

Panopto in Classrooms: Instructor Survey, 2017

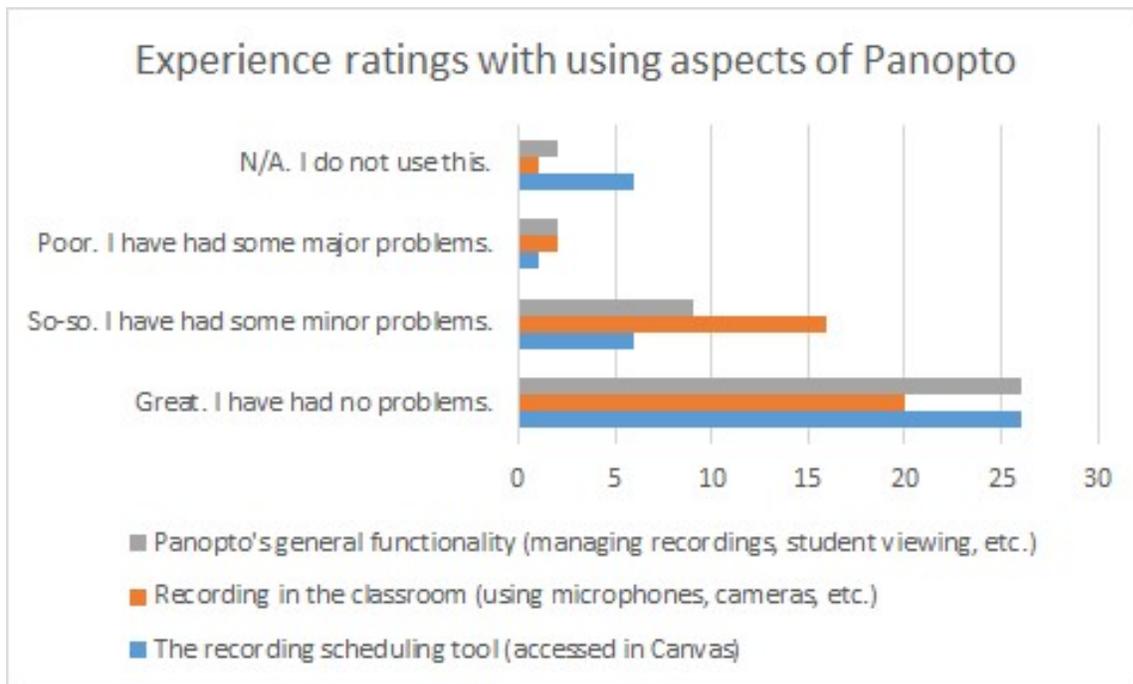
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Introduction

The goal of this short survey was to learn what instructors know about automated recording -- whether they're aware of it and what their experience has been like when using it and Panopto in general. We sent the survey to 585 faculty who are teaching in classrooms equipped with Panopto recorders, and we received responses from 74.

Awareness and usage

Over half (52.7%) of the respondents use automated recordings in their classrooms. Of those, most report having no problems (62%) or having minor problems (24%) with Panopto's general functionality, recording in the classroom, and using the scheduling tool.



Issues using automated recording

We asked instructors to describe any issues they had. Eight described problems with microphones, including dead batteries, volume issues, and forgetting to use the mics. Five mentioned using the wrong cables (Mac users need to use the VGA cable, not the HDMI one). Four wrote that finding the scheduling tool and confirming that recordings were scheduled were challenging.

Benefits of using Panopto

Many instructors described the benefits of using Panopto. The benefit they listed most often is that students who miss class are able to make up the lecture without the instructor having to review the key concepts (61%). Students are able to spend office hour time asking questions instead of repeating the lecture. Over half of the instructors described how students were able to review the lecture to learn complex information they may have missed the first time around or to do general review of course content. Others wrote that the recordings are very helpful for students whose first language is not English and students with disabilities. Below are selected comments about the benefits of recording:

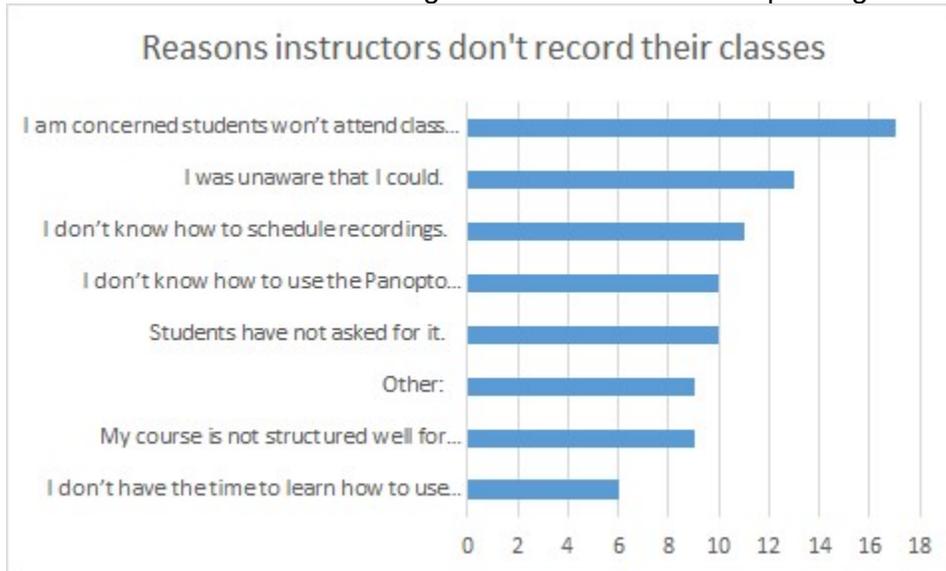
1. I talk too fast, especially for ESL students; this allows the students to listen to something over again if they need to hear it twice.
2. I'm tired of hearing "I missed class today; did you say anything important?" My answer: "Probably; why don't you watch Panopto?"
3. It cuts down on the "reteach" portion of office hours; now when students come in, they say they've already reviewed Panopto but still have some questions instead of asking me to do an entire section over again.
4. I am a hero to my students; they love the fact that recordings of classes are available and use them if they miss class and also for review (I've heard there are "popcorn with Jane" nights for particularly difficult topics). Surprisingly, I have found that almost all of my students still attend the class in person. They tell me Panopto is a great backup if they are sick, but it's not a substitute for being in class. I used to provide audio recordings before we had Panopto, but this is so much better!

I use the recordings so that students who have to be absent may watch the lecture after class. For many of my students, English is their second language, and I know many of them find it very helpful to watch lectures again, to catch points they missed. Some students are not as adept at taking notes during class, so the lecture capture gives them a second change [sic] to watch & take notes at their own pace.

Many students cannot come to classes in person for many reasons. The Lecture Capture gives an excellent way for student to catch up and also for students who want to review the class materials. We can also pre-tape our lectures if we need to go out of town.

Reasons instructors do not use lecture capture

Thirty-five instructors did not record their classes. We asked them to select all the reasons they aren't using Panopto. Nearly half (48.6%) expressed concern that students wouldn't attend class, and 37.1% weren't aware that they could record their courses. The other top reasons were a lack of technical knowledge and lack of students requesting the recordings.



Recommendations and changes made

After this survey, we labeled the cables in classroom, so instructors will know which cable to use. We also sent an additional message before the quarter started to let instructors know that they are teaching in classrooms equipped with recorders, and that they can schedule their recordings. We are also going to revise our documentation to better answer some questions and publicize Panopto more.