

High Tech Hits Home--Recording in Your Studio

Section on video recording presented by:

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Why video in the studio?

- Record lessons for practicing purposes
- Record recitals
 - Gift to parents and students
 - Posting on web for public access
 - Studio marketing
- Creating teaching material

Steps for video creation

1. Recording
2. Importing into computer
3. Editing
4. Preparing and burning DVD
5. Preparing for web publication

1. Recording

Tips:

- Use a digital camera - easier uploading to computer
- Most digital cameras can be connected directly to computer to import video. Cable used to connect digital camera to computer: Firewire = IEEE 1394 = iLink
- Buy a tripod
- Two cameras may be better than one
- Be sure your hard drive has plenty of space (60 Gbytes or more)
- Or buy an external hard drive (120 Gb)
- Some cameras have a microphone input that you can use for better sound

2. Importing

- Computer needs (if working with digital camera):
 - A firewire port (very common). Some will also work with USB
 - A program that will allow the computer to upload video through firewire
 - iMovie (Mac, comes with computer)
 - Pinnacle Studio (PC, \$100)
 - Ulead VideoStudio (PC, \$100)

Steps for importing

- If video was recorded in a digital tape
 - Insert tape in camera
 - Connect camera to computer
 - Open program (e.g. iMovie) and get it ready to capture
 - Press “Play” in camera
- If video was recorded directly into DVD
 - Insert DVD in computer
 - Open program (e.g. iMovie)
 - Import video file into program from program menu
- If video was recorded directly into computer
 - Open program (e.g. iMovie)
 - Open or import video files from your hard drive
- If video is in an old VHS tape
 - You need to buy a digital video converter (aka video capture device)
 - Dazzle (\$50-\$90, Mac, PC)
 - Datavideo DAC (\$200)
 - Plector (\$60, PC)

3. Editing

- Edition process:
 - Trimming clips
 - Arranging clips in the right order
 - Improving, muting, adding or modifying audio
 - Adding transitions between takes or sections
 - Adding titles

4. Preparing DVD

- Typical DVD structure
 - Menu
 - Movie 1. “2007 Recital”
 - Chapter or scene 1. “Mary’s piece”
 - Chapter or scene 2. “John’s piece”
 - Chapter ...
 - Movie 2. “2006 Recital”
 - Etc
 - Movie ...

Preparing a DVD in a Mac

- With iMovie
 - Create chapters or scenes within your movie
 - Export movie to iDVD
- With iDVD
 - Create look for menu
 - Import other movies (with or without chapters), e.g. “Recital 2006”
 - Burn DVD

Programs to prepare and burn DVDs

- iDVD (Mac)
- Pinnacle Studio (PC)
- Ulead VideoStudio (PC)
- Nero (PC)

5. Preparing for web publication

- Since internet speeds are fairly slow
 - Web videos tend to be small (as opposed to full screen)
 - Quality is low (smaller files)
 - Highly compressed
 - Mpeg-4
 - .mov
 - Etc
- iMovie is the easiest way to prepare movie for web
 - Select Share->Share...
 - Choose the QuickTime preset and select one of the compression levels
 - For web, choose either Web Streaming or Web
 - This will save a compressed file that you can post online or upload on YouTube.com
- Other programs to prepare movies: Pinnacle Studio (PC), Ulead VideoStudio (PC)