

AUN-TEPL Webinar Series – 3rd Apr 2020

Compilation of Q&A Responses

Professor Dr. Songsri Soranasathaporn

What are the common challenges faced by faculty members in integrating videos in e-learning courseware?

Faculty members feel that this is a new way of teaching and they have to learn and practice how to do it efficiently.

What institutional support does Mahidol University provide to the faculty members in developing e-learning courseware?

Mahidol provides funding (100,000 Baht/ 1 e-Learning course/15 hours) for Faculty to develop their courses. Besides, the university provides technician staff to support Faculty in developing and creating e-Learning courses.

How many members are there in the team at the faculty who are involved in creating the media content say for one course?

The support team comprises of five technicians, two computing programmers, two videographers, one graphic editor and one education technologist. Every team member possesses the skills in video editing. Apart from the team, we have a staff who does subtitling for the videos.

Faculty members are the subject matter experts. They plan for content to be recorded. They may do it as a group or individually.

What institutional support or encouragement does Mahidol University provide to the students in learning from the e-learning courseware?

The university provides students free usage of computers in the university library which are connected to the Internet. Off campus, the e-learning courseware are accessible to students using their own computers to connect via VPN.

What are the common challenges faced by students in learning effectively from the e-Learning Courseware?

Students feel good and find it easy learning from the e-Learning courseware because they feel that they can learn anytime or any place that they want and review the content in the courseware as many times as they want. They have not surfaced any problem learning via the e-Learning courseware.

What is the overall timeline and budget for producing an instructional video?

We usually spend about 4-5 months to complete 1 e-Learning (15 hours) courseware.

Is the questionnaire validated?

Yes, it is. Mahidol U believes in learner-centred education. Students are normally involved in evaluating programs. Our e-Learning courseware are evaluated by both teachers and students.

What are some of the questions do you ask from students?

Below are some of the questions we asked our students.

Part I: Personal profile of students: gender, age, level of highest education

Part II: Satisfaction on this online course: (Rating – scale of 1-5)

1. Design is ease to use and met learner's needs

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2. Content is appropriate in terms of level of difficulty, up to date and interesting
3. Contents are sequenced in progressive level of difficulty.
4. Learners can assess the progress of their learning on their own.
5. The number of pre- & post-tests is appropriate.
6. Pre- & post-tests are aligned to the learning content and materials.
7. Please rate overall satisfaction

Part III: Open-ended response

What are the problems faced when learning & suggestions for this online course?

What kind of feedback have you received from students regarding the videos?

Audio and video are clear and content is interestingly delivered.

Dr. Sujika Srinantakul

What are some challenges you faced during the planning stage?

The ultimate challenge is to transform our ideas and academic concepts into the online course. Many of our lessons have abstract content and they are difficult to understand. These sections require step-by-step graphics and animations to help students understand the content and to be able to apply into creating their artworks.

What are your students' feedback on the videos that you have produced?

As an elective course, we have two groups of enrolled students: students who had experience in digital drawing and painting and students who did not have any. After discussions with students, we found that the weaker students, who have never done digital drawing and painting before attending this course, really appreciated the video contents. They said that the videos helped them a lot since they can stop the video anytime practice. Moreover, they can watch the video again if they missed something. On the other hand, students who had experienced digital drawing and painting before attending this course did not get much from the online video. Once they have already understood the content from the video introduction, they skipped the video and went ahead to finish the quiz.

What are some of the main challenges faced by students?

Since the online content needed students to study by themselves in their free time, the challenge was to maintain the same level of motivation to study the content week after week. We found that at the beginning of the semester many students studied the content before the face to face sessions. However, towards the middle of the semester when they had a lot of assignments and projects from other classes, they lost their focus on my online course. Eventually, a lot of students tried to finished all contents and quizzes just before the deadline.

It seems that a lot of resources (e.g. cross functional team), equipment, time, and budget have gone into making just one video. What recommendations would you give to an instructor who lacks resources and budget but is keen to design and develop effective instructional videos?

The most important thing in creating an instructional video is the content. We have to design the content in the way that the students can learn and at the same time, making content easy to understand. We have to create a supportive online learning environment. We can use just the basic tools. It is not necessary to have a studio or green screen. We can use simple tools such as screen capture, PowerPoint animated videos, and mobile applications. In addition to videos, coupling them with the use of discussion boards and social media will help students learn better.