Next Gen
Classroom | 2008

Survey responses by University of Houston students in classes employing
video technology, including comments and suggestions in their own words

Survey of
Students

SPRING 08 TABLET PC VIDEO EVALUATION SURVEY

Usage Patterns

Which one statement best represents how you would decide whether to attend a lecture in class versus viewing the PC video later: (assume you have the option)

I would never attend a class unless it was required.	6%
I would attend a class only if it required no extra effort (e.g. you are in the building anyway), but not otherwise.	3%
I would attend a class if it required only a minor effort (e.g. a short walk or drive under 15 minutes), but not if it took more than that.	12%
I would attend the class if it required moderate effort but not if it took much longer or interfered significantly with work or other engagements.	25%
I would always attend the class unless it was virtually impossible to do so	54%

Compared to the time you would probably spend if video lectures were not available, the time you spent studying the textbook was:

Same	35%
Slightly reduced	27%
Greatly reduced	25%
Nearly zero	13%

Irrespective of whether you viewed the lectures before or not, how did you prepare for the mid term and final exams:

Prepared primarily by listening to the video lectures	6%
Prepared primarily by reading the textbook and notes	38%
Employed both but more of video lectures	12%
Employed both but more of the textbook and notes	26%
Employed both equally	13%
None of these.	4%

Preferences

What is your impression of the video quality of the online lectures in this class?

Excellent	16%
Very good	30%
Good	38%
Fair	15%
Awful	1%

Suppose the online lectures also included a video of the instructor teaching the class (versus a computer screenshot as is the case now) This will be a:

Big improvement	55%
Small improvement	27%
Marginal improvement	8%
Not sure	7%
Useless	2%

Suppose the online videos came with an index: each index point is a snapshot in the video where a new concept in the lecture is started. This will be a:

Big improvement	59%
Small improvement	23%
Marginal improvement	11%
Not sure	6%
Useless	1%

How often was it the case that you could not gain access to video lectures because of technological difficulties, such as, the server being down or very slow.

Never	22%
Rarely (1 or 2 times)	43%
Occasionally (3 or 4 times)	26%
Frequently (5 or 6 times)	6%
Regularly (7 to 10 times)	2%
Half the time	1%
Most of the time	1%

Was downloading of video lectures to your computer allowed for this class

Yes	81%
No	19%

If your answer is YES, did you normally use the video lectures by direct streaming from the server, or by downloading first and watching on your machine?

Always streaming	35%
Mostly streaming	26%
Half and half	17%
Mostly downloading	12%
Always downloading	10%

What would be the value of webcasting this class: you could watch and even type in questions in real-time. (Answer even if the course is currently webcast) This will be a:

Big improvement	42%
Small improvement	25%
Marginal improvement	10%
Not sure	20%
Useless	3%

Suppose you had to strictly pick one or the other format for this class: If you picked Online, you would not be allowed to attend classes and if you picked Regular, you would not have access to video lectures. What format would you pick?

Definitely online	9%
Probably online	19%
Not sure	13%
Probably regular	28%
Definitely regular	32%

Student Comments

Helpful/effective

Very effective method of teaching, UH should take effort to encourage the use of streaming videos particularly graduate level classes

Want video lectures for all classes

Video lectures were very helpful

Video lectures were helpful in clarifying concepts

Video lecture great resource

Lecture videos were a great asset

Video lectures great resources

First time taking a class like this, I believe it's a the best way to absorb material

Online lectures are awesome.

Video lectures are very helpful

Video helped to clarify things

Good supplement/ helpful to combine video & text/classroom

Video lectures allow me to pause when professor is speaking quickly, and take a moment to understand what is going on conceptually. But class allows me to interact and converse with the professor, to both better the material and to give me the opportunity to enrich my knowledge both in the scope of the subject and neighboring realms.

Were helpful when I could not attend class

Videos are great for reviewing

Video should only compliment the class

Want to attend class as well

I like that you can go to both class and online

Great to recap lectures

Keep both

Poor sound quality

Better mics.

Keep voice up

Good viewing but poor sound

Want better sound clarity

Better mic range

Suggestions for course instructors

Sound quality

Please try to speak clearly and slowly so we can understand what's being said

Fix audio so sound clearer

Speak louder

If possible, incorporate a stable audio feed

Audio was poor and difficult

Use a head set

Try speaking clear

Problems with sound fading in and out

Speak into the mics.

Speak louder and clearer

Better sound

Speak louder on get a new mic

Make sure volume is adjusted correctly

Stand closer to mic. Sound was poor

Speak louder

Need to speak more clearly

Speak clearly into mic.

Let us see the instructor

Show yourself helps understand the notes better

Do video of yourself while lecturing

Video lectures recorded while you can see the instructors

Have the professor in the video

It would be nice if we could see instructor because he was on active professor

Viewing the instructor would be great

Have the professor in the video

If he was in the video then people can use his examples

See professor in the video -- examples better understood if seen

Repeat questions asked by students

Mic problems, instructor should repeat student questions before answering them.

Repeat questions asked by students.

Please repeat question asked by students.

Audio of students were difficult to hear

Need to see board/writing

Can't see what professor writes

Can't see board

Use clean slides instead of the board

Writing slides is essential along with verbal explanations

Writing more on the slides with the stylus

Sometime writing on tablet is a bit illegible

Better mics and laser pointers are needed.

Can't see board

Need to see examples

Write more examples to visualize

Instructor used examples in class but not in videos

All things handed in class should be online too

Write more and discuss slides

Want online lectures to include slides

Post in timely fashion

Upload videos faster

Videos not on time

Should post it sooner that they are available

Please post class lectures in a timely and complete manner

Please post video lectures same day as lectures.

Lectures posted sooner

Execution

Should keep in mind they are also teaching recorded lectures

Try not to tap into the mic

Speak up and be more lively.

Use digital pen technology

Want the instructor to talk and write notes clearly.

Don't use the red pointer

Batteries

Try to not run out of batteries

Always check the batteries

Have spare batteries for the microphone

Use different formats

Post different formats of video

Have ipod format available

Use different video format

Make a podcast option.

Want more video types to choose from, i.e. Wma files

More downloadable versions (mp4 or avi)

Available for all formats

Thanks; helpful

Good job

Continue them

Thanks

Pretty cool

Perfect

Really helpful

It helps out a lot to have the video lectures

Good job

Video lectures are very helpful in preparation for exams and should be continued

Wish most math and science instructors used video lectures.

Keep doing what you're doing

I wish everyone recorded their lectures to review

Instructor did a wonderful job of posting these videos

I like the videos cause I can listen to it more than once

Think it's a great idea for students with full time jobs.

They help

Great device and helps with studying

Helpful if you don't attend class

Every class should have one

Keep the tapes available

Video lectures are very helpful in preparation for exams and should be continued

Great video wish it had an index

Videos were great

Good job

Keep doing what you're doing

Advice for students taking courses with video lectures

Use videos as supplements to attending class

If you don't understand go back and watch

Watch it before class, it will really prepare for the major points that the professor is trying to get across

Listen until you understand

Watch a few days before lecture

Watch lectures within a day after class.

Go to class take notes and rewatch lectures

Review by watching videos

Watch the video after class to refresh

View lectures before exams

Keep reviewing lectures until you get it

Listen to videos because if you forgot something in class you can go back to videos to catch

Great to see what you missed

Watch the video within 2 days of the lecture.

Use them; they help

Take advantage of video lectures

Watch videos a couple days before the exams.

Watch the video several times and take notes

Great resource to learn at your pace with video lectures

Take advantage of them b/c they help

Go through the video lecture and pause during a difficult section and review

Videos are great, extremely interesting b/c breaks down topics if missed in class can view it online

Watch lecture before going to tests

Don't miss videos even if you attend class