

Small Group Activity - Installing and getting the screencasting software to work

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Activity Kind

Small group activity

Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to have small teams work to help each other install and get screencasting software to work.

Pre-requisite

Students have looked into the available tools. (See the material on the next two pages.)

Tasking

Working in small groups, discuss which tools look attractive and why. It is **not** required that everyone use the same screencasting tool but understanding why others like other tools can be very helpful.

Each student should download, install, and try to produce a **very** short screencast (no more than 30 seconds) to demonstrate that the tool has been downloaded and each student can actually produce a working screencast. When the process is complete, save the short copy of the video to the ENB as evidence that this task has been accomplished.

Deliverable

Each student is expected to produce a very short demonstration that the screencast has a high-quality capture of the screen and a high-quality audio. The needs to be submitted as evidence as part of the ENB submission.

Submission

Each student must produce and submit their ENB with the evidence.

There are many tools available. A few are free. Those that provide more advanced features cost money. Some of these tools have one-time fees and others use subscriptions. Not all of these tools will run on all computing systems, platforms or versions of the host's operating system, so please take care in selecting one that will meet your needs. It is possible to do what we require with free tools, but the cost for some of these tools is quite modest when compared to the features they provide.

Please double check the information provided before you make a decision or spend any money. The information here may be out of date. You may find the comparison information on Wikipedia helpful:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_screencasting_software

ScreenFlow: This Macintosh-only screen and presentation capture, editing, and exporting tool has a large array of features and capabilities. While one must purchase the tool to use it in a profession way, the vendor allows you to download and experiment with the tool so see if you like it before your buy it. While the tool is not free, for the features provided and the quality of the results, the price is not excessive.

To learn more about ScreenFlow study the following page:

<http://www.telestream.net/screenflow/>

The firm also provides a nice set of tutorials:

<http://www.telestream.net/telestream-support/screen-flow/training.htm>

Camtasia: The latest version of Camtasia is Camtasia 2018 and the reviews have been positive. This software must be purchased, and the cost is rather high, but the feature set is quite large.

To learn more about this product, use the following link:

<https://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.html>

The following link takes you to a page of tutorials and these can help you evaluate the features:

<https://www.techsmith.com/tutorial.html>

Screencast-O-Matic has been suggested as a tool for other courses at one the schools I support. It can be used, with some restrictions, for free, while the "Pro" version requires a modest annual fee.

To learn more about this tool, use the following link.

<https://screencast-o-matic.com/home>

Like the others, there are a nice set of provided tutorials, see the following link, and other tutorials on YouTube:

<http://help.screencast-o-matic.com>