Camtasia: Captioning

The purpose of this document is to educate users about federal and state legislation and CSU policies in place to ensure technology resources are accessible to all users.

What is Captioning and How Does it Work:

Captioning is an alternative text that transcribes what you may hear or see, typically for users with a visual and/or hearing impairment. Captioning is not only for users with disabilities, it can also help users whose primary language is not English, or help users to learn special terminologies.

Captions only work in accessible video or audio players that allow the user to enable captions. When captions are enabled, the user will be able to view a transcript that is timely synced with the media playing.

Please see the example below of what a video may look like when captions are enabled:

Why is Captioning Important:

Captioning is not only important because it assists users with disabilities, but it is also the law. Specifically, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. In addition, the Accessible Technology Initiative (ATI) from the Chancellor’s Office has set out a commitment to ensure all technology resources and services are available to all CSU affiliates through Executive Order 926 (EO 926).

Briefly, these laws and policies are in place to help remove the barriers created by technology that prevent people with disabilities equal access to information such as programs, services, or activities.

The Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is another approach to consider when creating course materials accessible. The goal of UDL is to promote creative design of barrier-free or accessible instructional materials, activities and assessments that will reach out to as many students possible, regardless of their learning styles, cognitive, physical or sensory abilities.
How to Make My Camtasia Video Accessible

There are several resources to make your Camtasia video accessible, but your choice will all depend on whether you followed a transcript while recording.

Users that do not follow a transcript can use the speech-to-text options offered by YouTube or Camtasia, but does require editing based on the clarity of the audio used in your video.

Please see the workflow below to visualize the avenues you must follow when captioning your Camtasia Videos:

Resources

Captioning Services are sponsored by both Academic Technology (AT) and the Center for Faculty Development (CFD). Captioning Services are free to SJSU, but it is important to submit your Captioning Request Form in a timely manner.

In addition, CFD offers YouTube Captioning Tutorials and hands-on training which can be found on their Events Page.