitter (e.g., hashtags #distancelearning, #remotelearning)
- Informationen zu Heimarbeit für MitarbeiterInnen der Universität Innsbruck

Questions or Suggestions?

We'd be happy to extend this Wiki page with your suggestions - just send an email to eva.zangerle@uibk.ac.at. In case of questions, please also contact eva.zangerle@uibk.ac.at

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