



Enhancing student learning through the use of instructional videos in lab courses

Professor Stephanie Loeb
Department of Civil Engineering
stephanie.loeb@mcgill.ca



Course Information

Course: CIVE430 Water Treatment and Pollution Control

- Design technical elective
- Four lab sessions that cover an array of common water and wastewater quality analysis
- Usually has students from civil, chemical, and bioresource engineering
- Large variations in previous wet lab experience

Objectives

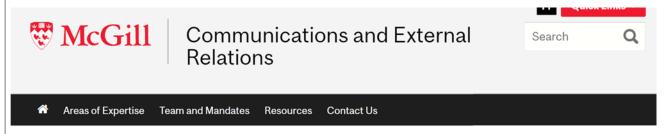
Course: CIVE430 Water Treatment and Pollution Control

Objectives in creating lab demonstration videos

- Study aid for pre-lab quiz and lab report
- Safety net for potential future interruptions in access to in-person lab
- Increase familiarity with equipment and safety procedure
- Increase student confidence in the lab

Funding and Resources

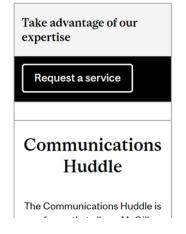
ELATE Teaching and Learning Improvement Fund



Video Production



Frank Roop Video Producer 514-398-3700, Ext. 2







EUSF Engineering Undergraduate Support Fund

Planning & Creation

Video Content

- Introductory Statement (theory)
- Safety Statement (identification of key hazards)
- Demonstration with narration

My Advice: the video cannot replace the lab manual

- Keep the demonstration somewhat general (avoid noting exact quantities or times) to avoid any contradictions with what is actually done on the day
- Focus on instrumentation and identification of hazards

Evaluation & Student Reception

Fall 2022 session is the first time that the videos are fully integrated into the course – 2 of 4 lab sessions completed so far

- For 2022, no labs sessions yet required extra time (compared to 2021, in which lab session 1 went significantly overtime). Qualitatively, student are observed to be working more efficiently
- Scores on the pre-lab quizzes slightly higher (2022: 94%, 90%; 2021: 89%, 90%)
- Submitted lab reports of higher quality (2022: 85%; 2021 78%)
- Student verbally report to use the videos primarily after the lab to help them recall the
 procedure performed while completing the lab report
- End of the semester survey will ask students to report on the usefulness of the videos, and their impact on their perceived confidence in the lab

