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# Podcasting and the Academic Library

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Colorado State University Libraries  
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## Why podcast?

- Alternate method of instruction
  - Way to convey little bits of info
  - New tool for outreach
  - Personal curiosity
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Before we began...

- Reviewed literature on podcasting
  - Surveyed other academic podcasts
    - [Kresge Library, University of Michigan](#)
    - [Curtin University Podcasts](#)
    - [Glasgow University Library Podcasts](#)
    - [Johns Hopkins Sheridan Library Podcasts](#)
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## Five main steps:

1. Get the tools (hardware and software, etc.)
  2. Write scripts
  3. Record
  4. Edit and polish
  5. Post online
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## Step 1: Get the tools

- Dell laptop
  - Logistics microphone
  - Software: Audacity (open-source recording and editing software:  
<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>)
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Audacity

File Edit View Project Generate Effect Analyze Help

Audio T... 1.0  
Mono, 44100Hz  
32-bit float  
Mute Solo  
L R  
-1.0

Recording time remaining: 10 hours and 37 minutes  
Project rate: 44100 Cursor: 0:00.000000 min:sec [Snap To Off]



## Step 2: Write scripts

- Harder than we thought!
  - Need to determine content
  - Constant cycle of writing, editing, recording, re-writing, re-editing, re-recording
  - 5 minute podcast = many pages of written text
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## Step 3: Record

- Learning curve with Audacity software
    - [“How to Podcast” tutorial](#) very helpful
  - Need to become comfortable with recording yourself speaking
  - Sound quality/voice modulation
    - Dubbing
    - Background noise
    - Volume
    - Time of day/voice quality
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## Step 4: Edit and polish

- Editing with Audacity takes practice
  - Added music from Podshow's Podsafe Music Network (<http://music.podshow.com/>)
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## Step 5: Post online

- Area on library web page
  - RSS feed/XML coding
  - Links to other web sites (business, CO150)
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## Finished product

- 5 business podcasts
  - 4 CO150 podcasts
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## CSU Campus podcast community

- Chemistry department is podcasting some lectures
  - Investigating iTunesU online service (campus-wide)
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## Future plans

- Record additional podcasts
  - Assess existing podcasts
    - Survey library student workers
    - Feedback form on podcast web page
  - Market podcasts to campus
    - Links from library home page, business blog, CO150 web site
    - In-class promotion to instructors and students
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Questions?

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