



### **Hat trick:**

a succession of three victories, successes, or related accomplishments

*Webster's; Merriam-Webster Online <http://www.m-w.com>*

## **Hat Trick: Tackling learning styles and asynchronous learning support on the web**

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Trying to reach your students requires appealing to many learning styles, and may take more repetition than can be delivered during class. Many teachers would like technology to bridge these gaps, but aren't sure what is available. This information is to introduce educators to some of those tools, from implementing simple animations, turning PowerPoint into pdf, flash, or web pages, or making short movies that guide hands-on learning; tools for the classroom, or use across the web.

### **Open source (free) basics**

Ubuntu, Linux Operating System

- [www.ubuntu.com](http://www.ubuntu.com) (Free, Includes Free Open Office)

AVG, Anti-Virus Software for Windows

- [free.grisoft.com/](http://free.grisoft.com/) (Free)

Open Office, Writer word processing and Impress presentation software

- [www.openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org) (Free)

### **File conversion for web delivery**

CutePDF, convert any printable document to pdf

- [www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp](http://www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp) (Free)

AuthorPoint, convert PowerPoint to flash

- [www.authorgen.com/authorpoint-lite-free/powerpoint-to-flash-converter.aspx](http://www.authorgen.com/authorpoint-lite-free/powerpoint-to-flash-converter.aspx) (Free)

Microsoft Office: Save As\Web Page

Open Office: Save As\HTML document

### **Web hosting**

- [www.godaddy.com](http://www.godaddy.com) (\$4.29/mo)

- [www.1and1.com](http://www.1and1.com) (\$3.99/mo)

- [www.tripod.lycos.com](http://www.tripod.lycos.com) (Free)

- [www.geocities.yahoo.com](http://www.geocities.yahoo.com) (Free)

### **Real Web Page Editors**

Dreamweaver CS3

- [www.adobe.com/products/dreamweaver/](http://www.adobe.com/products/dreamweaver/) (store price \$399)

- [www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk\\_srch=Dreamweaver](http://www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk_srch=Dreamweaver) (academic price \$197.95)

NVu

- [www.nvu.com](http://www.nvu.com) free

### **Image Editors**

Photoshop

- [www.adobe.com/products/photoshop](http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshop) (store price \$649)

- [www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk\\_srch=Photoshop](http://www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk_srch=Photoshop) (academic price \$297)

Photoshop Elements

- [www.adobe.com/products/photoshopelwin](http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshopelwin) (store price \$99.99)

- [www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk\\_srch=Photoshop](http://www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk_srch=Photoshop) (academic price \$64.95)

GIMP

- [www.gimp.org](http://www.gimp.org) (Free)

### **Simple Animation**

UnFREEz

- [www.whitsoftdev.com/unfreez/](http://www.whitsoftdev.com/unfreez/) (Free)

### **Screen Capture Video**

Captivate

- [www.adobe.com/products/captivate/](http://www.adobe.com/products/captivate/) (store price \$699)

- [www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk\\_srch=captivate](http://www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk_srch=captivate) (academic price \$239.95)

Camtasia

- [www.techsmith.com/camtasia.asp](http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.asp) (store price \$299)

- [www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk\\_srch=camtasia](http://www.academicsuperstore.com/product/search?qk_srch=camtasia) (academic price \$179)

CamStudio

- [camstudio.org](http://camstudio.org) (Free)



## **Learning Styles**

Learners are typically considered to be visual learners, auditory learners, or Tactile/Kinesthetic Learners<sup>1</sup>... so while your lecture may satisfy the auditory students, and your lab may satisfy the hands on kinesthetic student, many students learn best by *seeing* it. Better yet, studies show involving all of the learning styles can improve the reception of all learners.

Retention typically follows according to these rates:

10% of what they read

20% of what they hear

30% of what they see

70% of what they see and hear...

So many faculty members include slide shows, or use the overhead to form presentations as part of the class; but what can be done about the student that missed that presentation?

## **Repetition**

The numbers vary by researcher, but it is almost universally accepted that repetition is a key aspect of learning, yet how can you provide the information in your presentation enough times to facilitate learning?

## **Maybe PowerPoint**

One obvious solution for many is to create a PowerPoint presentation, but not everyone can afford this software.

## **Perhaps Demonstration**

Another key aspect of some learning opportunities is demonstration; letting students 'see' the process whether it is solving a math problem, or a guided tour of some software. But how can students see this demonstration over and over?

## **Student Access**

Bottom line, how do we get presentations and demonstrations into the hands of the students that might need it most, where they need it, and when they need it?

## **Asynchronous Delivery**

The key to supplying your lesson for the absent student, or to make your information available for review during the learning process, may well be to transform your material into a media that is available in the class and out, in an "on demand" format. A great solution for asynchronous delivery is Internet distribution.

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<sup>1</sup> Colin Rose (1987). *Accelerated Learning*

## Implementing presentations on the Web

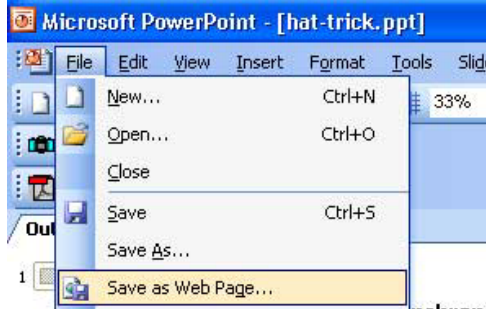
### If you have Microsoft PowerPoint ©

Enter your lecture Outline into a presentation

Add graphics to convey your message and add interest

Convert your Presentation into a web page:

File\Save as Web Page ...



Option: Save presentation as a faster downloading flash file, using AuthorPoint

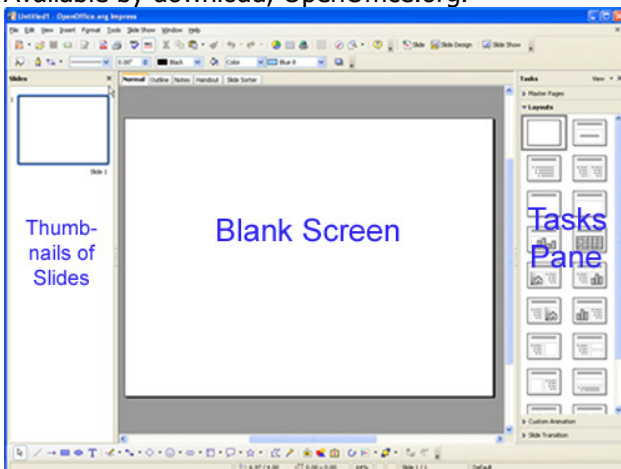
[www.authorgen.com/authorpoint-lite-free/powerpoint-to-flash-converter.aspx](http://www.authorgen.com/authorpoint-lite-free/powerpoint-to-flash-converter.aspx) (Free)

Option: Save a printable version using CutePDF

[www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp](http://www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp) (Free)

### The Free alternative to PowerPoint ©: Open Office Impress ©

Available by download, OpenOffice.org.



Impress can save presentations in the pdf or PowerPoint format, and while converting presentations to web is not the one stop conversion of PowerPoint, it is free!

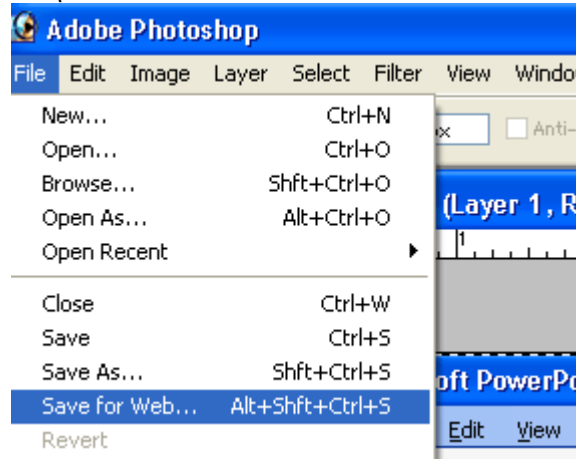
Convert your Presentation into a web page:

- Go to File\Export
- In the Export window, navigate to File format and choose HTML Document.
- Name your file and verify the location of where to save the file.
- When you click on Save, the HTML Export wizard will open.
- In the first window, choose from a new or existing design. Click Next.
- The next window will ask you to choose publication type, choose Standard HTML format.
- You can choose to include notes that accompany your presentation slides, then click Next.
- On the next window, choose how graphics will be exported. If you have photographs, choose jpg.
- Adjust graphic quality. The higher the graphic quality, the larger the file size. 75% is a good, basic quality.
- Choose monitor resolution. If you are not sure what your students may use, choose the lowest possible.
- If your presentation has sound effects, turn on Export sounds when slide advances, click Next
- On the next window, enter information for your web page's title page information, such as your name, email address, homepage URL, and any other notes.
- If you would like to have a link to the original presentation, check the option and then click Next
- The next window will prompt you to select the button style for navigating through your presentation, Select button style and click Next.
- The final window will ask you to choose the color scheme for your presentation on the web.
- Select Apply color scheme from document and click on Create.

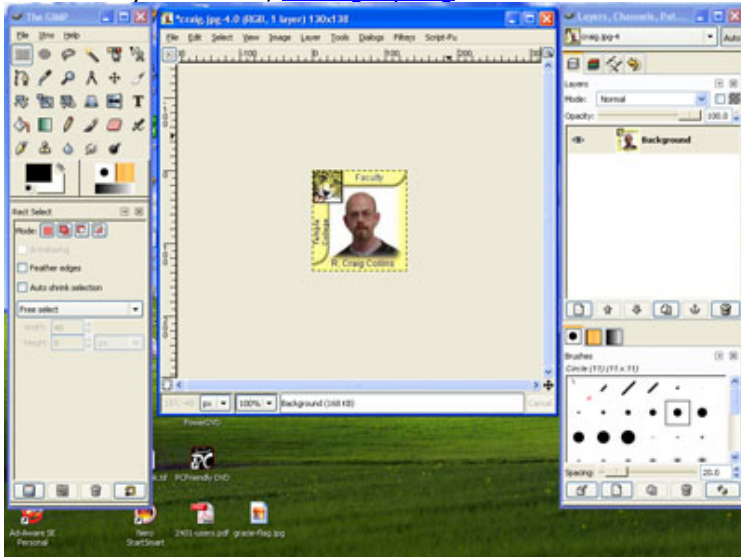
**If you use a lot of images in your web pages...**

If you find you use a lot of pictures, it may be best to preprocess the images so that they are optimized for faster downloading. Photoshop can automate this process by choosing:

File\Save for Web...

**The Free alternative to Photoshop ©: GIMP ©**

Available by download, [www.gimp.org](http://www.gimp.org)

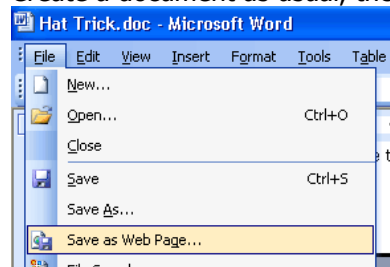


GIMP is an great photo editor, and while optimizing for the web is not as fast as Photoshop, it is free!

- Choose File/Save As...
- Click the [+] controls to select file type and destination, then
- Click the [+] sign to open the 'Advanced Options'
- Make sure Optimized is selected, then  
drag the Quality slider while watching the preview until you have a clearest, but smallest possible file size
- Save to create a compact file that will download quickly.

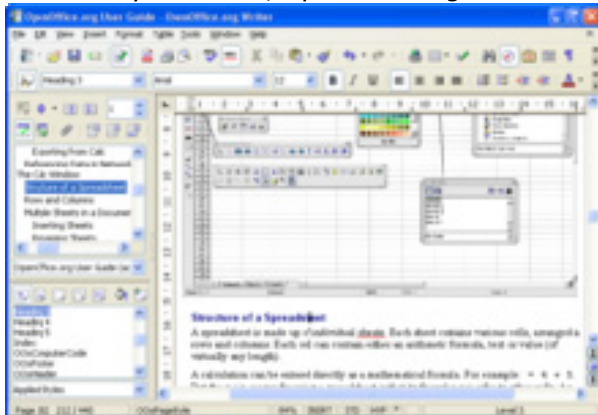
**What if you want to put other items on the web aside from presentations?****If you have Microsoft Word ©**

Create a document as usual, then convert your document into a web page using File\Save as Web Page ...



## The Free alternative to Word ©: Open Office Writer ©

Available by download, OpenOffice.org.



Writer can save files in the Word format or as a .pdf, and while a bit different than Word, it is free!

Convert your document into a web page:

- Go to File\Save as HTML Document.
- Name your file and verify the location of where to save the file.

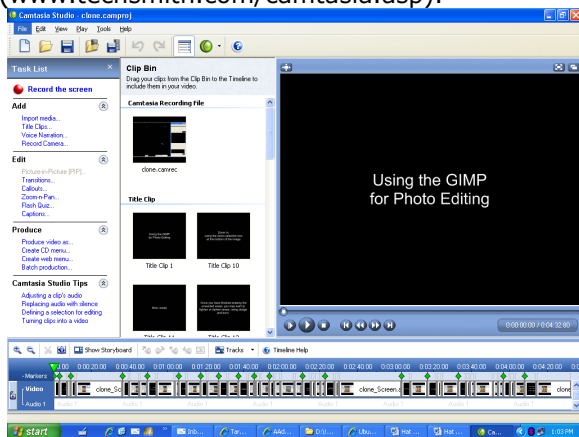
## Making Real Web Pages

Take the plunge, design real web pages almost as easy as making a Word document with the industry standard, Dreamweaver, ([www.adobe.com/software/dreamweaver/](http://www.adobe.com/software/dreamweaver/)) or with NVu, the free alternative available by download, [www.nvu.com](http://www.nvu.com)  
UnFreez, free simple animation creator ([www.whitsoftdev.com](http://www.whitsoftdev.com))

## What if you want to capture demonstrations to place on the web?

### Screen Capture videos

There are several products that can capture what ever is happening on your computer screen, and save that file as a movie. The top two products are Adobe Captivate ([www.adobe.com/products/captivate/](http://www.adobe.com/products/captivate/)) and TechSmith Camtasia ([www.techsmith.com/camtasia.asp](http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.asp)).

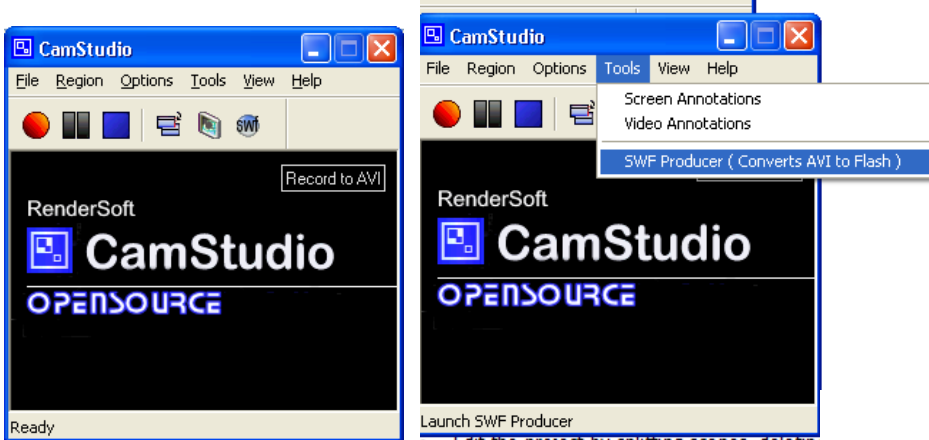


Capture your computer screen using Camtasia:

- Start the Camtasia program
- Prepare the activity you wish to capture
- Press F9 to capture the entire screen, a particular window. Or a portion of the screen
- Press F10 to end the session and save the captured 'movie' project
- Edit the project by splitting scenes, deleting or rearranging scenes
- Add title slides
- Add still images
- Add arrows and text boxes for emphasis
- Save a mpeg or flash movies suitable for web delivery

## The Free alternative to Camtasia ©: CamStudio ©

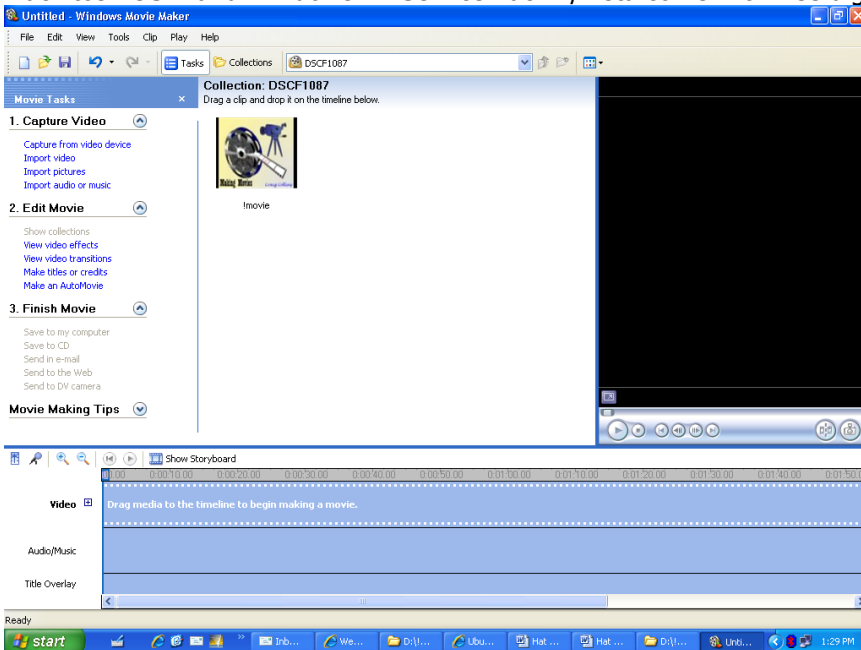
camstudio.org (Free); the major difference between Camtasia and CamStudio is the lack of editing tools, though the file can be edited with external video editing tools, such as Microsoft Movie Maker



- Conduct a dress rehearsal and decide what arrows and text boxes you will need
- Create the arrows and text boxes using the Screen Annotations tool
- Start the capture with F8
- At the appropriate times, insert the next annotations with F11
- Stop recording with F9
- Save as avi or flash movies suitable for web delivery

## Editing Video Camera movies

Macintosh OS X and Windows XP Service Pack 2/Vista come with free digital movie editing software



- Open the digital video from your camera or CamStudio session
- Edit the project by splitting scenes, deleting or rearranging scenes
- Add title slides
- Add still images
- Add transitions
- Save as avi, mpeg, or QuickTime movies suitable for web delivery