How Do I Record A Lecture For My Students?

The University of Aberdeen provides TechSmith Relay lecture capture software to record lectures. To begin you will need to register for the service with the “TechSmith Relay Registration Form” which can be found on the University website.

You can also check the list of TechSmith Relay enabled classrooms.

How Does It Work?

- Record everything on your computer screen, along with your voice, from any TechSmith Relay enabled classroom or PC.
- The resulting video files are published to the University’s streaming media server.
- You will receive an email confirmation containing a hyperlink. Use this to link to the video file from any web page or the MyAberdeen VLE. The recording can be streamed, or downloaded as an MPEG4 video file.

What advantages are there in recording my lectures?

1. The value it adds to courses – more and more students are demanding the flexibility and control that recorded lectures provide over their learning. This is also applicable to students for whom English is an additional language, or for students with specific learning differences.

2. It is simple to set-up and unobtrusive, requiring little technological knowledge “it’s literally as simple as putting the kettle on”.

3. Integration with VLE – the platform is simple to access and administer via Blackboard, Moodle etc.

4. Transparency of teaching – the ability to share best practice with colleagues without disturbing your lesson.

5. Viewer analytics to see what and how often students are watching – thereby helping lecturers to gauge interest in topics and hone and improve their lecture content and delivery.

6. It provides more opportunities for interaction during class time. Since students can preview course material or information-based tutorials in their own time, topics are illuminated during contact time by means of debates, interaction and more in-depth exploration of themes and better quality debates.
Making Your Recording

- Open TechSmith Relay from the desktop icon.

- Log on using your University username and password or identify yourself as a Guest.

- Select your preferred Profile from the drop-down list.

- Give your recording a Title (e.g. course code) and a short Description.

- Click TEST to make a 10 second recording and verify your audio and visual setup.

- To start your recording click REC. The recorder is minimised to the system tray.

- To stop or pause recording, double-click on the software icon in the system tray to display the recorder.

- Submit your recording. A confirmation message appears.

- When you are finished, a link to your video will be emailed to you, which can take up to 72 hours.
Making Your Video Available on MyAberdeen

For TechSmith Relay Recordings made after 21 August 2014

– In a suitable content area, such as Course Content for example, select “Build Content”, go to “Mashups” and select “Kaltura Media”.

– On the “Search for Kaltura Mediapan”, using the “Filter” drop down box select the default setting “My Media” and search for your video by Title, All Metadata or Tags. Alternatively you can scroll down the page to review all videos, these can be ordered by Newest First, or by Title.

– Press the “Preview” button beneath the video to confirm that it is the video you want to include. When happy with your choice click “Select” and this will take you to a “Create Mashup Item” page.

Create Mashup Item

– 1. **Content information**: create a Title for your page

– 2. **Add Kaltura Media Content to Course**: you can preview the media and add additional information

– 3. **Mashup options**: both “Show Media Information” and “Show media description and tags” are enabled by default. Leave these as “Yes” unless there are exceptional circumstances under which you would not want such information to be made public

– 4. **Attach or Link Content**: you can browse your computer or the content collection to link an item to the media page

– 5. **Options**: by default “Permit Viewers to view content” item is selected. If you want to restrict the dates on which the media can be accessed enter the appropriate dates and times under “Select Date and Time Restrictions”

– 6. **Submit**: select “Submit” to upload the Mashup page. The Mashup page including the streaming video will now be added to your Course Materials.

Further Information and Help

If you require further assistance with lecture recording please contact the service desk at servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk

Or media services at mediaservices@abdn.ac.uk