COURSE SPOTLIGHTS

ENGL 191 - Communication in the Engineering Profession

This week, I have been developing a lesson with a group of students to teach and organize their final project. As a dynamic project management tool, Gantt Charts can be customized for any project. Engineers can use Gantt Charts as an effective way to communicate the project plan, and for milestones or deadlines. My team. Jessica Mancini

RENSION UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

As an OLA for Renison’s English Language Studies (ELS) department, I have been working with courses such as ESL and English for Multilingual Students. So far, I have had the opportunity to work on a diverse range of projects involving LEAPN, researching online for teaching, and troubleshooting problems for instructors. I have enjoyed my work as an OLA. In this experience, David Doe explains the role of online courses.

OLAs at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute have been recording lectures on Zoom since 2016. 2020 was a year of adjustments and innovations for the OLA team.

RECORDING VIDEO LECTURES

Video lectures and slides presentations are great vehicles for online teaching. However, they can be difficult to create. The recording lectures on Zoom is an easy way to make excellent content that does not require extensive technical knowledge. Click here for a video tutorial, and click here for written instructions.

Compressing Zoom Files on HandBrake

HandBrake is a desktop encoder that can allow users to compress the size of a video. This tool is perfect for students who need to reduce the size of their videos, which can be particularly useful for online courses.

Alternative Lecture Recording Softwares

Alternative software that support video lecture recordings includes Zoom and WebEx. Bongo! is an excellent tool for recording lectures, creating screen recording, and assignments. Enabling a seamless virtual classroom environment, instructors can use this tool to pre-record a lecture, load it, and use it as needed. Find out more information about Bongo! by clicking here.

OLA TIDBIT

OLA Tidbit: User Experience

Since coming on as an OLA, my appreciation for user experience has increased. While navigating LEAPN, I have noticed that the interface could be more user-friendly. This can be a common issue in online environments. With a more intuitive interface, users can easily navigate through the system and find what they need.

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