

Integrating Podcasts into an ESL Listening Course

The What, the Why, and the How



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Date: Monday Nov. 27, 2006

Time: 12:00

Location: 212 Ross Hall

The use of podcasts in educational contexts is becoming increasingly popular. Many teachers and researchers have hypothesized the potential benefits of having language students interact with language learning podcasts, but few guidelines exist for how both teachers and students can exploit these types of online materials to encourage language acquisition. In this paper, I will describe a year-long curricular integration project where a series of podcasts (and several vodcasts) were developed and carefully integrated into a semester-long, strategy-based, university-level ESL listening course for both graduate and undergraduate students. I will then discuss the findings of a primarily qualitative investigation exploring participant and teacher views the use of podcasts in class.