Lecture recording at the University of Auckland

Student Guidelines

The University of Auckland recognises that students lead busy lifestyles. The provision of flexible learning options is one way of helping you to achieve a high quality learning experience. Lecture recordings are being made available for some courses to enable you to review recordings of lectures in your own time.

What can be recorded?
Lecture recordings are able to capture the lecturer’s voice (provided the microphone is on) and whatever is being displayed via the nominated recorded projector in the lecture theatre.

Using Recorded Lectures
Experience shows that some students choose to use recorded lectures as an additional learning tool to reinforce and review the lecture content. Others use them as a lecture recap if they are not able to attend. This may be for a variety of reasons: work and family commitments or sickness... In this case lecture recordings can help you to catch up on missed lectures so you don’t fall behind in your studies. However, the recording of a lecture is not guaranteed as occasionally the recorded lecture is not usable due to human/technical issues.

Even though your lecturers may have made lecture recordings available, they will usually expect you to be physically present at lectures. There are sound educational reasons for this, for example:

- The lecture contains live demonstrations, or copyright materials which cannot be made available via recorded lectures
- The lecture incorporates problem solving in small groups, discussions or other interactions that are difficult to capture in a recording
- The content of the lecture is needed for a tutorial, lab or similar that follows shortly after the lecture
- The lecture is used to get to know you, gauge your progress, identify problems you are encountering and give you immediate feedback.

As well as the educational reasons for attending lectures, think too about:

The social advantages - you get to meet up with others in your course, exchange ideas and make new friendships.

The convenience - attending lectures in a regular timeslot can help you to establish a routine for study. Some students find they don't get around to reviewing recorded lectures when they don't have an established routine.

Why not do both? Remember - it is not an either/or decision. Some students choose to attend lectures then review the recorded lectures to supplement their learning by:

- revising for exams
- revisiting complex ideas and concepts
- working at their own pace and place of convenience
- picking up on things that they missed in class
- going back and taking comprehensive notes after the lecture so they can concentrate on what is happening in the lecture
- checking what was said before approaching their lecturer for clarification of issues, ideas or misunderstandings.

It’s good practice to:
- establish a weekly routine for reviewing the lectures
- review the entire recording at least once, stopping or recapping as required

Beware: It’s easy to fall behind and hard to catch up. It is not a good idea to review several weeks of lectures at a time. The lecture is usually only one aspect of the entire course. Other learning activities often depend on an understanding of the lecture content. Try not to fall behind with the lectures - by doing so you will be placing the rest of your learning at risk.

How can I access recorded lectures?
If your course lecture has been recorded, and your lecturer has chosen to publish the recording, you will be able to access it via your course in the CECIL learning management system. Remember, lecture recording is being piloted in only some courses, and there is no guarantee that all course lectures will be available to you as recordings. In CECIL, your lecturer will provide URL links to the lecture in common media file formats.

You can access a lecture recording by streaming it through your computer, or by downloading it for use on your computer or an audio/video-capable mobile device, eg iPod or mobile phone. All recorded lecture links will stop working seven weeks after the end of the examination period for the course.

Are there restrictions on my use of recorded lectures?
You are only permitted to make use of recorded lectures as follows:

Advice to students permitted to record lectures
The content and delivery of lectures in this course are protected by copyright. Material belonging to others may have been used in these lectures and copied by and solely for the educational purposes of the University under licence. You may record the lectures for the purposes of private study or research, but you may not sell, alter or further reproduce or distribute any part of these lectures to any other person. Failure to comply with the terms of this warning may expose you to legal action for copyright infringement by the copyright owner and/or disciplinary action by the University.

Reporting Issues with Recorded Lectures
If your lecture has no picture or no sound, please report the issue to the Kate Edgar Information Commons, and include the name and date of the class, as well as what the issue is.