Tips and Hints for creating screencasts

PREPARATION

Decide your audience

Write a script

- Shelf life? Be careful not to date your content if it's content you want to use again

Create a storyboard

Do images need to be created ahead of time?

Plan strategically:

- at a module level, what approach are you taking to learning and teaching
- if taking a flipped approach, decide what bits need to be recorded. Where will they fit, what are their purposes?
- Will each of the screencasts need to be viewed in isolation as well as part of the 'whole'? If so, then have an intro and summary on each individual screencast.

Bite sized pieces (5-7 minutes). Chunk your content and embed the videos into your other content and assessments

NOW YOU'RE READY TO START

Give yourself time because it can take longer than you expect

You don't have to say everything that you're doing. Let the video do the talking, and maybe enhance that by explaining why you're doing that or what's important about what you're doing

Keep things moving and interesting on the screen so as not to lose your students but use slow mouse movements so that it's not distracting or they miss it if it's meant to be showing them what to do

Turn off notifications and pop ups on your pc so that they don't appear /ping as they arrive like email, during your recording

Turn off stuff that gives private information about yourself, like bookmarks or tabs, pics of kids on your desktop etc.

Have all of your docs / websites / ppt open and ready to do before you get started

If you make a mistake? Then pause, do a retake, then move on. You can use video editing software later to chop that bit out.

Pause while you type in information to fields etc so save watching time

Using a talking head and shoulders? Is it useful? Needed? A distraction? Maybe good for 1 min intro and summary but remove in-between. Really depends on what you're doing.

When you are just starting out with flipped teaching, it is a good idea to pick a set of the key concepts or topics that are the most difficult for students and go from there.

Stream screencasts from with media.heanet.ie or from a YouTube channel which can be private.