CREATING A DIGITAL ARTEFACT

Western's Digital Uplift Framework encourages academics to have an active presence in the Technology-Enabled Learning (TEL) environment. Presenting your research proposal via a digital artefact is an opportunity to engage with resources available to all Western staff and gain experience in using them, a skill that may translate to teaching practice.

WHAT IS A DIGITAL ARTEFACT?

A digital artefact is an electronic version of you or your research team's research question, methodology, sample/participants, and the expected benefits of the project.

You can create any type of digital artefact you'd like (video, interactive poster or info-graphic, podcast etc.). Your artefact should take no longer than 3-5 minutes for the audience to experience/understand.

HOW DO I CREATE A DIGITAL ARTEFACT?

You can choose to use whatever equipment they have (laptop, phone etc.) and are encouraged to select from the many resources available to you through Western.

- Learning Futures have several [workshop recordings](#) on video recording from home, Panopto and [WOS Studio](#) facilities

- Digital U also have a workshop recording on [Video Creation](#) using the Adobe Creative Cloud (licenced for all Western staff members)

- Why not engage in Western's Open Learning platform and receive a credential whilst learning about [Video Production Fundamentals](#)?

- Or look at [H5P Interactive Content](#)?

Additionally, there are online (free) resources to assist you to create or enhance your digital artefact. Some examples are:

- [Canva](#) is a free online graphic design tool which you can use to create presentations, posters, videos, logos and more
- [Pexels](#) gives you access to high-quality royalty free stock images and copyright free pictures

CREATE A VIDEO: TIPS

There are many ways to create a video explaining your project. You can do a zoom recording of a PowerPoint, or video yourself speaking to a camera. You can also communicate your project story using some of the following:

- creative commons video clips
- self-created animation clips
- audio
- text in screen

You can create a video with multiple media sources on a smartphone. Some potentially useful tools include:

- Splice
- iMovie
- Video Editor

These tools allow you to upload different media files, merge and edit them to create a final polished short movie. If you are looking for more formal instruction on how to create a video you can access LinkedIn Learning.

The most useful way to plan a movie is to use storyboarding. A storyboard is a sequence of drawings that represent the shots planned for a video production. Learn more about storyboarding at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwXEETD_Xfo.

CREATE A POSTER: TIPS

The following video presents some key features of graphic design to communicate a message - https://youtu.be/a5KYlHNKQB8.

Some key considerations are:

- **Can you understand the infographic/poster without asking any questions in 3 minutes?** If not, you might want to reduce the amount of text and images/audio/video while still being clear and complete.
- **Can you read all the text and see all the images/video clearly without having to zoom in or bring the infographic/poster closer to you?** If not, you might need to increase the size of your text and the size of your images.

You can make a digital poster or infographic interactive by including links to other digital media. This could be an audio recording of you explaining something in more detail, or it could be images that you have permission to use to support the explanation of your project.