

VoiceThread: A Tale of Success



JHSPH Center for Teaching and Learning





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What is VoiceThread?

Overview: VoiceThread Described

- ▶ What it is
 - ▶ “collaboration-optional” tool for communication that can convey images, videos, and documents along with text, audio/visual comments, and stylus-driven annotations.



Overview: Features

- ▶ What you can do with it
 - ▶ Collaborative or Solo Edit
 - ▶ Stand alone & export
 - ▶ Invite feedback (comments) & interact/respond...



Overview: Pedagogical Uses

- ▶ How it can be used in a course
 - ▶ Lecture alternative
 - ▶ Student activity
 - ▶ Assessment
 - Peer
 - Faculty





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A JHSPH VoiceThread Testimonial

Online History of Medicine

- ▶ Using VoiceThread to Create Seminar-Style Discussions





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VoiceThread Basics

jhu.voicethread.com Enterprise Account

Advantages:

- ▶ Single sign-in from CoursePlus
- ▶ Export credits
- ▶ All students and faculty already have account
- ▶ All faculty can have a Pro account

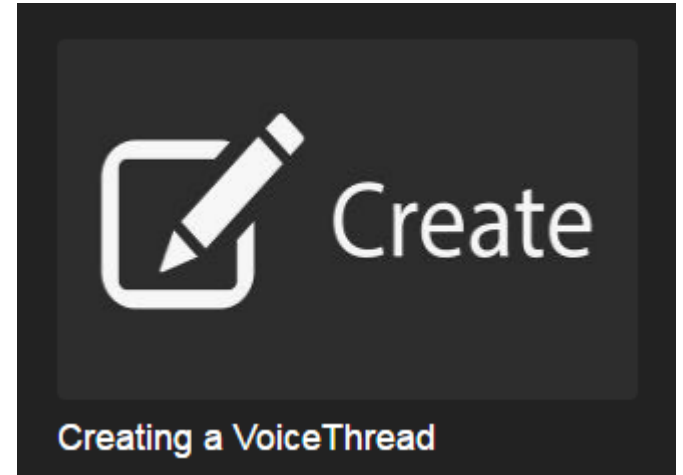


Pro accounts:

- ▶ *Create Groups*
- ▶ *Upload Audio & Video Comments*

Creating a VoiceThread

- ▶ Gather materials
- ▶ Log into VoiceThread & click “Create”
- ▶ "Add Media"
- ▶ Provide title, description, and Playback Options
- ▶ Allow media to process
- ▶ Comment and/or annotate each slide
- ▶ Share



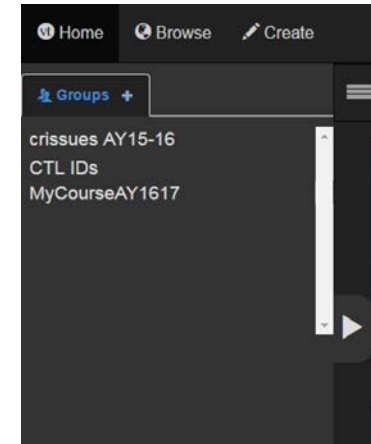
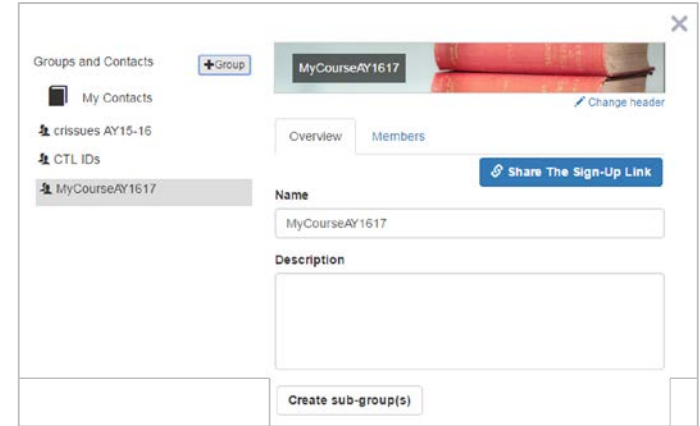
Groups

Collection of Individuals, e.g.:

- ▶ Co-Teaching Faculty
- ▶ Students for AY and Term
 - ▶ Sub-groups

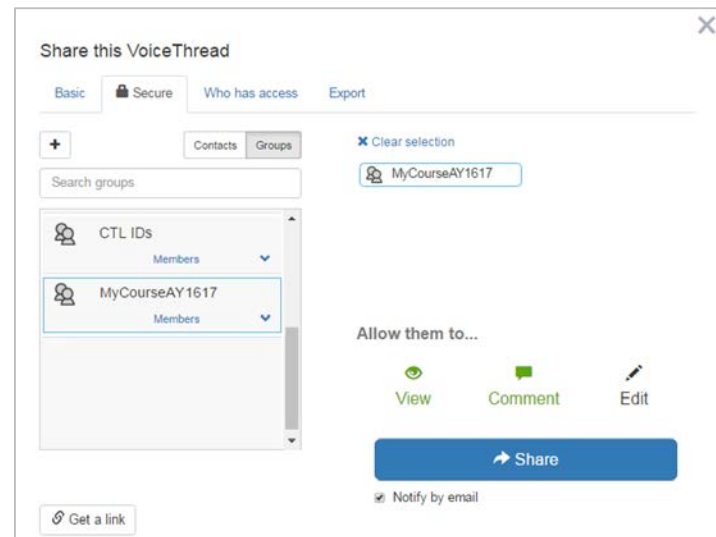
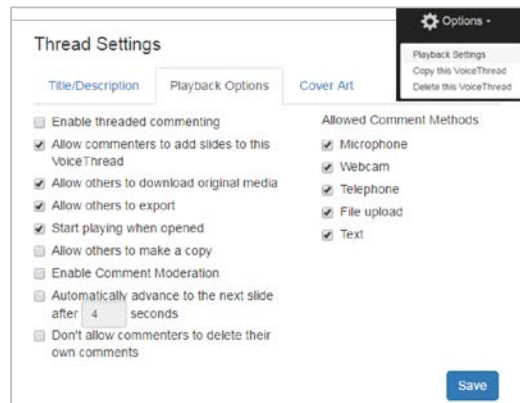
Benefits include:

- ▶ Easy to share
- ▶ Easy to set permissions
- ▶ Acts as a Filter
- ▶ Notifications



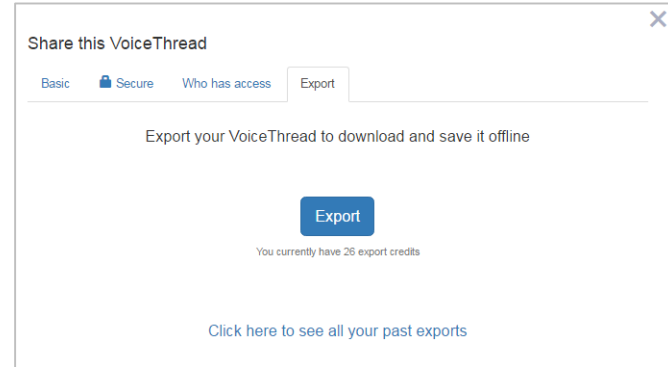
Sharing

- ▶ Playback Options
 - ▶ Comments
 - ▶ Exports
- ▶ Basic Share
 - ▶ Copy & Paste Link
 - ▶ View, Comment
- ▶ Secure Share Options
 - ▶ View, Comment, Edit
 - ▶ Notifications
 - ▶ “MyVoice” (Home page)
 - ▶ Optional: Email Link
- ▶ Who has Access



Export

- ▶ Video archive of VoiceThread
 - ▶ non-interactive
- ▶ Upload to CoursePlus
 - ▶ Lecture Materials
 - ▶ Transcript
 - ▶ Original Media PDF
- ▶ Export Credits (HQ video)





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Best Practices Using VoiceThread in your Course

Presentation Tips

- ▶ PowerPoint files – older (ppt) seems to work better; optional PDF
- ▶ Audio and Video comments:
 - ▶ Save audio comments every minute or so, your next comment will run immediately after and it saves time if you make a mistake
 - ▶ Test your audio before you begin, and keep levels consistent
 - ▶ Record audio comments in a quiet, distraction-free space
- ▶ Keep a copy of your ppts, you cannot download them later from VT
- ▶ If using as lecture supplement – export (using export credits) High Quality video

Making a VoiceThread Interactive

- ▶ Allow students to practice; encourage video
- ▶ Set clear and detailed expectations for students
 - ▶ Audio/video comments should not exceed x-minutes (or 2-3 max)
 - ▶ Please respond to two or three other student's comments
 - ▶ Not everyone should respond to the prompt, after the first handful, respond to each other
 - ▶ Encourage critical thinking, similar to a classroom
 - Making connections, drawing conclusions
 - Asking questions for further discussion
 - Giving opinions
- ▶ Check in, sum up what's been said, add new questions/slides to steer discussion

VoiceThread as a Tool for Assessment

- ▶ Avoid using class time to review entire VoiceThread presentations
- ▶ Evaluate individual comments on lecture (similar to Discussion Forum posts)
- ▶ Student-Created VoiceThreads
 - ▶ Decide how VT will be submitted
 - ▶ Evaluate Presentation
 - Private to Instructor or Shared with Class
 - ▶ Evaluate comments (similar to faculty's VT comments)
 - ▶ Consider Peer or Self Evaluation



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Recap

Summary

- ▶ VoiceThread is a “collaboration-optional” tool for communication that can convey images, videos, and documents along with text, audio/visual comments, and stylus-driven annotations.
- ▶ Examples from History of Medicine Program
- ▶ Benefits of Tool
 - ▶ Enterprise account
 - ▶ Easy to Use
 - ▶ Collaborative
- ▶ Best Practices
 - ▶ CTL can assist