

Ustream

www.ustream.tv

Broadcast live from your webcam

what is it?

According to Ustream's website, "Ustream.Tv is live interactive video for everyone." So what does this mean? Well, Ustream is a web application that allows users with a computer and a camera such as a webcam to stream live video on the Web and thus broadcast to the world. In addition to broadcasting yourself live, Ustream has additional features such as chat rooms, the ability to record broadcasts, and the ability to embed content.

educational use?

There are a number of educational uses of live broadcasting. First, tools like Ustream can enable faculty to broadcast their lectures live to the world. Second, faculty can use Ustream to have guest speakers broadcast live to their class. Third, Ustream can be used to broadcast conferences or workshops to a larger audience. In addition, faculty and students can browse the thousands of live streams on Ustream for educational content. There are a number of other possibilities of using Ustream that faculty could consider, including broadcasting student work, or research.

pros & cons?

The benefits of using tools like Ustream are the overall ease. One can be up in minutes broadcasting to the world and even record the broadcast for later use. The biggest possible drawback is the need for a high speed connection. Further, you might find that certain features are blocked on your campus (e.g., the chat tool does not work when one is on campus at the University of Colorado Denver).

what's it cost?

Ustream is free to use.

alternatives?

Justin.tv (<http://www.justtv.com>) is perhaps the best known alternative to Ustream. However, Mogulus (<http://www.mogulus.com>) in many ways gives users even more functionality than either Ustream or Justin.tv.

resources?

Capitalizing on Streaming Video
<http://www.ustream.tv/about>

Ustream Video Convert and Upload Tutorial
<http://revver.com/video>

7 Things You Should Know About Ustream
<http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7042.pdf>