

CS 422

Produce a Highlight Video

This document summarizes how to prepare a video highlighting your CS 422 Software Methodologies Course Project. You may want to include this video in your professional portfolio, but it should not be used during the final presentations.

Creating a compelling highlight video for a software engineering project can showcase your work effectively. Here are some guidelines to follow:

1. Define Your Audience:

- **Who are you trying to reach?** Potential employers, investors, or the general public?
- **What do they want to see?** Technical demonstrations, team dynamics, or the impact of your project?

2. Choose Key Processes:

- **Identify the most significant achievements:** These could be essential parts of the process, challenges overcome, or critical system features.
- **Select visually interesting scenes:** Capture moments that showcase the project's functionality, user interface, or team collaboration. These captures can be static (screenshots) or dynamic (interaction videos).

3. Structure Your Video:

- **Create a clear narrative:** Introduce the project, highlight its key features, and conclude with a summary stating how your developed system provides those features.
- **Use transitions effectively:** Smoothly transition between scenes to maintain viewer engagement.
- **Keep it concise:** Aim for an engaging and informative video length, typically between 5 and 10 minutes.

4. Capture High-Quality Footage:

- **Use good lighting and audio:** Ensure the footage is well-lit and the audio is clear.
- **Consider screen recording:** If your project involves a user interface, capture screen recordings to demonstrate functionality.
- **Get B-roll footage** that includes shots of the team working, the project environment, or relevant background visuals.
- **Produce a script:** Speak clearly, avoid fill-up words, and follow a script – do not improvise.

5. Edit Your Video:

- **Trim unnecessary footage:** Keep the video focused on the most critical moments.
- **Add music or sound effects:** Enhance the mood and atmosphere of the video.
- **Include text overlays or captions:** Provide additional context or highlight key points.

6. Add a Call to Action:

- **To encourage viewers to learn more,** provide a link to your project's website, repository, or other relevant resources.
- **Invite feedback or collaboration:** Encourage viewers to share their thoughts or contribute to the project.

7. Get Feedback:

- **Show the video to others:** Ask for their opinions and suggestions for improvement.
- **Make revisions as needed:** Incorporate feedback to create the best possible final product.

Additional Tips:

- **Use storytelling techniques:** Create a compelling narrative that engages viewers and highlights the project's value.
- **Showcase the team's passion:** Capture moments that show the team's enthusiasm and dedication.
- **Consider using animations or graphics:** Visualize complex concepts or processes clearly and engagingly.

By following these guidelines, you can create a highlight video that effectively showcases your software engineering project and captures the attention of your target audience.