

# INSPIRING INNOVATION: LESSONS LEARNED FROM AN ACADEMIC-LIBRARY-STUDENT PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT

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## INTRODUCTION

- INCLUDING STUDENTS AS PARTNERS IN LEARNING OFFERS A CRITICAL MEANS OF ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO ENGAGE MORE DEEPLY IN THEIR LEARNING.
- COLLABORATION INCLUDED THE LIBRARY, SCHOOL OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES AND SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY PRODUCING RESOURCES FOR UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING ABOUT DIGITAL RESEARCH SKILLS IN THE BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES PROGRAMME AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN (UCD).

## STUDENTS AS PARTNERS (SAP) MODEL

- EMERGING MODEL OF 'STUDENTS AS PARTNERS' (SAP) IS GAINING MOMENTUM IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND IS SEEN AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO NOURISH TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING IN MULTIPLE WAYS.
- APPROACH CREATES MORE EGALITARIAN, INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS, WHERE STUDENTS AND STAFF SHAPE UNIVERSITY TEACHING TOGETHER. SAP ALLOWS STUDENTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CURRICULUM AND THEIR OWN LEARNING DIFFERENTLY FROM FORMAL CURRICULUM PROCESSES AND RECOGNISES THE VALUE OF STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES.



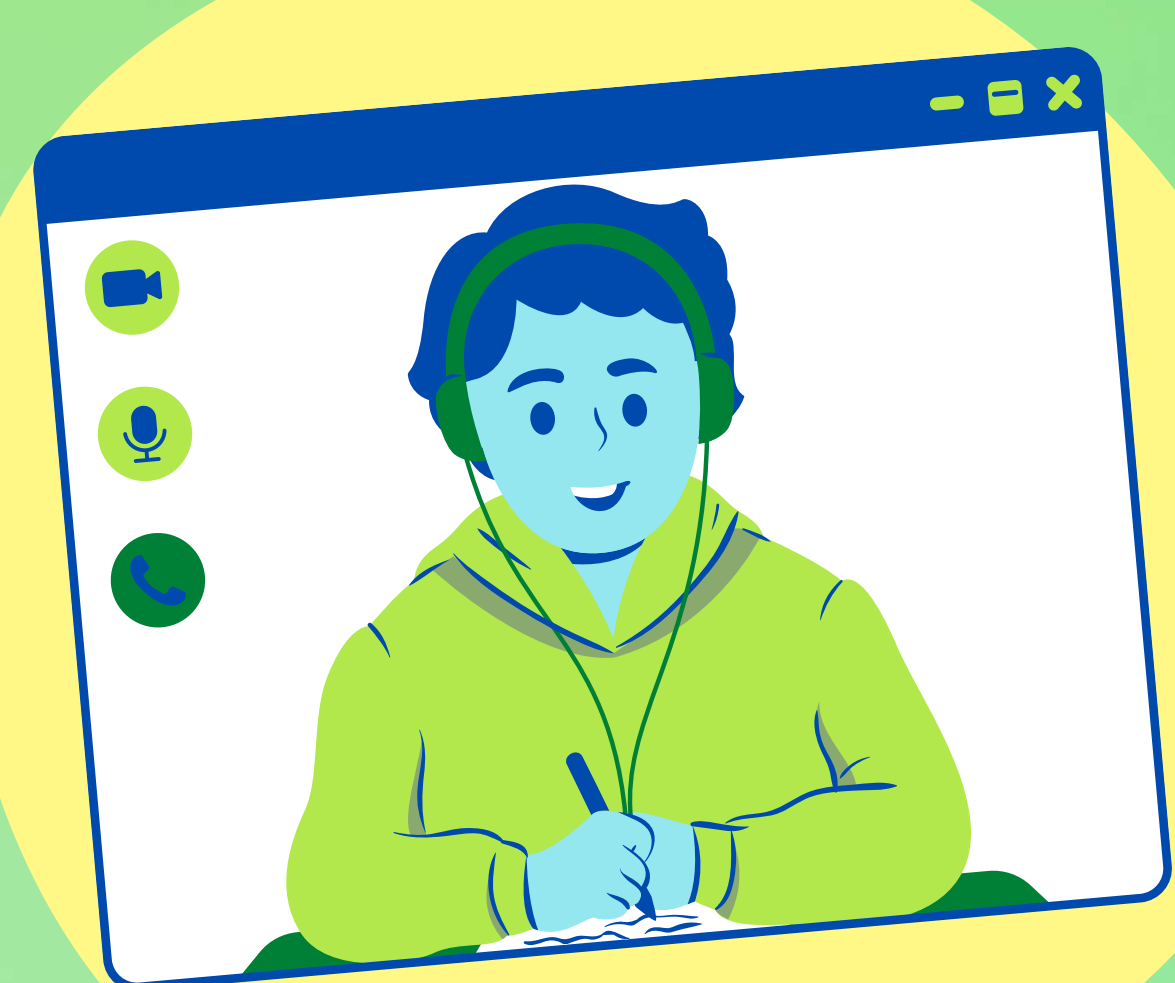
## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND VIDEO PRODUCTION

- MODULE DELIVERED FULLY ONLINE IN A SELF-PACED FORMAT WITH TUTOR SUPPORT. IMPORTANTLY, THE CONTENT OFFERED STUDENTS A STRUCTURED LEARNING PATHWAY.
- VIDEOS WERE INTEGRATED AS A COMPONENT OF THE MODULE ASSESSMENT. THE ASSESSMENT REQUIRED STUDENTS TO COMPLETE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS READINGS AND E-TUTORIALS, TO DEVELOP THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF A GIVEN RESEARCH TOPIC, COMPLETE TASKS SUCH AS DEVELOPING A RESEARCH QUESTION AND WRITING A REFLECTION ON THEIR LEARNING EXPERIENCE.
- FOCUS ON VIDEO PRODUCTION PROVIDED A FOCAL POINT FOR DIGITAL RESEARCH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT.
- IMMEDIATE IMPACT OF THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN PROACTIVE STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODULE CONTENT.
- IMPORTANTLY, STUDENTS INVOLVED WITH THIS PROJECT HAVE RECOGNISED NOT ONLY THE POTENTIAL OF THEIR NEW DIGITAL SKILLS FOR THEIR OWN ACADEMIC STUDIES, BUT ALSO THE IMPORTANCE OF A PEER APPROACH FOR EMBEDDING SKILLS IN LEARNING AS THE MODULE CONTINUES.



## FINDINGS

- STUDENT ACCOUNTS SHOW THAT THE VIDEO PROJECT HAS BEEN BENEFICIAL, FOR THEIR DIGITAL RESEARCH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND THEIR PERSONAL SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE MODULE.
- SAP MODEL CLEARLY IMBUES STUDENTS WITH A SENSE OF OWNERSHIP OF THEIR LEARNING, ENCOURAGING STAFF TO TAKE HEED OF IMPORTANT STUDENT PERSPECTIVES.
- UCD'S COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND LAW HAS FORMALLY ADOPTED OUR DIGITAL RESEARCH SKILLS MODULE AS AN OPTION.
- MODULE HAS BEEN RENAMED DIGITAL RESEARCH SKILLS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES AND FEATURES THE STUDENT VIDEO CONTENT PRODUCED IN THIS PROJECT. THE STUDENT VIDEOS WILL SUPPORT FUTURE STUDENT COHORTS IN THEIR LEARNING ABOUT DIGITAL RESEARCH SKILLS.
- INCOMING STUDENTS WILL WATCH PREVIOUS STUDENTS' VIDEOS AS A REQUIRED PART OF MODULE CONTENT.
- VIDEO TRAINING AND STUDENT VIDEO ASSESSMENT WILL REMAIN PART OF THE MODULE MOVING FORWARD, WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE GROWING BODY OF STUDENT-DRIVEN RESOURCES.



"SHOULD FUTURE STUDENTS BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A VIDEO, MY VIDEO IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW YOU CAN CREATE HIGH QUALITY CONTENT WITH LITTLE PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE ON VIDEO EDITING. JUST AS PREVIOUS STUDENTS' SAMPLE VIDEOS REASSURED ME, I HOPE THAT MY VIDEO WILL ALSO PROVIDE REASSURANCE WHILE TEACHING SOMETHING NEW."

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT 1

"I HOPE OTHER STUDENTS SEE THAT I REALLY ENJOYED SCRIPTING, SETTING UP THE CORRECT LIGHTING, AND FILMING THE VIDEO. I THINK IT IS QUITE APPARENT BY HOW SMILEY I WAS WHILE RECORDING IT. FINALLY, I HOPE THEY APPRECIATE THE EDITING, SUCH AS HOW I ADDED IN A TITLE BEFORE EACH SECTION. THIS COULD OPEN FUTURE STUDENTS' IMAGINATION TO COOL EDITS WHEN CREATING AND IMPROVING THEIR VIDEOS."

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT 2

"IT WAS REASSURING TO SEE STUDENTS WHO APPROACHED THE PROJECT WITH LITTLE CONFIDENCE TO THEN PRODUCE A REUSABLE VIDEO RESOURCE OF WHICH THEY WERE PROUD, AND IT HAS TAUGHT ME TECHNIQUES FOR EMPOWERING OTHERS IN BOTH THEIR LEARNING AND CAREER PATH."

VIDEO AND PROJECT ASSISTANT

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- UCD'S COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND LAW
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