Creating Accessible Media

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Introductions

• Valerie Ober, Adaptive Technology Specialist
  • Accessible media

• Cameron Rule, SAS Specialist
  • Live Transcription/Captioning
Our Agenda and Goals

• Accessible Media
• Live Captioning/Transcription
• Questions

Primary focus on accessible media accommodations
What is Accessible Media?

- **Videos**: transcript, closed captions, **audio description**

- **Audio** (podcasts, voice recordings, etc.): transcript

- Captions vs. Subtitles
Accessible Media for your Course

Use material that is already accessible

1. **Work with the library** (for any material owned by the library)

2. **Send to SAS** (for accommodations only)

3. **Do it yourself** (captions and transcripts)

4. **Send to 3rd party service** (esp. Audio description)
Library Resources

- Library media can be requested through Leganto
- Visit the "Faculty Services" guide for more information
Accessible Media Accommodations

• Three things to look for in accommodation plans:
  • Closed Captions
  • Audio Description
  • Live Transcription

SAS will contact you before the start of the semester if there is a student in your class who requires any of these accommodations.

• Important:
  • Accommodation plans show eligibility. Student needs might differ from class to class or semester to semester.
  • Students are the primary source of information for their own accommodations.
Sending Media to SAS

• What to send
  • Pre-recorded videos or audio (typically not lectures)

• What we need
  • Video title
  • Access to the video (link, video file, library record link)
  • **Date the video will be used in class**

• Timeline
  • 2 weeks for captions or transcript
  • 3 weeks for audio description *
Captioning Videos

- **Method 1**: Transcript
  1. Upload video and transcript to YouTube
  2. Edit auto-timed transcript

- **Method 2**: No Transcript
  1. Upload video to service that has auto-captioning
  2. Edit auto-captions

- **Method 3**: 3rd Party Service
  1. Send video to 3rd party service
  2. Edit as necessary
## Media Tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tool</th>
<th>Video Creation</th>
<th>Auto-Captions</th>
<th>Caption Editing</th>
<th>Delivery</th>
<th>Storage</th>
<th>Secure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>120 days on server</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Kaltura (Personal Capture)</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes (My Media)</td>
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<td>VoiceThread</td>
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<td>Yes (via links)</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes (but not ideal)</td>
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* Might be possible with new LMS.
Captioning Standards

Captions should be:

✓ Accurate (~99%)
✓ Synchronized to the audio
✓ Readable
✓ Positioned on screen so they do not block important information

Auto-captions vs. Human-generated captions

- Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR)
- A good starting point but not accurate enough to meet captioning standards for accommodations
Auto-Captioning Shortfalls

• Even small errors make a big difference
• Unedited captions can lead to unfortunate mistakes
• Auto-captioning performs poorly with complex or technical vocab, proper names, accented speech, and poor audio quality
• Does not meet accessibility standards
Live Transcription/Captioning

1. Captioner accesses audio remotely
2. Uses CART or text-interpreting to caption audio in real-time
3. Transmits captions to end user either as CC on screen or to a 3rd party web platform
Live Captioning as an Accommodation

What: Human-generated captioning provided by ACS (3rd party service contracted by IC)

How: Captioner accesses audio via Zoom and delivers real-time captions to student via a web-app

Why: ACS captioners are highly trained. They deliver accurate captions across all course content (technical vocab!)
• Meets or exceeds current accessibility standards
Live Captioning as an Accommodation

SAS will inform you if human-captioning will be used in your class and the name of the student using this accommodation.

Instructor’s Role and Responsibilities:
• Provide SAS up-to-date Zoom links and passwords.
• Assign ACS captioners to breakout rooms with the student requiring captioning.
• Notify SAS and Cameron Rule (crule@ithaca.edu) a minimum of 48 hours in advance of class cancellations or changes
  ❖ ACS is strict in their cancellation policy, requiring advance notice. We get billed without proper notice.
Live Auto-Captioning in Zoom

• New feature in Fall 2020 – ASR via Otter.ai
• Hosts of Zoom meeting can switch on Live Transcription.
• Students can turn captions on/off, depending on preference

Why and when should we use it?
While not an accommodation, live auto-captions can be deployed as a student learning resource:
• Multiple representations of information = universal design of learning
• Easy, free way of supporting all students and promoting accessible practices
Questions?

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https://www.ithaca.edu/sas/