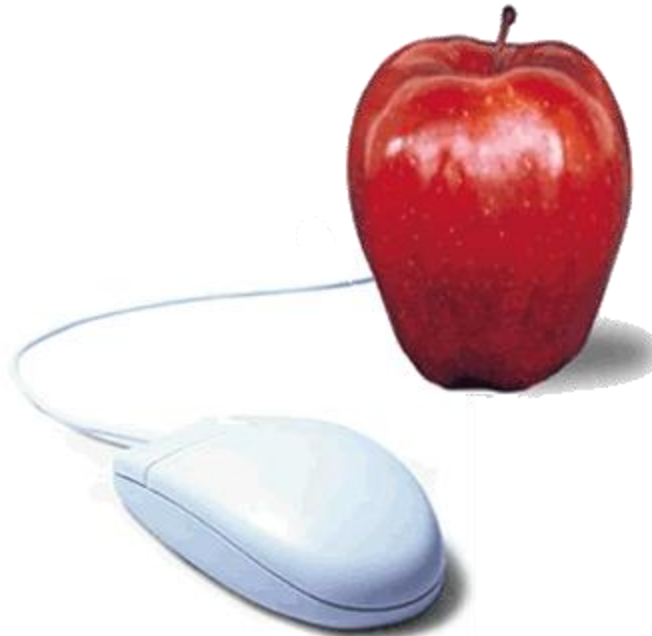
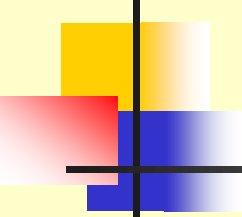


Best Practices in Distance Learning



Laurie Freshwater, MA
Educational Media: New Media and Global Education

NC³ADL
March 25, 2011



Learning Outcomes

At the end of this session, the learner will be able to:

- Define distance learning
- Identify DL delivery methods
- Discuss the incidence of DL in postsecondary institutions
- Identify the challenges of DL
- Describe characteristics of DL students
- Identify the advantages of DL
- Identify the disadvantages of DL
- Discuss retention as it relates to DL
- Discuss strategies to reduce attrition in DL courses
- Describe best practices for DL faculty
- Identify resources for NCCCS DL faculty
- Identify tools for enhancing DL courses

Best Practices in Distance Learning

- Students
- Faculty
- Technology





Distance Learning

- Technology is an integral part of our lives and the economy. This is also true in the realm of education.
- Through distance learning, colleges can compete on a greater scale overcoming limitations in size, location, and costs.

Definition of Distance Learning

For the purposes of this presentation, distance learning is defined as:

- Learning where the instructor and the students are in physically separate locations.
- May be either asynchronous or synchronous.



Distance Learning Delivery Methods

- Correspondence
- One-Way / Two Way Audio
- One-Way / Two Way Video
- **Internet-Based**
 - Online (100%)
 - Hybrid (51-99%)
 - Web Assisted (1-50%)



DL in Higher Education

- In Fall, 2009, over 5.6 million (30%) students were taking at least 1 online course.
- Eighty-two percent were undergraduates





Distance Learning Statistics

Percent of 2-Year and 4-Year Title IV Degree-Granting Postsecondary Institutions Offering DL Courses and/or Programs

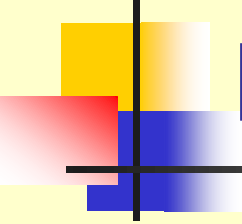
Institution Type	All	2-Year Public	4-Year Public
Offer courses	65%	97%	88%
Offer Degree or Certificate Programs	32%	45%	58%



DL Statistics

Number of DL Programs offered by
2-Year and 4-Year Title IV Degree-
Granting Postsecondary Institutions

Institution Type	# of DL Programs
All	11,240
2-Year Public	3,590
4-Year Public	3,550



NCCCS Distance Learning (Online) Enrollments - Curriculum

College Year	DL Enrollments (Duplicated HC)	Growth Rate (%)
1998	9,599	N/A
2006	166,197	1,631
2007	200,746	21
2008	245,642	22
2009	310,058	26
2010	382,967	24



DL Research: SRI International for the US Dept. of Education

- Quantitative comparison of online and traditional classroom performance of the same courses
 - 12 year study – 1996 to 2008
 - K-12, college, and continuing ed.
- “On average, students in online learning conditions performed better than those receiving face-to-face instruction.”



Challenges of Distance Learning

- Students

- Characteristics
 - Self-direction
 - Time-management
- Access to Technology
 - Dial-up vs. High-speed Internet
 - Computer Specifications
- Communication
 - Teacher-Student
 - Student-Student

- Faculty

- Resistance
- Professional Development
 - Time
 - Funding

- Technology

- Lack of Current Technology
- IT Support
 - Staff

- Security

- Student Authentication
- Cheating
- Plagiarism



Part I: Students





DL Student Demographics

Results from several studies indicate that DL students have these characteristics:

- 75% are working full or part-time
- 75% are working towards a degree
- 66% are female
- More than 50% are married with dependents
- 50% are \geq 35 years of age
- 20% are new students



DL Student Characteristics

- DL students were significantly more independent learners than traditional students.
- DL students were proficient in time management skills.
- DL students were predominantly visual learners, while students enrolled in face-to-face courses were auditory or kinesthetic learners.



Advantages of Distance Learning

- Removal of student barriers to access:
 - Geographical location
 - Family Obligations
 - Work Obligations
 - Economic Limitations
 - Transportation Costs
 - Childcare Costs
 - Disabilities



Advantages of Distance Learning

- Self-Paced Learning
 - Browse materials that the student has already mastered, and the ability to concentrate time and effort in areas containing new information and / or skills
 - Study content at a personal speed and intensity, without having to adjust to the pace of the average classroom
 - Flexibility to join *conversations*, for example in the discussion board, at any hour, and provide a thoughtful response



Disadvantages of Distance Learning

- Requires reliable access to technology
- Requires student self-discipline
- Does not provide direct access to the instructor
- Lack of community and relationships
- Does not offer immediate feedback
- Does not accommodate student learning styles



Attrition

- Attrition rates for undergraduate classes taught through distance education average 10 – 20% higher than face-to-face (Carr, 2000).



Identified Causes of Attrition

- Personal motivation
- Conflicts between study, and work and family
- The feeling they had learned what they needed or wanted
- **Instructional design of the course / program**
- **Feeling of isolation**



Best Practices - Students

- Advising

- Course-load
- College Experience
 - 1st semester
 - 1st generation

- Training

- DL Orientation
- Delivery Method
 - Blackboard
 - Moodle
 - Web-based

- Technology

- Hardware
- Software
- Internet Access

- Technical Support

- Telephone
- Web Conferencing

- Student Services

- Counseling
- Tutoring



Strategies to Reduce Attrition

- Student Integration
 - Academic
 - Social
- Learning Communities
 - Faculty – Student Relationships
 - Peer Relationships
- Learner-Centered (Constructivist) Approaches
 - Group Projects and Assignments

Part II: Faculty





Best Practices - Faculty

- Faculty
 - Training
 - Delivery Method (CMS)
 - Blackboard
 - Moodle
 - DL Methodology
 - Technology
 - Equipment
 - Software
 - Quality Assessment
 - Peer Review



Resources for NCCCS Faculty

- NC Network for Excellence in Teaching (NC-NET)
- The North Carolina Community College Association of Distance Learning (NC3ADL)
- The North Carolina Distance Learning Association (NCDLA)
- NCCCS Virtual Learning Community (VLC)
- NC Web-based Immersive Environment for Educators (NC WeBIEE)
- MERLOT
- Proprietary / College-based Training



NC Network for Excellence in Teaching (NC-NET)

- Offers community college faculty in North Carolina a collaborative, statewide professional development system which includes self-paced modules providing distance learning training.
 - Login at <http://blackboard.cord.org>
 - User name: faculty / Password: nc-net

The North Carolina Community College

Association of Distance Learning (NC3ADL)

- FACILITATE communication among distance learning administrators and faculty throughout the North Carolina Community College System.
- PROVIDE leadership for quality distance learning in the NCCCS.
- ADVOCATE policies, practices, and resources that promote quality distance learning.
- IMPROVE the distance learning experiences of NCCCS students and instructors.
- PROMOTE the professional development and support of members.



The North Carolina Distance Learning Association (NCDLA)

- Through meetings, publications, and special events, members share expertise in distance learning methodologies and practices.
- The focus is on K-20 distance learning.



NCCCS Virtual Learning Community

- A collaborative effort of all of North Carolina's Community Colleges to increase the quality and availability of online learning and support services.
- Course development
 - More than 285 course templates for Curriculum and Continuing Education
- Learning Object Repository
 - Downloadable learning objects for use in DL courses



NCCCS VLC: NC WeBIEE Project

- A collaborative effort of NC K-20 faculty, staff, and institutions to increase instructional capabilities within a virtual world setting.
- Intended for common and open use by all NCCCS colleges.
 - Professional development
 - Support
- Created to facilitate planning, development, support, research, and offering of virtual instruction.
- Consists of 3 Second Life islands, each having a unique set of resources, themes, and meeting spaces.

The logo consists of a vertical black line on the left, with a yellow square overlapping a red square above it, and a blue square overlapping a white square below it. The word "MERLOT" is written in blue, sans-serif capital letters to the right of the graphic.

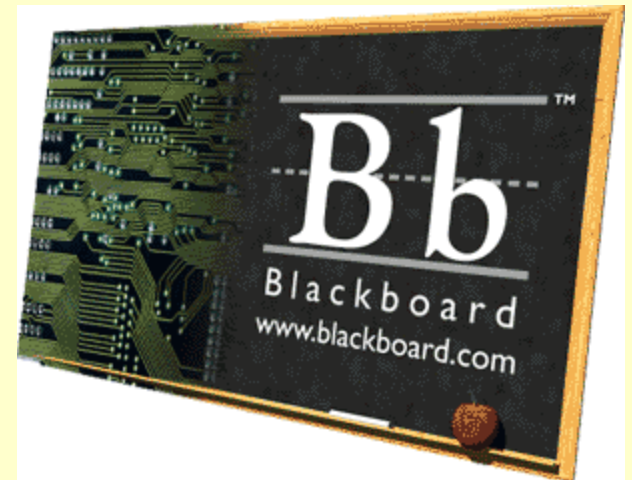
MERLOT

- Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching
- Source for peer-reviewed learning objects
- Communicate with colleagues in a discipline
- Source of learning exercises
- Content builder



Training: Proprietary

- Adobe
- Blackboard (Bb)
- Moodle
- Many Others





Training: College-Based

- An increased number of public colleges (71%) are providing professional development for their online faculty.
 - Formal training
 - Informal and formal mentoring
- Some colleges require faculty to undergo training prior to teaching online.

Carteret Community College

Blackboard Boot Camp

- Module I - Basic Blackboard 7.2 Functionality and Operation
- Module II - Online Instructional Design and Methodology
- Module III - Advanced Blackboard Techniques - Producing Instructional Podcasts, Video, and using other instructional strategies for increasing engagement in online courses.



Quality Assessment

Staff Information

- Contact information
- Hours of availability

Organization

- Course Orientation
- Navigation

Learning

- Content
- Learning media
- Assignments
- Assessments

Technology

- Tools
- Media
- Software

Learner Support

- Course Content
- Technical

Accessibility

- ADA Compliance

Part III: Technology





Best Practices - Technology

- Technology
 - Hardware
 - Equipment
 - Software
- Technical Support
 - IT Dept.
 - DL Dept.



Tools for Distance Learning Faculty

Asynchronous

- Communication
 - Email
 - Discussion Board
- Podcasting
- Publishing Tools
 - Blogs
 - Wikis
 - E-Portfolio
- Video/Slide Sharing
- Social Networking Sites

Synchronous

- Social Networking Sites
- Web Conferencing
- Virtual Worlds

Authoring Tools

- Audio
- Video
- Screen Capture
- Learning Objects

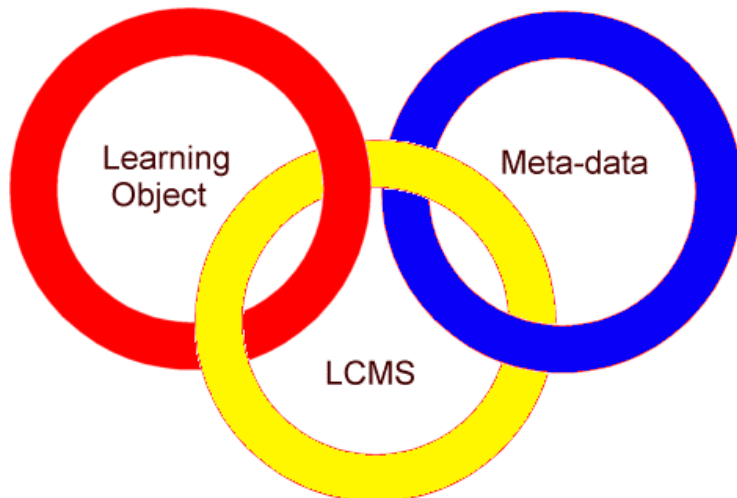


Authoring Tools

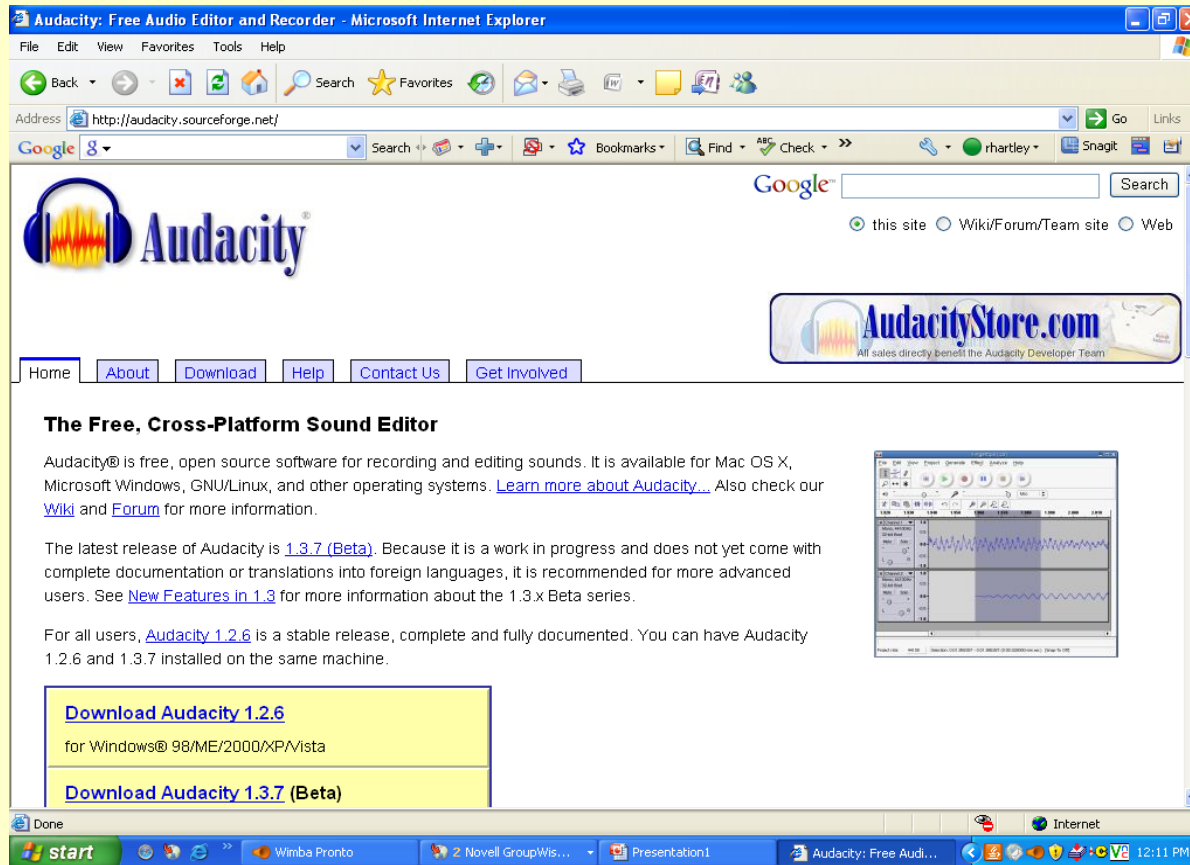
- Record / Edit Audio
- Record / Edit Video
- Screen Recording
- Learning Objects

Software

- Audacity
- Windows Movie Maker
- Captivate
- VirtualDub
- CamStudio
- Jing
- Camtasia
- Soft Chalk



Audio Recorder/Editor: Audacity



Audacity: Free Audio Editor and Recorder - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>

Google Search

this site Wiki/Forum/Team site Web

Audacity

AudacityStore.com
All sales directly benefit the Audacity Developer Team

Home About Download Help Contact Us Get Involved

The Free, Cross-Platform Sound Editor

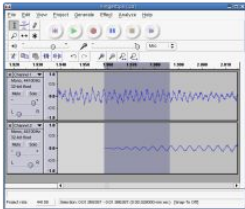
Audacity® is free, open source software for recording and editing sounds. It is available for Mac OS X, Microsoft Windows, GNU/Linux, and other operating systems. [Learn more about Audacity...](#) Also check our [Wiki](#) and [Forum](#) for more information.

The latest release of Audacity is [1.3.7 \(Beta\)](#). Because it is a work in progress and does not yet come with complete documentation or translations into foreign languages, it is recommended for more advanced users. See [New Features in 1.3](#) for more information about the 1.3.x Beta series.

For all users, [Audacity 1.2.6](#) is a stable release, complete and fully documented. You can have Audacity 1.2.6 and 1.3.7 installed on the same machine.

[Download Audacity 1.2.6](#)
for Windows® 98/ME/2000/XP/Vista

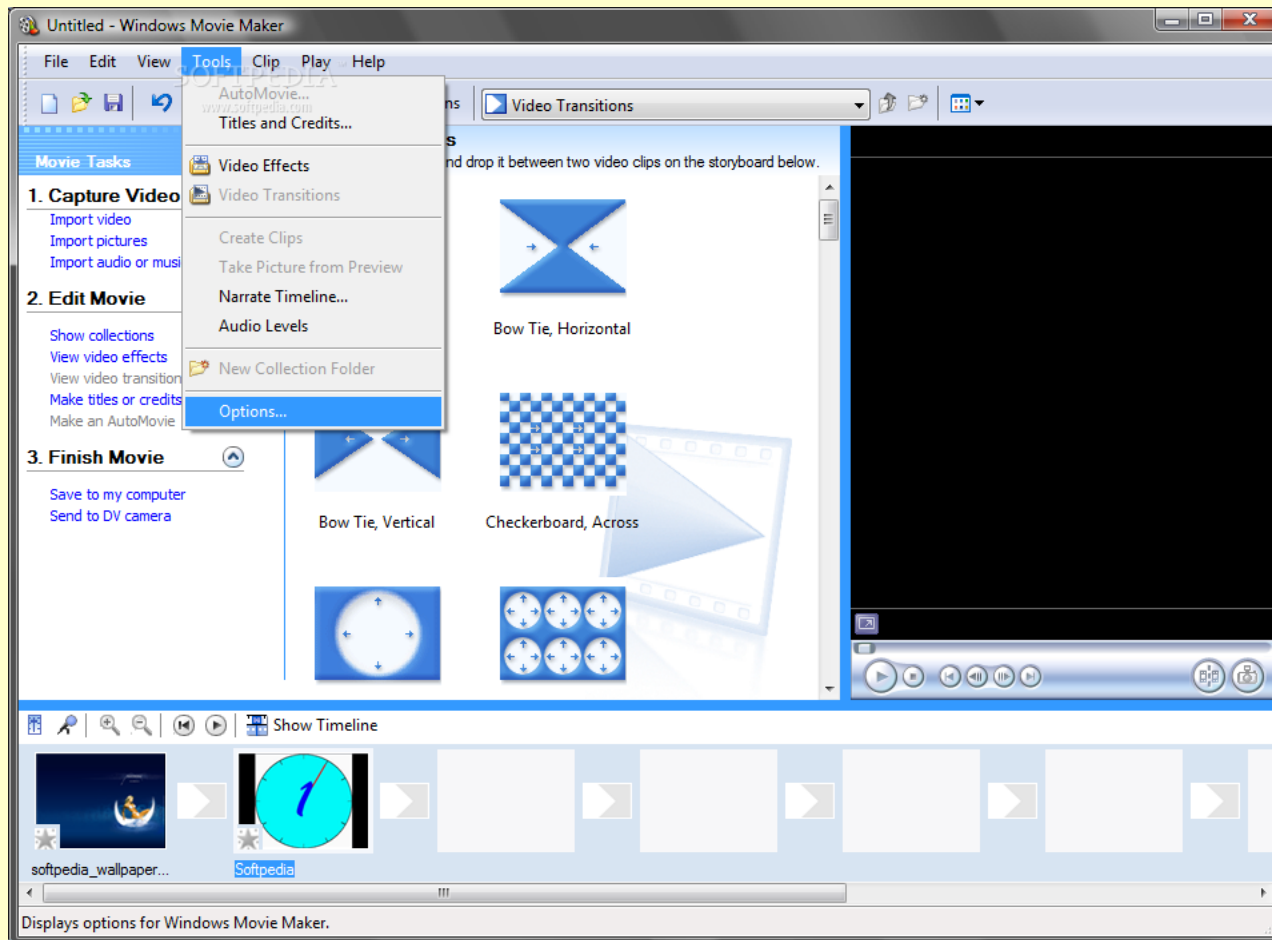
[Download Audacity 1.3.7 \(Beta\)](#)



Done Internet

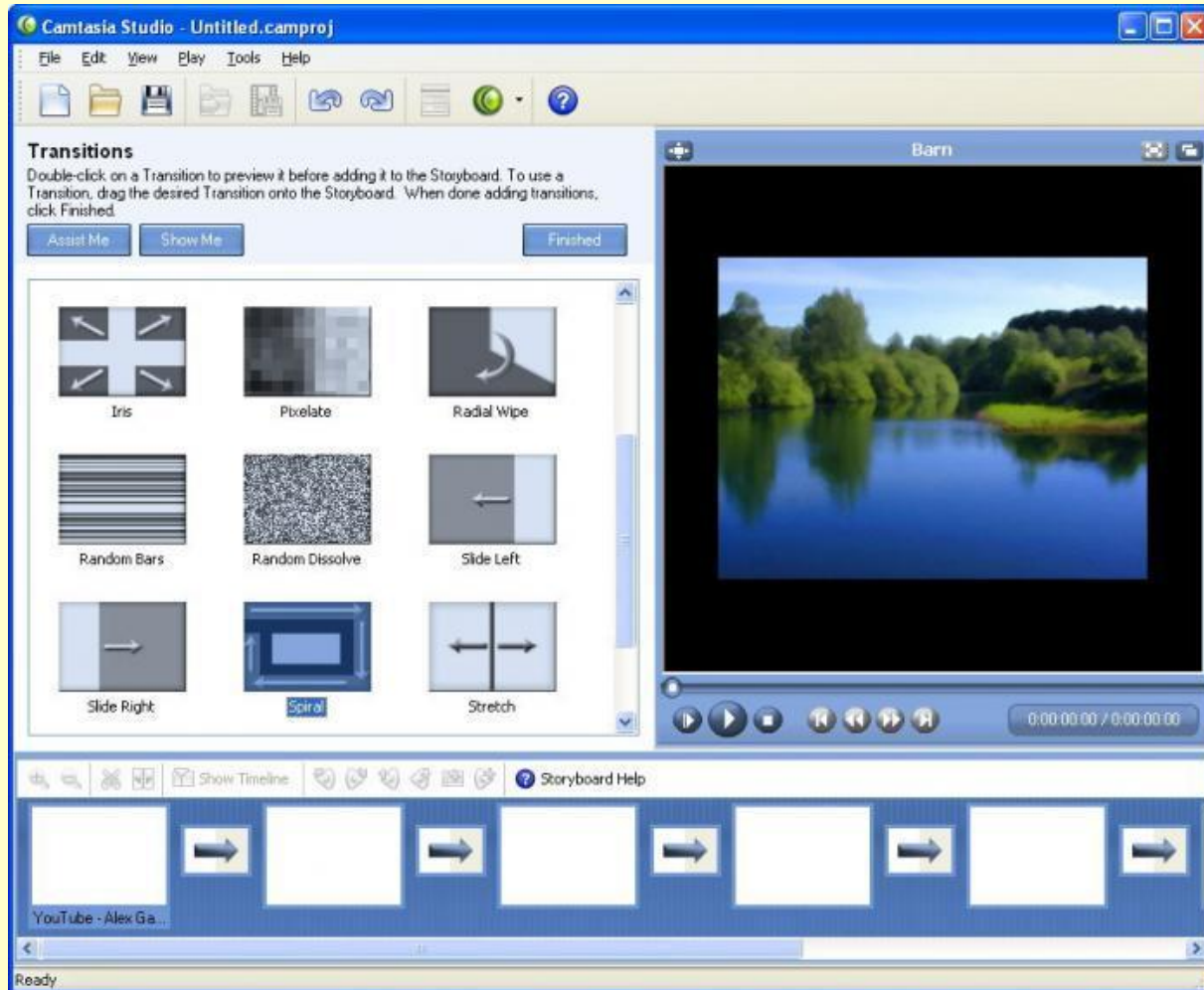
start Wimba Pronto 2 Novell GroupWis... Presentation1 Audacity: Free Audi... 12:11 PM

LO Creator: Windows Movie Maker



Displays options for Windows Movie Maker.

Learning Object Creator: Camtasia



Podcasting Tools

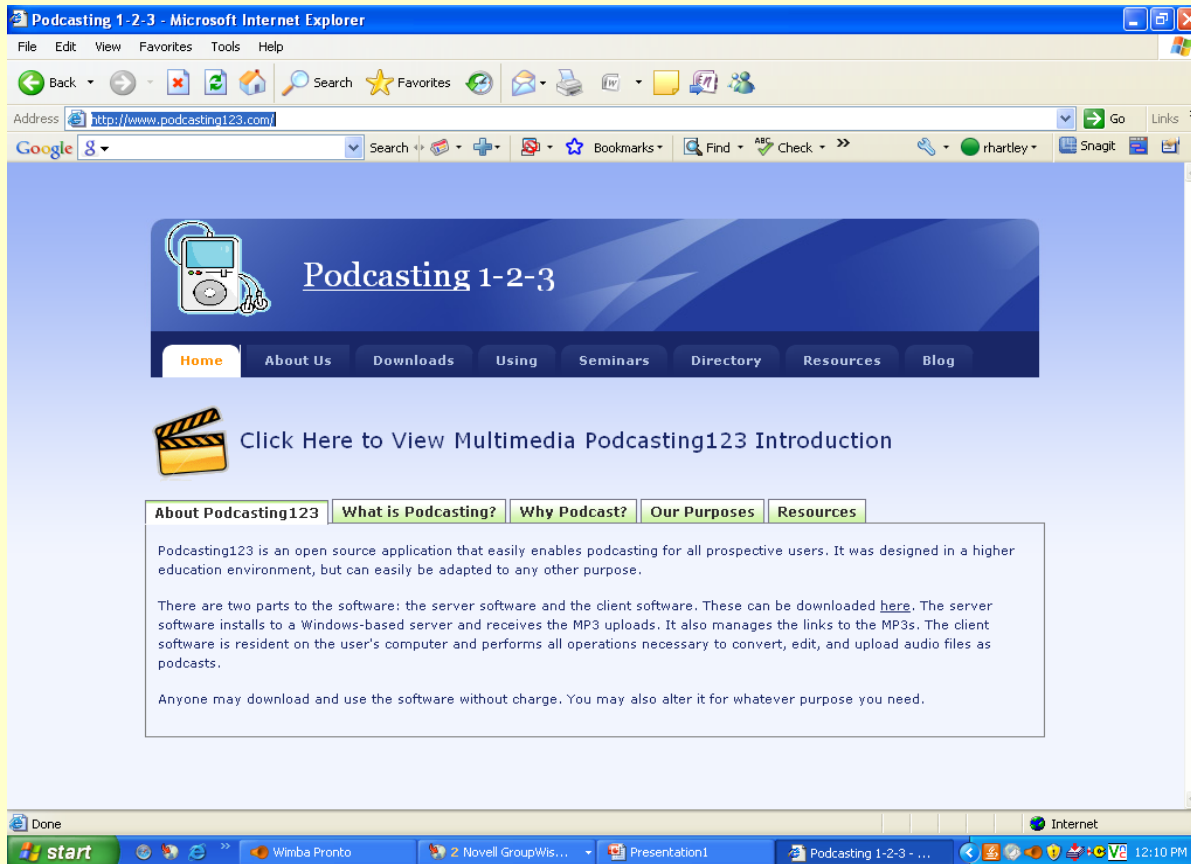
- Application for storing and delivering digital media to users
- Provides a single site for digital content that can be downloaded and viewed on any Mac, PC, MP3 player

Applications

- Podcasting 1-2-3
- iTunes University



Podcasting: Podcasting 1-2-3



Podcasting 1-2-3 - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help


Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print Mail RSS Feeds

Address <http://www.podcasting123.com/> Go Links

Google Search Bookmarks Find Check

Podcasting 1-2-3

Home About Us Downloads Using Seminars Directory Resources Blog

 [Click Here to View Multimedia Podcasting123 Introduction](#)

About Podcasting123 **What is Podcasting?** Why Podcast? Our Purposes Resources

Podcasting123 is an open source application that easily enables podcasting for all prospective users. It was designed in a higher education environment, but can easily be adapted to any other purpose.

There are two parts to the software: the server software and the client software. These can be downloaded [here](#). The server software installs to a Windows-based server and receives the MP3 uploads. It also manages the links to the MP3s. The client software is resident on the user's computer and performs all operations necessary to convert, edit, and upload audio files as podcasts.

Anyone may download and use the software without charge. You may also alter it for whatever purpose you need.

Done Internet

start Wimba Pronto 2 Novell GroupWis... Presentation1 Podcasting 1-2-3 - ... 12:10 PM

Podcasting: iTunes University



Podcasting: CCC iTunes U





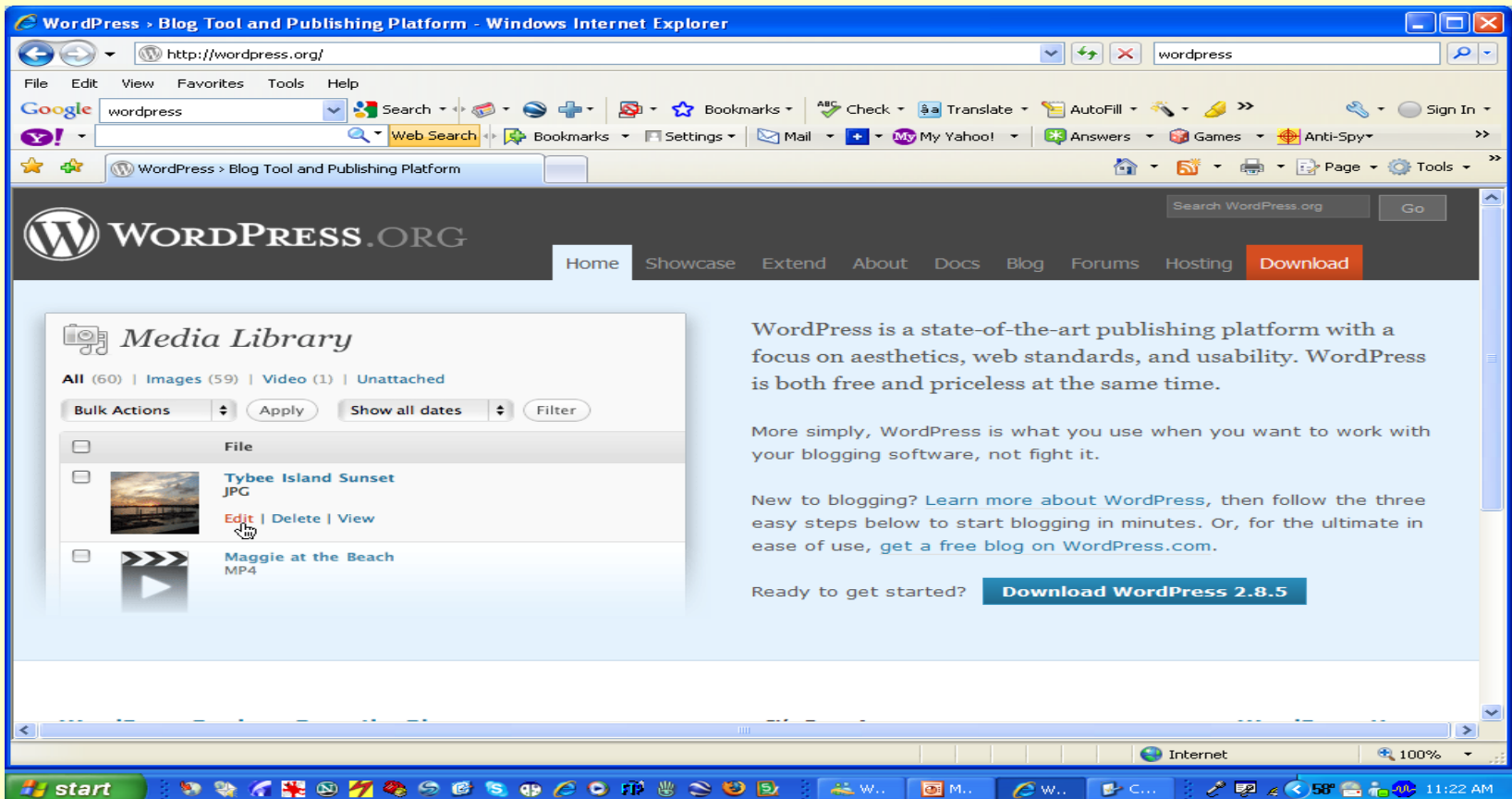
Publishing Tools: Blogs (Web Log)

- Provide news or commentary on a subject
- Create online journal
- Readers can submit comments to create a dialog.
- Individuals or groups can publish

Platforms

- Google Blogger
- WordPress
- Six Apart TypePad
- Lycos Tripod
- Squarespace

Blogs: WordPress



The screenshot shows the WordPress.org website as viewed in a Windows Internet Explorer browser. The browser's address bar displays "http://wordpress.org/". The website's header features the WordPress logo and the text "WORDPRESS.ORG". A navigation menu includes links for "Home", "Showcase", "Extend", "About", "Docs", "Blog", "Forums", "Hosting", and a prominent "Download" button. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled "Media Library", shows a list of media items: "Tybee Island Sunset" (JPG) and "Maggie at the Beach" (MP4). The right column contains introductory text about WordPress, stating it is a state-of-the-art publishing platform focused on aesthetics, web standards, and usability, and is both free and priceless. It also offers a "Download WordPress 2.8.5" button. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several application icons, and the system tray with the time "11:22 AM" and date "5/8".

WordPress > Blog Tool and Publishing Platform - Windows Internet Explorer

http://wordpress.org/

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Google Search wordpress

WordPress > Blog Tool and Publishing Platform

WORDPRESS.ORG

Home Showcase Extend About Docs Blog Forums Hosting **Download**

Media Library

All (60) | Images (59) | Video (1) | Unattached

Bulk Actions Apply Show all dates Filter

File

Tybee Island Sunset
JPG
Edit Delete View

Maggie at the Beach
MP4

WordPress is a state-of-the-art publishing platform with a focus on aesthetics, web standards, and usability. WordPress is both free and priceless at the same time.

More simply, WordPress is what you use when you want to work with your blogging software, not fight it.

New to blogging? Learn more about WordPress, then follow the three easy steps below to start blogging in minutes. Or, for the ultimate in ease of use, get a free blog on WordPress.com.

Ready to get started? **Download WordPress 2.8.5**

start

Internet 100%

11:22 AM

Blogs: Blogger



The screenshot shows the Blogger website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The title bar reads "Blogger: Create your free blog - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The address bar shows "https://www.blogger.com/start". The page features the Blogger logo (an orange square with a white 'b') and the word "Blogger" in white text on a dark blue background. To the right, there is a sign-in section titled "Sign in to use Blogger with your Google Account" with fields for "Username (Email)" and "Password", a "SIGN IN" button, and a "Remember me" checkbox. Below this, a white box contains the heading "Create a blog. It's free." and a large orange "CREATE A BLOG" button. The text "It's easy, and only takes a minute." is positioned below the button. Three key features are listed: "Your blog" (Share your thoughts, photos, and more with your friends and the world.), "Easy to use" (It's easy to post text, photos, and videos from the web or your mobile phone.), and "Flexible" (Unlimited flexibility to personalize your blog with themes, gadgets, and more.). A "Learn more:" section includes links for "quick tour", "video tutorial", "more features", and "Blogger Buzz". At the bottom, a "Blogs of Note" section lists "concrete and honey". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several open applications (Wimba Pronto, Novell GroupWise, Presentation1, Internet Explorer, iTunes), and the system clock showing 12:21 PM on 12/21/2007.

Blogger: Create your free blog - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print Mail News RSS Feeds

Address <https://www.blogger.com/start> Go Links

Google [g](#) blogs Search + - + - + - Bookmarks Find Check >> rhartley Snagit

Language: English

 **Blogger**

Sign in to use Blogger
with your Google Account

Username (Email): Password: (?)

Remember me (?)

Create a blog. It's free.

It's easy, and only takes a minute.

Your blog. Share your thoughts, photos, and more with your friends and the world.

Easy to use. It's easy to post text, photos, and videos from the web or your mobile phone.

Flexible. Unlimited flexibility to personalize your blog with themes, gadgets, and more.

Learn more:

- Take a [quick tour](#)
- Watch a [video tutorial](#)
- Discover [more features](#)
- Read [Blogger Buzz](#)

Blogs of Note

- [concrete and honey](#)

Done

start Wimba Pronto 2 Novell Gr... Presentation1 3 Internet ... iTunes 12:21 PM



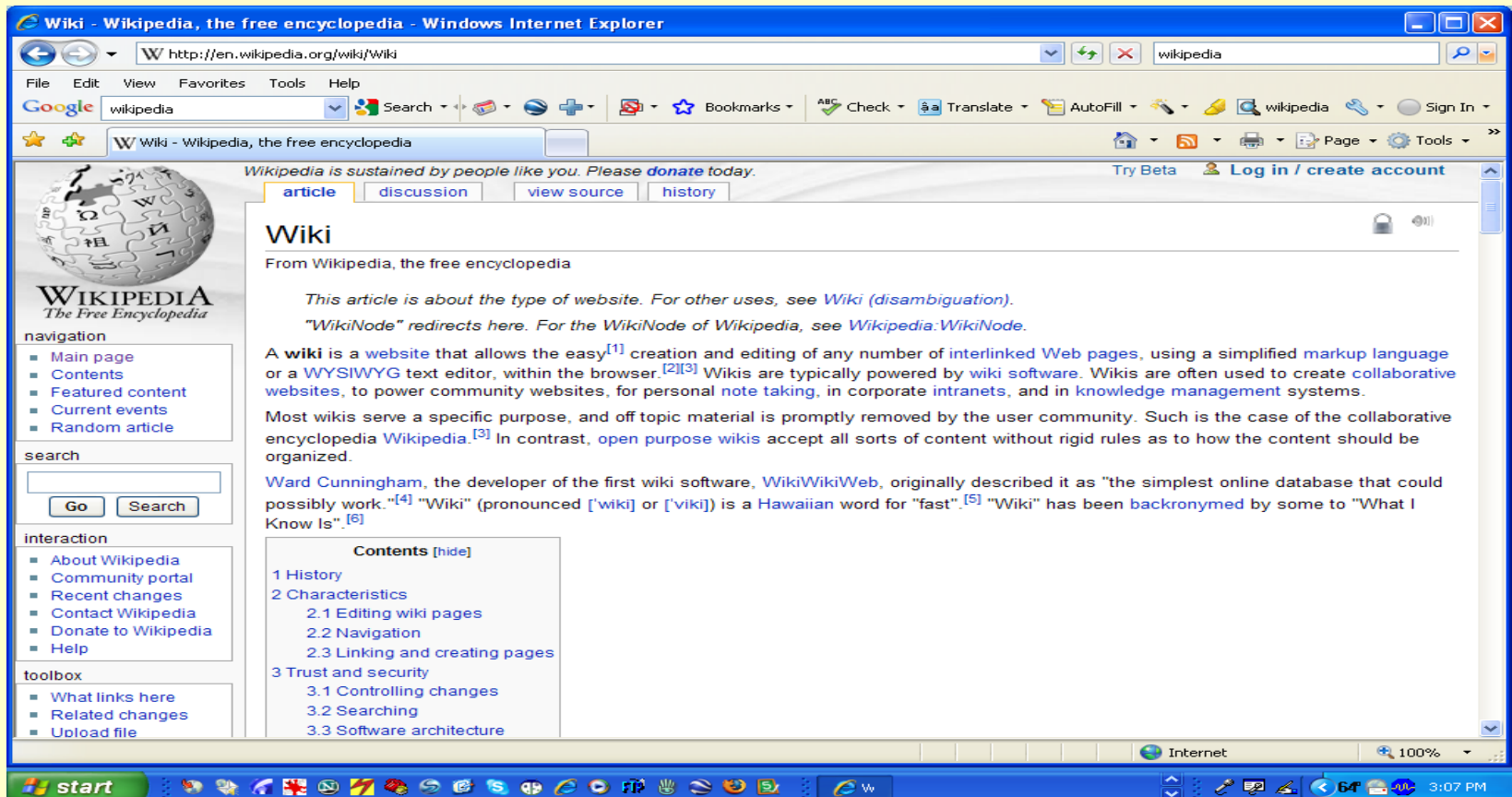
Publishing Tools: File Sharing / Wikis

- Enables creation and editing of interlinked web pages
- Used to create a collaborative website
- May be created and edited by any member of the group

Software

- Google Docs
- Drop Box
- Windows Live Office
- Wikispaces
- PB Wiki

Wikis: Wikipedia



The image shows a screenshot of a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Wikipedia article for "Wiki". The browser's address bar shows the URL "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wiki". The page title is "Wiki - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia". The article content includes a definition of a wiki as a website for easy creation and editing of interlinked web pages, and a list of contents including History, Characteristics, and Trust and security.

Wiki - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia - Windows Internet Explorer

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wiki

Wikipedia is sustained by people like you. Please [donate](#) today.

[article](#) [discussion](#) [view source](#) [history](#)

Wiki

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the type of website. For other uses, see [Wiki \(disambiguation\)](#).

"WikiNode" redirects here. For the WikiNode of Wikipedia, see [Wikipedia:WikiNode](#).

A **wiki** is a [website](#) that allows the easy^[1] creation and editing of any number of [interlinked Web pages](#), using a simplified [markup language](#) or a [WYSIWYG](#) text editor, within the browser.^{[2][3]} Wikis are typically powered by [wiki software](#). Wikis are often used to create [collaborative websites](#), to power community websites, for personal [note taking](#), in corporate [intranets](#), and in [knowledge management](#) systems.

Most wikis serve a specific purpose, and off topic material is promptly removed by the user community. Such is the case of the collaborative encyclopedia [Wikipedia](#).^[3] In contrast, [open purpose wikis](#) accept all sorts of content without rigid rules as to how the content should be organized.

[Ward Cunningham](#), the developer of the first wiki software, [WikiWikiWeb](#), originally described it as "the simplest online database that could possibly work."^[4] "Wiki" (pronounced [[wiki](#)] or [[viki](#)]) is a [Hawaiian](#) word for "fast".^[5] "Wiki" has been [backronymed](#) by some to "What I Know Is".^[6]

Contents [hide]

- History
- Characteristics
 - 2.1 Editing wiki pages
 - 2.2 Navigation
 - 2.3 Linking and creating pages
- Trust and security
 - 3.1 Controlling changes
 - 3.2 Searching
 - 3.3 Software architecture

Portfolios: ePortfolio

The screenshot shows the ePortfolio.org website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar displays the URL <http://www.eportfolio.org/>. The website's navigation menu includes links for [Welcome](#), [About](#), [Features](#), [Guided Tour](#), [Technical Information](#), and [Institutions](#). The main content area features a blue header with the ePortfolio.org logo and a central section titled "Use ePortfolio to achieve your goals:" with a list of benefits: "Create a plan of study", "Maintain a dynamic resume of your experiences in life, work, study, and at play", "Store examples of your achievements (documents, photos, graphics, spreadsheets, web pages)", "Create media rich Guest Views to share with family, friends, employers, faculty, and others", and "Showcase your accomplishments!". To the right of this list is a "member sign in" form with fields for "Username" and "Password", an "ACCESS ePortfolio" button, and links for "Forgot Password?" and "Need An Account?". Below the sign-in form is a link to "New to ePortfolio.org? Learn More". A section titled "What can ePortfolio do for you?" is divided into three columns: "Students" (listing actions like showcasing achievements, collecting work, and creating resumes), "Instructors" (listing actions like creating projects with rubrics, joint projects, and teaching online), and "Institutions" (listing actions like collecting work for assessment, selecting work randomly, and generating reports). The footer contains the ePortfolio.org logo, a "Support | System Requirements | Legal & Privacy" link, and copyright information for 2009 by the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium (CTDLC).

Instructional Video Sharing: TeacherTube / YouTube

The screenshot shows the TeacherTube website interface within a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar displays <http://www.teachertube.com/>. The website header includes the TeacherTube logo with the tagline "Teach the World" and a navigation menu with options: Home, Videos, Channels, and Groups. A secondary navigation bar offers sorting options: Most Recent, Most Viewed, Most Discussed, Top Favorites, Top Rated, Recently Featured, and Random. A search bar with a "SEARCH" button is present, along with links for "FREE Sign Up!", "Log In", and "Help".

The main content area features a section titled "Videos being viewed right now..." which is currently loading, indicated by a circular spinner. Below this is a "Partner Videos" section showing a carousel of four video thumbnails:

- CONTEST WINNER - Math in the Real World** (9 seconds ago)
- Lady Liberty Tells Her Story** (15 seconds ago)
- Southwestern World Math Day Countdown** (1 minute ago)
- Seabrook Farms Internment** (5 minutes ago)

Below the carousel, there is a video thumbnail titled "My teeth before and after: read how on my blog" from CathysTeethTrick.com. To the right of the main content is an advertisement for "edutopia" magazine, featuring a "FREE TRIAL ISSUE OF EDUTOPIA MAGAZINE" and a "Log In" button.

The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Windows Start button, several open applications (Wimba Pronto, Novell GroupWis..., Presentation1, TeacherTube - Teac...), and the system clock showing 12:13 PM.

Slide Sharing: slideshare

Slidecasting FAQs - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address http://www.slideshare.net/faqs/slidescast

Google slidescast

Quick Upload Hello, [quest!](#) ([Login](#) / [Signup](#)) [All Languages](#)

slideshare
Present Yourself

Home Browse My Slidespace Upload Community Widgets

Sort by » Slidescasts VideoSlides Latest Views Embeds Featured Favorites Downloads Search

+ =
(slides) (any mp3 URL) (slides/mp3 mashup)

Create a slidecast today
(go to "Edit" for any uploaded slideshow
Click on "Create Slidecast")

Conference talks, musical slideshows,
slidetoons, audio stories and ?? *Let the multimedia mashup madness begin!*

Slidecasting Help

Slidecasting is a new multimedia format for viewing slide decks synchronized with an audio file. It is for conference talks, musical slideshows, audio picture books or whatever else you can imagine. It's really easy to create one, so get started now!

How to get started

- Upload your presentation file to SlideShare.
- Go to *Edit slideshow* > *Create Slidecast* tab. Enter your mp3 url there
- Synchronize slides & audio using the synchronization tool and click publish

For detailed step by step instructions, [go below](#).

Your Slidecast is now ready for public viewing on

Slidecasting Demo

Slide + Podcast = Slidecast!

Done

start Wimba Pronto 2 Novell Gr... Best Practice... 3 Internet ... iTunes Internet 12:22 PM



Social Networking Tools

- Focuses on building of social networks among people with common interests
 - Course
 - Program
 - Alumni

Platforms

- Facebook
- MySpace
- Ning
- Twitter

Social Networking: Facebook

The image shows a screenshot of the Facebook homepage as it appeared in the early 2000s, viewed through a Windows Internet Explorer browser. The browser's address bar shows the URL: `http://www.facebook.com/index.php?lh=98ada49972c468b9a6ff11c5d33b20fd&`. The page features the Facebook logo at the top left, a login section with fields for "Email" and "Password" and a "Login" button, and a "Sign Up" section with the text "It's free and anyone can join". The sign-up form includes fields for "First Name", "Last Name", "Your Email", and "New Password", along with dropdown menus for "Sex" and "Birthday" (Month, Day, Year). A green "Sign Up" button is positioned below the form. To the left of the sign-up form is a world map with several orange person icons connected by dashed lines, representing a global network. At the bottom of the page, there is a language selection menu with options like "English (US)", "Español", "Português (Brasil)", "Français (France)", "Deutsch", "Italiano", "العربية", "हिन्दी", "中文(简体)", and "日本語". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the "start" button, several application icons, and the system clock displaying "11:52 AM".

Social Networking: Twitter

The image shows a screenshot of the Twitter homepage for a user named Justin Williams. The browser window title is "Twitter" and the address bar shows "http://twitter.com/home". The user's name "Justin Williams" is displayed in the top right, along with links for "Invite", "Public", "Badges", "Settings", "Help", and "Sign out".

The main content area features a "What are you doing?" text input field with a character count of "Characters available: 143" and an "Update" button. Below this is a section titled "What you and your friends are doing (24 hours)" with tabs for "Archive" and "Recent". Three tweets are visible:

- Justin Williams** Wishing I hadn't spent the entire day in bed. about 2 hours ago from web
- Buzz Andersen** Sauteeing vegetables in bacon fat. Cause that's how I roll. about 3 hours ago from web
- Justin Williams** Wishing I could kick this headache about 7 hours ago from mobile

On the right side, there is a "Welcome back, Justin Williams" message with a "NEW!" notification: "Know who's following you?". Below this are more "NEW!" notifications: "Win an iPod with 6 words. Enter our SMITH Mag contest" and "You in 160 characters: Fill out your one line bio." A status summary shows: "Currently: Wishing I hadn't spent the entire day in bed." and "6 Direct Messages, 0 Favorites, 5 Friends, 5 Followers, 175 Updates". There is also a "Phone Notifications" section set to "All" and a "Send your updates to 40404" field. At the bottom right, it says "Activate IM Account" and "Invite More Friends". The footer indicates "0 errors / 1 warning".



Web Conferencing Tools

- Used to conduct meetings, presentations, and instruction over the internet
 - Audio/video
 - Chat
 - File Share
 - Whiteboard
 - Event Recording

Applications

- Skype
- WiZIQ
- Wimba Pronto
- Dimdim

Web Conferencing: Skype

The screenshot shows the Skype official website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar displays <http://www.skype.com/>. The website features the Skype logo at the top left, a navigation menu with 'Download', 'Use Skype', 'Business', and 'Shop' options, and a search bar. The main content area is a large blue banner with a photograph of a man and a woman sitting on a bench outdoors. The text on the banner reads: 'It's important to stay together. Free calls, video calls and instant messaging over the internet. Plus great value calls to phones anywhere in the world.' Below this text is a prominent green 'Download Skype' button. At the bottom of the banner, there are decorative elements including a rainbow, white clouds, and a 'No Spyware Adware' logo. A small text link at the bottom of the banner says: 'Have a free voucher? First [download Skype](#) and then go to [skype.com/voucher](#) to redeem.' The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Windows Start button, several open applications, and the system clock displaying 12:13 PM.

Web Conferencing: Wimba Pronto

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Wimba Pronto website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.wimba.com/solutions/higher-education/>. The website header features the Wimba logo with the tagline "people teach people" and navigation links for "Products", "Solutions", "Services", "Community", "Customers", and "Company". A search bar labeled "Search Wimba" is also present. The main content area is titled "Solutions for Higher and Further Education" and features a large banner image of students with the text "The Standard in Collaboration". Below the banner, a paragraph states: "The profile of today's college student increasingly falls outside the bounds of the 'traditional' student." A "Related Info" section is visible at the bottom right of the main content area. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "Wimba Pronto", "Novell Gr...", "Best Practice...", and "Internet ...". The system clock indicates the time is 12:34 PM.

Web Conferencing: Dimdim

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Dimdim website. The browser's address bar shows the URL http://www.dimdim.com/products/dimdim_editions_free.html. The website features a navigation menu with links for Home, Products, Open Source, Support, Partner with Us, About Us, and My Dimdim. A prominent orange button labeled "Sign Up Now!" is located in the top right corner. The main content area has a blue background with the headline "The totally Free way to save money." Below this, there is a sidebar with a menu containing "What is Dimdim?", "Dimdim Editions", "Success Stories", "Integrations & Mashups", and "Evaluation Program". The "Dimdim Editions" item is highlighted. The main content area also includes a screenshot of a Dimdim web conference interface, which displays a slide titled "1. Don't Sell Products. People buy what other people have." At the bottom of the page, there are several promotional banners for Dimdim Enterprise, Dimdim Webinar, Dimdim Pro, Dimdim Free, and Virtual Classroom. The Dimdim Free banner states: "Dimdim Free. The world's easiest web conference. With Dimdim Free, people and organizations around the world can now meet freely. And since everyone will spend less time traveling and more time collaborating, this free Dimdim Free Now the world can meet freely". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several application icons, and the system tray with the time 11:45 AM.

Virtual Worlds

- Virtual 3D classroom, meeting, and conference space
- Experiential Learning
- Simulation Learning
- Collaborative Learning

Platforms

- Second Life
- Active Worlds
- OpenSimulator



Virtual Worlds: Second Life

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Second Life website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://secondlife.com/whatis/>. The website's header includes the Second Life logo, navigation links for 'WHAT IS SECOND LIFE?', 'SHOWCASE', 'COMMUNITY', 'LAND', 'BLOGS', and 'SUPPORT', and a search bar. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'What is Second Life?' and a description of the virtual world. Below the banner, there are two columns of links for further information.

Second Life | What is Second Life? - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print Mail New Tab Close

Address <http://secondlife.com/whatis/> Go Links

Google [second life](#) Search + - Bookmarks Find Check

Resident Login | Join

WHAT IS SECOND LIFE? SHOWCASE COMMUNITY LAND BLOGS SUPPORT Search Secondlife.com

What is Second Life?

Second Life is a free online virtual world imagined and created by its Residents. From the moment you enter Second Life, you'll discover a fast-growing digital world filled with people, entertainment, experiences and opportunity.

Ready to create a new digital you?
Learn more about avatars »

WELCOME | CREATE AN AVATAR | FREE 3D CHAT | DISCOVER AND EXPLORE **Join Now! »**

Learn more about Second Life

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [System Requirements](#)
- [Membership Plans](#)
- [Land Ownership Information](#)

Second Life for business or education

- [Education in Second Life](#)
- [Business in Second Life](#)
- [Case Studies & Success Stories](#)

start Wimba Pronto 2 Novell Gr... Best Practice... 3 Internet ... iTunes Internet 12:28 PM

NC WeBIEE: Central Hub



NC WeBIEE: VLC Technology Center



NC WeBIEE: Technology Resources



NC WeBIEE: NCCCS



NC WeBIEE: NCCCS Colleges





NC WeBIEE: Office Space



NC WeBIEE: Meeting Space



NC WeBIEE: Conference Space



NC WeBIEE: Classroom Space

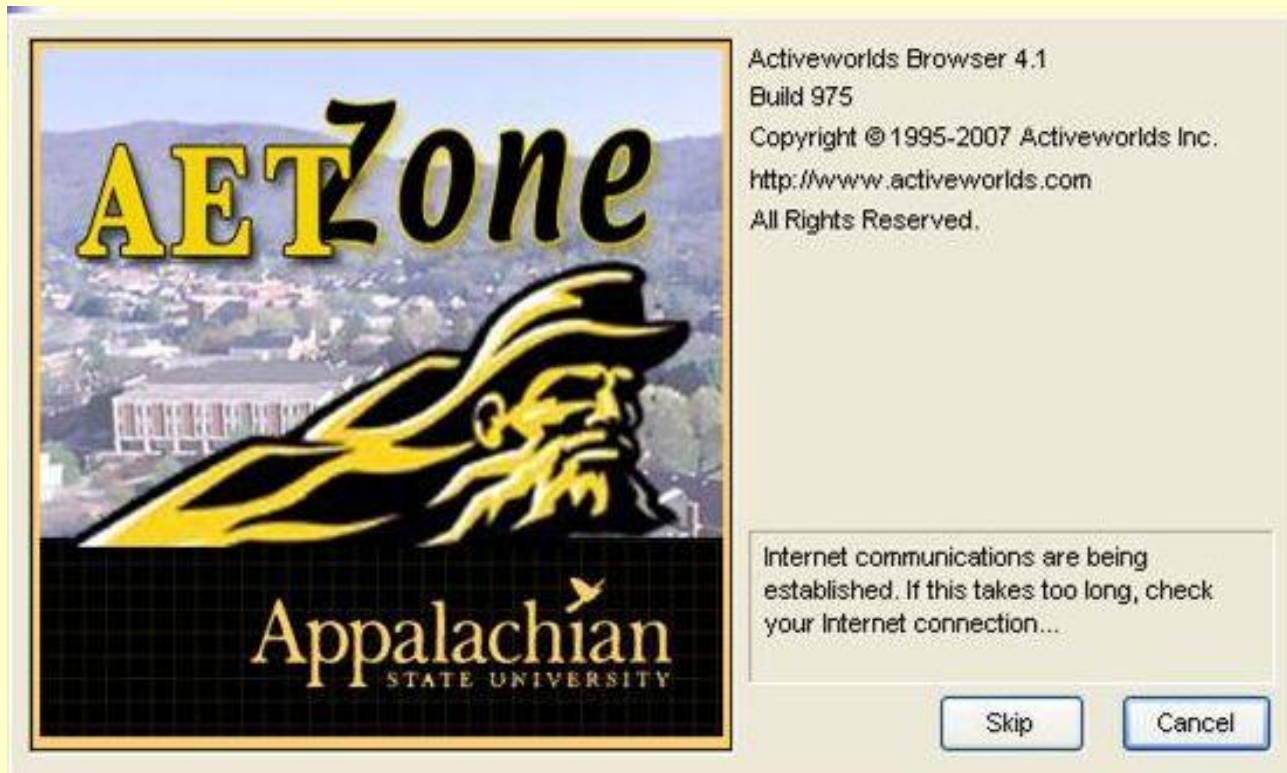


NC WeBIEE: Learning Resources





Virtual World: Active Worlds

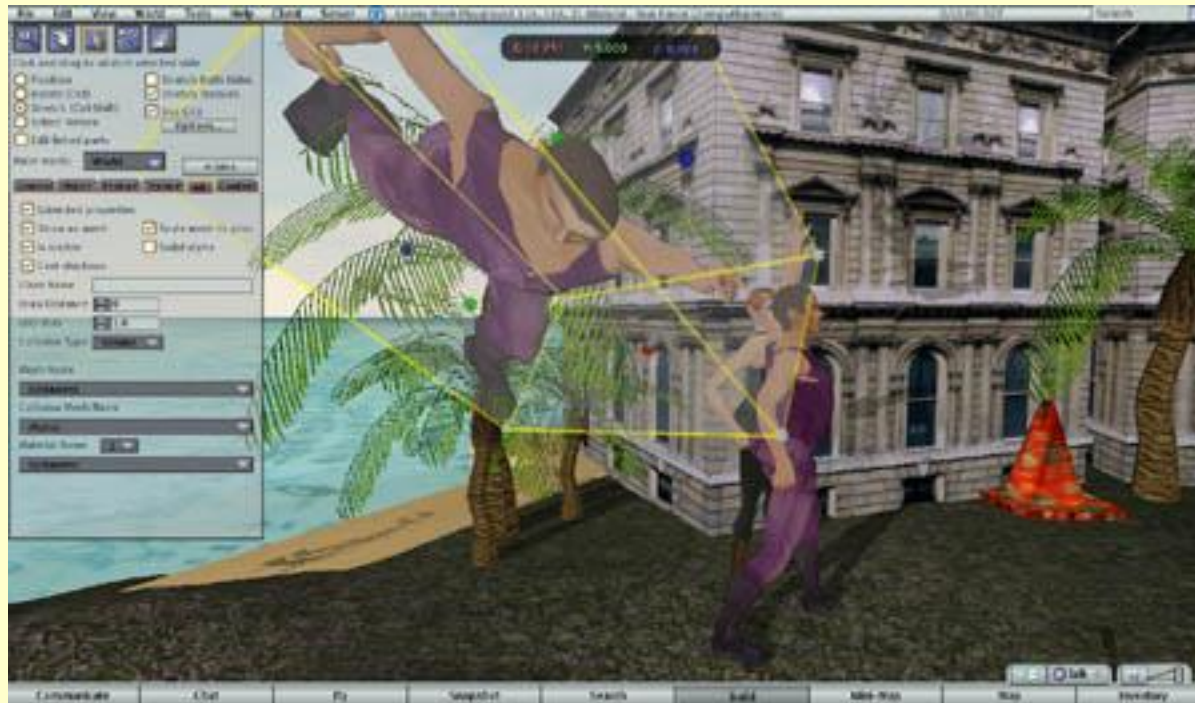


Activeworlds Browser 4.1
Build 975
Copyright © 1995-2007 Activeworlds Inc.
<http://www.activeworlds.com>
All Rights Reserved.

Internet communications are being established. If this takes too long, check your Internet connection...

Skip Cancel

Virtual World: OpenSimulator





Technology Resources

- <http://www.podcasting123.com>
- <http://audacity.sourceforge.net>
- <http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.asp>
- <http://softchalk.com>
- <http://www.apple.com/education/mobile-learning>
- <http://www.skype.com>
- <http://www.wiziq.com>
- <http://www.wimba.com>
- <http://www.dimdim.com>
- <http://www.teachertube.com>
- <http://www.slideshare.net>



Technology Resources

- <http://www.facebook.com>
- <http://twitter.com>
- <http://www.ning.com>
- <http://www.wordpress.org>
- <http://www.blogger.com>
- <http://www.secondlife.com>
- <http://www.activeworlds.com>
- <http://sites.google.com/site/ncwebieeproject/home>
- <http://www.eportfolio.org>
- <http://opensimulator.org>
- <http://www.merlot.org>

Part IV

Summary





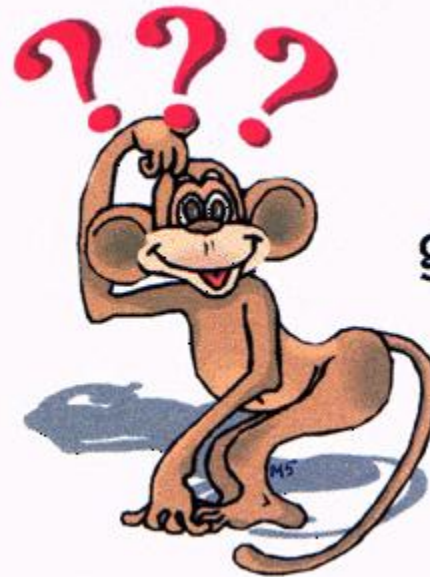
Distance Learning Plan

- A college must establish a comprehensive plan for the Implementation, Management and Assessment of Distance Learning as it relates to:
 - Students
 - Faculty
 - Technology

Questions?

Questions and comments will be taken at this time.

Thank you!



Questions
are
guaranteed in
life;
Answers
aren't.



Resources

Academic Technology Center - Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Characteristics of Distance Learning Students
atc-ttc@wpi.edu

Advantage and Disadvantage of Distance Learning Distance Learning Colleges Guide
<http://www.distance-learning-college-guide.com/advantage-and-disadvantage-of-distancelearning.html>

Angelino, L. & Williams, F. (2007) Strategies to Engage Online Students and Reduce Attrition Rates. *The Journal of Educators Online*, Volume 4, Number 2, July 2007. Retrieved on March 15, 2009, from
<http://www.thejeo.com/Volume4Number2/Angelino%20Final.pdf>

Carteret Community College. Blackboard Bootcamp. <http://dlccc.wordpress.com/bb-bootcamp-1/>

McCrimon, M. E. M. (2005). Major predictors of student retention in the rural community college on-line classroom. Dissertation Abstracts (UMI Number 3201852)



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Muilenburg, L. Y. & Berge, Z. L., (2005) Student Barriers to Online Learning: A factor analytic study. Distance Education Vol. 26, (1), 29-48

National Center for Education Statistics. Distance Education at Degree-Granting Postsecondary Institutions: 2006-07 <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009044.pdf>

NCCCS Strategic Plan for Distance Learning: 2003-04 through 2008-09
<http://vlc.nccommunitycolleges.edu/about/PDF/DL%20Strategic%20Plan.pdf>

NC Community College Association of Distance Learning <http://www.ncccadl.org/>

NC Distance Learning Association <http://www.usdla-nc.org/>

NC-NET http://www.nc-net.info/distance_learning.php

NC Virtual Learning Community <http://vlc.nccommunitycolleges.edu/about/>



Resources

NC WeBIEE <http://sites.google.com/site/ncwebieeproject/home>

The Sloan Consortium, 2010. Class Differences: Online Education in the United States, 2010. Retrieved on March 1, 2011, from http://sloanconsortium.org/publications/survey/pdf/class_differences.pdf

Tinto, V. (2006). Research and practice of student retention: What next? *J. College Student Retention*, 8(1) 1-19.

U.S. Journal of Academics: [usjournal.com](http://www.usjournal.com)

<http://www.usjournal.com/en/students/help/distancelearning.html>

Wang, G, Foucar-Szocki, D & Griffen, O., O'Connor, C. and Sceiford, E.(2003) Departure, Abandonment, and Dropout of E-learning: Dilemma and Solutions James Madison University, http://www.masie.com/researchgrants/2003/JMU_Final_Report.pdf)