

WHY MAKE YOUR OWN

NOTES, PRESENTATIONS, HANDOUTS, VIDEOS, AND PODCASTS?



WHY MAKE YOUR OWN NOTES, PRESENTATIONS AND HANDOUTS?

- **EXPANDED / FOCUSED CONTENT**
- **FREEDOM FROM THE TEXTBOOK**
- **MANAGEABLE LENGTH**
- **MORE INTERESTING & ENGAGING**
- **PERSONALIZATION**
- **OWNERSHIP**
- **SUPPLEMENT THE TEXTBOOK**
- **TIMELY MATERIAL**

EXPANDED OR FOCUSED CONTENT

Publisher's presentations usually cover what is in the book and only what is in the book. How often does the book contain everything worth knowing about a topic?

Creating your own notes, presentations, and handouts allow you to:

- **Go into greater detail on interesting or relevant topics**
- **Include more examples**
- **Cover information not included in the text**

FREEDOM FROM THE TEXTBOOK

If you create your own notes, presentations and handouts, you can focus each by topic, not by chapter. Then, when you get a new textbook , you don't have to replace everything – just update the information when needed. You can reorganize topics around to match the chapters, or use the text chapters in different order to match the topics you want to cover.

The textbook stops dictating the flow of your class!

MANAGEABLE LENGTH

Have you seen some of those presentations? Dozens of slides, perhaps a hundred or more. Do they really need to be that long? If you post them online, do you think students are actually reading all those notes? Printing the presentations for students becomes expensive (and kills an entire forest each week!)

You can control the length of your presentations. What is reasonable? What needs to be included, and what is unnecessary?

MORE INTERESTING AND ENGAGING

You've heard of "Death by PowerPoint"?

Presentations do not need to be bullet-point everything, or pages of dry text. You can include more visuals or more examples. You can also make the presentations more relevant by including some of your own experiences, local events, or tying the material to student experiences.

PERSONALIZATION

You can make the notes, presentations and handouts more personal, rather than the one-size-fits-all approach the publishers must take.

- **Include personal experiences or student stories**
- **Tie content to NSCC, Northwest Ohio, or local agencies**
- **Reference previous classes**

OWNERSHIP

When you use publisher-created material, you do not own it. Normally, you have the rights to use that material only as long as you are using their textbook. When you create your own material, copyright belongs to you and NSCC. You can use the notes, handouts, or presentations for multiple classes, regardless of what book you are using. You have full creative control over that material.

SUPPLEMENT THE TEXTBOOK

When the presentation covers every bit of information in the textbook, why should students bother to buy or read the text? When you create your own notes, presentations, or handouts, you can:

- **Add information the textbook doesn't cover**
- **Go in to more depth on certain topics**
- **Provide examples, case studies, or experiences**

without duplicating everything that is in the book!

TIMELY MATERIAL

Textbooks are republished once every few years, sometimes every year. But due to publishing schedules, they can't include the most recent information. With your own notes, presentations and handouts, you can easily add or modify information, right up until the last minute. Think about how you could include

- **Recent events**
- **New theories or analysis**
- **Current issues and concerns**
- **Noteworthy individuals**

WHY MAKE YOUR OWN VIDEOS AND PODCASTS?

- **CONNECT WITH YOUR STUDENTS**
- **MATCH YOUR PURPOSE AND TOPIC**
- **MORE INTERESTING & ENGAGING**
- **PERSONALIZATION**

CONNECT WITH YOUR STUDENTS

Many videos and podcasts are used in online classes, where students have less of a connection to the instructor. Creating your own videos or podcasts gives a small sense of connection, as students are able to hear or see you, and get the material in your own words. It's more of a connection than impersonal words in a presentation, or a perfectly-voiced video or podcast from a stranger. Go ahead and use a less formal tone and even make a joke or two!

MATCH YOUR PURPOSE AND TOPIC

If you are thinking about including a video or podcast on a topic, you should already have thought about exactly what you would like that to include. Sometimes, finding something that matches what you want is difficult. Some videos or podcasts may include a lot of extra material, some may present some incorrect information with the good, and others may not include enough information. If you create your own videos and podcasts, you can be sure that it includes everything you want, exactly what you want, and no distracting information.

As Goldilocks said, “Just Right!”

MORE INTERESTING & ENGAGING

You can make the videos and podcasts directly relevant to your students, and make it something they will enjoy learning from. Through your tone you can convey enthusiasm and encouragement. You can include relevant examples, personal experiences, and student stories.

PERSONALIZATION

“Hey there everyone, hope you are ready to move on to a new topic today”

When you create your own videos or podcasts, you are addressing your class. As such, you can make it feel personal by introducing yourself, referring to previous material or activities, or sharing experiences or stories.

If you don't mind the work of recreating videos or podcasts each semester, you can even start talking directly to your students – mention them by name and refer to something they've shared with the class.

NEWS FLASH: IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT!

There's a reason blooper reels are so popular in movies.

**Focus on getting the content perfect, everything else –
voice, appearance, visuals, can be “good enough”**



WHEN SHOULD YOU USE PROFESSIONALLY CREATED MEDIA?

- **IF YOU CAN'T CREATE SOMETHING AS EFFECTIVE**
- **IF THE MEDIA PERFECTLY MESHES WITH YOUR PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES FOR THAT LESSON**
- **IF THE MEDIA DEFINES THE STANDARD OF THIS TOPIC (DOCUMENTARY, PROFESSIONAL REPORT)**

**WHEN THE PROFESSIONAL MEDIA IS
PREFECT FOR YOUR TOPIC, THEN USE IT!**

**BUT WHEN YOU CAN MAKE SOMETHING
MORE EFFECTIVE, MORE RELEVANT, AND
MORE LINKED TO YOUR TOPIC AND PURPOSE,
PUT IN THE TIME AND DO IT!**

