

Getting Started with Panopto

What is Panopto?

Panopto is Saint Louis University's choice for lesson capture and recording software that is fully-integrated with Blackboard Learn. You can record lessons using PowerPoint, Keynote, and other presentation programs, create interactive videos with quizzes and discussions, or have students create their own video presentations for use in your course. Panopto offers multiple recording options (e.g., webcam imaging plus a screencast of your desktop) as well as robust editing features, which makes it a versatile tool when moving in-progress courses online.

How do I get started?

We recommend that you start by downloading and installing Panopto on your computer by accessing the Panopto app in MySLU under the **Tools** tab.

Minimum requirements to use Panopto:

- **Microphone**, such as the built-in microphone on your computer, a USB microphone, or an inline microphone on headphones;
- **Webcam**, such as the built-in camera on your computer, a USB webcam, or a Bluetooth enabled device;
- A dedicated **Internet** connection;
- An updated **operating system**, such as MacOS X 10.15 or later or Windows XP, 7,8, or 10; and
- An up-to-date **web browser**, such as Microsoft Edge, Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari (Mac).

You will need to enable Panopto in your course(s) on Blackboard by clicking on **Tools** and then **Panopto Content**. This will add the **Panopto Course Tool Application** link to your course (repeat this step for each class), which students will need to click on in order to access and view your recordings. Additional step-by-step instructions for downloading, installing, and setting up Panopto for use in Blackboard are available by visiting the ITS Academic Tech Commons Panopto site [[LINK](#)].

How can I use Panopto in my course(s)?

Panopto can support continuity of instruction in several ways if you or your students are impacted by University closures or unforeseen circumstances.

Record lecture content with interactive features:

Most faculty will utilize Panopto for the ability to record lectures that students can view later at their own pace. You have the option of recording via your webcam and/or microphone in addition to capturing your desktop, with a PowerPoint or Google doc, set as your secondary screen. This functionality is helpful for mimicking on-ground lectures and allowing students to see and hear you, which is helpful in the event you or your students are unable to meet in person. In addition, you can incorporate interactive features, such as quizzes or discussions, and pair automated captions with your video content by using the editor. These interactive features are helpful for breaking-up lecture content, providing formative checks on student learning, and ensuring the accessibility of your videos.

Create tutorials, demonstrations, or individualized feedback:

The secondary screen recording option makes it easy for faculty to use Panopto for a variety of teaching goals. You can create “how-to” or “getting started” tutorials or demonstrations by capturing your movements in a web browser or using a drawing application on your desktop to walk students through a problem-set. In addition, you can record audio and/or video feedback for student submissions by setting a Word document or discussion board as the secondary screen and then uploading the file with your comments as an attachment when grading in Blackboard.

Assign student video presentations or responses:

Students also have access and the ability to create personalized video content for learning activities or course assessments. If you are worried that online discussion boards lack the interactivity that marks your face-to-face courses, ask students to record a video of their discussion posts and responses using Panopto. If you planned an end-of-the-semester paper or group presentation, consider having students create this content in Panopto as well. Just be sure to provide instructions to students on how to download and use Panopto for use in your course.

What resources are available to me?

For faculty or student technical support related to Panopto, please call the 24/7 ITS Help Desk at 314-977-4000 or [email](#) Panopto Support to open a ticket. For pedagogical support to develop any of the above strategies or methods in your course, contact the Reinert Center, ctl@slu.edu, or schedule a consultation [[LINK](#)] with Reinert Center staff.