



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

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ENGL 105

LONGFORM PODCASTING AND YOU

How to produce a podcast.

UNC Digital Innovation Lab

Carolina Digital Humanities

**[https://casdev3.oasis.unc.edu/
pitcasts/](https://casdev3.oasis.unc.edu/pitcasts/)**

TOOLS

What do I need to make a podcast?

- Computer with a built-in or external mic (if you don't want to use the built-in mic, wired in-ear headphones with a mic, such as the Apple earbuds, work wonders!)
- Editing software such as Adobe Audition (Adobe Creative Cloud is free for all UNC students), Audacity, or Reaper.
- Recording software such as Zoom, Zencastr, or the voice memo app on your phone
- Optional: create a pillow/blanket fort around your mic for increased audio fidelity and less popping!

TIPS FOR RECORDING YOUR PODCAST



Don't talk directly into or into the side of the microphone.

Position your mouth about 3 inches from the mic, facing the center, If using wired headphones, don't hold the mic directly against your mouth.



Try to find a quiet space.

Sometimes this isn't easy, but less background noise means better audio quality. If you must record in a noisy space such as a dorm, lay a blanket over top of yourself and your mic.



Wear headphones!

Wearing headphones while recording great improves your sound quality.

PODCASTING GUIDE

1. Planning
 - a. Who am I interviewing?
 - b. What kinds of questions am I asking?
 - c. What point am I trying to make with this podcast?
 - d. Scripting
2. Pre-production
 - a. Scheduling interviews and recording sessions
 - b. Setting up the space
 - i. Mics and headphones
 1. USB mics (Snowballs available through DIL or UNC Libraries)
 2. Wired earphones with built-in mic
 - ii. Using Zencastr recording software
 1. <https://zencastr.com/>
 - iii. Facilitating the discussion
3. Recording
4. Post-production
 - a. Audio editing
 - b. Adding intros, outros, music, any supplemental auditory material
5. Uploading to Wordpress site
 - a. Bylines and copywriting
 - b. Graphics
 - c. Publication

Use this general guide to help plan your podcast production.

RESOURCE PAGE



[Youtube series from the New York Times.](#)

[Video about Zencastr.](#)

[Teaching audio in the classroom.](#)

[More teaching audio in the classroom.](#)

[Video scholarship.](#)

[Video portfolios.](#)

The above all have some sonic elements that could be sound boarded during a conversation.