# **YouSeeU Use Cases and Best Practices**

## Introduction

YouSeeU has been used in World Campus classes since at least 2011. At this time, it is used by approximately 50% of instructional designers within Learning Design and in at least 12 courses and one academic program. Some key features of YouSeeU include:

* It provides a secure, class-based environment.
* There is no limit to the number or size of videos.
* It allows the creation and sharing of student-produced videos both as individual assignments and as group projects.
* It has unique features such as the ability to upload slides to be displayed alongside video, to host “on-the-spot” video questions from instructors, and to host student video conversations.

Please note that this document is not intended to replace detailed documentation on how to use YouSeeU. For more information about how to use YouSeeU’s features, see

## Use Cases

YouSeeU is currently being used in the following capacities. The use cases below are divided by assignment type in YouSeeU.

### Skills Demonstration

Students create video where they work with kids on certain behaviors. Video is shared on YouSeeU.

### Case Study

Students are asked to present their findings on a case study or inquiry project. This is also done in a group setting.

### Individual presentation in a video planning and production class

Students complete various video production/editing assignments and comment on classmates’ projects and receive feedback from the instructor.

### Q&A

Here, class activities include impromptu speeches, impromptu challenges around lesson concepts, and brainstorming with feedback. Students need to be able to think on the spot about certain concepts, demonstrate their understanding of content, and receive feedback (**On the spot Q&A** assignment type).

### Debate

Students sign up for a controversial topic and take either a pro or a con position on that topic. They then record videos and add synced Power Point slides in order to present their side of the issue. Finally, students are required to respond to the videos of others. (**Video Presentation** assignment type in NURS 245 – Alicia Swaggerty)

## Best Practices

### Adding students to groups

* Add students to groups and group projects/presentations AFTER the drop/add period and after students have had the chance to click on the YouSeeU course link (thus self-registering in the YouSeeU course environment), in order to prevent problems with team balancing in the YouSeeU environment. Accordingly, groups in ANGEL are not connected to groups in YouSeeU. This is a suggestion only in order to prevent technical difficulties and additional work – the design and teaching philosophies in your courses may dictate otherwise. Regardless, understand the limitations and plan accordingly.
* Students have no way of seeing who else is in their group within the YouSeeU environment. Have a plan to share this information with them.

### Student Onboarding

* As with any third party technology outside the LMS/CMS, students new to YouSeeU will need time to adjust to and get comfortable with the tool. There are several tutorials offered by YouSeeU that can help with this.
* It is recommended that a low-stakes introductory assignment, to be completed within the YouSeeU environment, be added to the class work. An example of this might be a short two-minute video where a student is to explain what she hopes to get out of the class.

### Use YouSeeU features for better student engagement

Use the features of YouSeeU to their max in order to increase student engagement. Some ideas:

* Allow student commenting on one another’s projects. Allow timed comments for best effect.
* Use team-based peer review with a rubric for targeted feedback

### Explain activities clearly

In order to minimize student confusion, take the time to explain expectations and functionality for each assignment, preferably within the activity description itself. Features like peer commenting and grading method/rubric are not immediately apparent from the student perspective.

### Video Editing

Though YouSeeU is an optimal environment for sharing and submitting video-based assignments, it does not include advanced tools for editing. Where editing video is a primary objective of a class assignment, students should be directed to use iMovie, Windows Movie Maker, or similar tools for editing video before uploading them to the YouSeeU environment.

### Alternative to ANGEL Drop Boxes for large assignments

Video files are notoriously large, and when ANGEL drop boxes are used by students to submit them, your ANGEL class space is in danger of approaching or exceeding the 1 GB size limit. Consider YouSeeU in order to mitigate this problem.

## Conclusion

YouSeeU has seen robust usage in World Campus classes. The breadth of use cases described here reflects well the breadth of possible ways to use Yammer, including individual video, group presentations, and Q&A. One “beta” application currently in YouSeeU that is not reflected in these use cases is Student Conversations. Since there is no documentation available yet for this feature, and since our own internal testing has revealed significant problems, we cannot yet recommend its use in World Campus classes.

However, for applications similar to the use cases described above, we can heartily recommend that YouSeeU be considered in World Campus courses going forward. It is supported already by our Help Desk, and performs strongly in an accessibility evaluation.

## Thank you

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## Supplement: Decision Tool for Course Designers