

EDIT 575 Syllabus

Course Information

Course number/title: EDIT 575-WT1 -- Authoring Tools - Podcasting

Course description:

Podcasting is a means of distributing audio/video content via subscription technology (RSS) that makes it easy for end-users to access on portable devices as well as desktop computers. This 2 credit course introduces students to the fundamentals of podcasting with an emphasis on how to design an effective educational podcast series to meet different instructional and training goals. Students will learn the complete process of planning, recording, editing, enhancing, and syndicating audio-based educational materials through a combination of lecture, demonstration, and hands-on lab instruction with standard podcasting tools such as, iTunes, Audacity, and GarageBand. Mason's iTunes U podcast management framework will be used to both deliver certain course learning materials and as a hosting environment for publishing student podcasts.

Course date: Tuesday, January 6, 2009 through Thursday, January 15, 2008

Location: Commerce 1, Room 100

Meeting day(s): Tuesdays and Thursdays (6-10pm); Saturday (10am-4pm)

Instructor Information

Name: Rick Reo, rreo@gmu.edu / Phone: 703-993-8536

Office Commerce 1, Room 100

Office hours: By appointment.

Nature of Course Delivery

This course will blend hands-on lab instruction with online delivery to enable the design and publication of an educational podcast. The course will meet six times for two weeks for a total of 24 hours.

College of Education and Human Development Statement of Expectations

Introduction: All students must abide by the following:

- Students are expected to exhibit [Professional Behavior and Dispositions](#).
- Students must follow the guidelines of the [University Honor Code](#).
- Students must agree to abide by the university policy for [Responsible Use of Computing](#).
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the [GMU Disability Resource Center \(DRC\)](#) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester. Call 703-993-2474.

Learner Outcomes

Course goals: In this course students will:

- Design and publish an educational podcast series.
- Become familiar with the mechanics of podcast creation, listening, and syndication tools.
- Reflect on the implications for designing audio-based learning solutions.

Textbooks

Recommended reading: *Secrets of podcasting: Audio blogging for the masses*, Farkas, Bart. G., Berkeley, CA: Peachpit., 2nd ed. (2006). , 0-321-43843-4

This book is also available for free as an online book through University Libraries Databases > Safari Tech Books Online (<http://furbo.gmu.edu/dbwiz/alpha.php?start=s>)

Recommended reading: *Selected web readings and resources will be provided.*

Rev. 1/5/2009

Course Requirements

There are two main requirements for this course: 1) a design document, and 2) an educational podcast series. A design document is a description of the process used to develop instruction. A design document includes a description of the problem, the need to be met, the content and format of instruction, and the summary of the evaluation. An educational podcast series is the product of the documented design process. You are required to produce a two episode podcast series with each episode being 7-10 minutes in duration. You will evaluate your own as well as one of your peer's podcasts.

Performance-Based Assessments

Introduction: The design document and educational podcast will be evaluated by the instructor using the following rubric.

	Exceeds Expectations (=E)	Meets Expectations (=M)	Below Expectations (=B)
Design Idea Total Points = 10	Describes clear learning goal that can be achieved by podcasting.	Describes a learning goal that can be achieved by podcasting.	Does not describe a learning goal that can be achieved by podcasting.
Audience, Content Total Points = 15	Describes an audience that will benefit greatly by learning from podcasting. Describes content that is well suited to delivery by podcasting.	Describes an audience that may benefit by learning from podcasting. Describes content that will be delivered by podcasting.	Does not describe an audience that may benefit by learning from podcasting. Does not describe content that will be delivered by podcasting.
Format Total Points = 15	Explains how decisions for the format of podcasts support learning.	Explains the decisions for the format of podcasts.	Does not explain the decisions for the format of podcasts
Evaluation Total Points = 10	Presents evaluation plan and explains how results improve the design of the podcast.	Presents evaluation plan and adequately explains how results improve the design of the podcast.	Does not present evaluation plan or explain results.
Educational Podcast Series Total Points = 40 (20 each)	All episodes of podcast are available and follow the format of the design.	All episodes of podcast are available and adequately follow the format of the design.	Less than 2 episodes of podcast are available, and/or do not follow the format of the design.
Peer Podcast Evaluation Total Points = 10	Provides a highly detailed and exceptionally cogent review of assigned peer's podcast.	Provides a detailed and cogent review of assigned peer's podcast.	Does not provide either a detailed or cogent review of assigned peer's podcast.

Grading

Scale:

A = 94-100; A - = 90-93; B+ = 86-89; B = 83-85; B- = 80-82; C = 70-79; F = 69 and below

Requirements:

- Design Document = 50 points
- Educational Podcasts = 40 points
- Peer Podcast Evaluation = 10 points

Class Schedule

Module 1

Lesson: **Understand**
Date: Tuesday, January 6, 2008
Topics:

- Course Introduction
- Preparations
- Brainstorm Design Ideas

Assignments: *Design Document Draft 1*

Module 2

Lesson: **Observe**
Date: Thursday, January 8, 2008
Topics:

- Subscribing and listening to podcasts
- iTunes
- Discussion of best use practices

Assignments: *Design Document Draft 2*

Module 3

Lesson: **Visualize, Predict, & Build**
Date: Saturday, January 10, 2008
Topics:

- Planning and recording podcasts
- Podcast recording tools
- Writing Podcast feeds

Assignments: *Design Document Draft 3*

Module 4

Lesson: **Evaluate & Refine**
Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2008
Topics:

- Evaluating and editing podcasts
- Exporting and tagging podcasts

Assignments: *Design Document Draft 4 and Peer Podcast Review*

Module 5

Lesson: **Implement**
Date: Thursday, January 15, 2008
Topics:

- Syndicating podcasts
- Building a new media presence

Assignments: *Record and post all episodes of educational podcast.*