

## Digital Video Essays using WeVideo

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### Getting Started

- 1) Go to WeVideo.com and sign up for a free account.
- 2) Review the following WeVideo tutorials found at [www.wevideo.com/academy](http://www.wevideo.com/academy):
  - a. **Dashboard** (<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#h402dzhkoa>)
  - b. **Media Management** (<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#r5vtp0bi8x>)
- 3) Now, create a new folder in Media
  - a. Click on Media
  - b. right click and choose "New Folder"
  - c. rename your new folder "Digital Video Essay" (or whatever else you like)
- 4) Open your new folder (double click on it) and add your image/video/audio files
  - a. Right click in the folder and choose "upload"
  - b. You can choose to drag and drop, or import from various social media sites
- 5) Watch "Create a digital story": <https://www.wevideo.com/academy#0g2v7nd9xp>
  - a. Alternative stories include: a photo story (simple):  
<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#mh2ffdp7a>
  - b. Or a Personal Narrative (more complex):  
<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#ax2c81fl9e>
- 6) Time out from WeVideo...
  - a. Get out your written narration
  - b. Look at your list of images you collected
  - c. Indicate which images go with which parts of your narration (write notes on your narration)
  - d. Write down the ordering of your images (creating the storyboard)
- 7) Your turn: Click on Home to create a new project
  - a. Click Create New Video
  - b. Rename your project (from "untitled video" to whatever you will call it)
  - c. Under Media, select and open the folder holding your image/video/audio files
  - d. You can drag your images from the above folder to your WeVideo Storyboard
    - i. First drag them down and put them in your preferred order
    - ii. You can then add **Title and End cards**  
(<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#gvg9fjwd21>)
    - iii. You can also choose a theme if you like

- e. Now, what you have is essentially a slide show of pictures/images – much like a powerpoint. But, a video has the potential for so much more! So, let's edit, add audio or subtitles, and create your masterpiece!
  - f. Note: For videos that have audio embedded in them, you can **adjust the volume in storyboard mode**. See the quick tip here:  
<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#zg6f2fi4>
- 8) But, for now, let's switch our mode to Timeline (from Storyboard) – this will give you the ability to do some more sophisticated editing.
- a. Go to your main menu (looks like a series of 5 horizontal lines in your upper left hand corner) and switch to Timeline.
  - b. You can view a quick tutorial of the advantages of **Timeline mode** here:  
<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#1rqf1uqk0r>
  - c. You can add audio files to the timeline (there's a few tracks below the main track for audio) and adjust the volume.
  - d. You can also **record narration and voice over** with your computer's built-in mic. See the quick tutorial here: <https://www.wevideo.com/academy#famlyo7qmy>
  - e. In order to **adjust audio levels**, see the tutorial here:  
<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#h6xhiz72ri>
  - f. **Transform your pictures** (embed pictures within pictures), see tutorial:  
<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#ajp4v3epgp>
  - g. To strategically utilize **text graphics** in your video, see  
<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#b3fi2bz5lb>
  - h. You can utilize **Ken Burns effect** to make your images more dynamic (and less like a slide show/ powerpoint). See, <https://www.wevideo.com/academy#3bzjahk3ki>
- 9) Once you're happy with your video, you can publish and share it! (note, the quality of the video will greatly improve after publishing – provided you utilize the recommended file and size types. See: <http://bit.ly/24yQt48>
- a. Here is a quick tutorial on publishing your video:  
<https://www.wevideo.com/academy#4zopv5ydpj>

### Supplementary Tools:

Screen & video capture: Jing, by TechSmith (<https://www.techsmith.com/jing.html>) FREE

Inspiration (by WeVideo):

Video in the Classroom (teacher & student examples) <https://www.wevideo.com/academy#ru1zristun>

Gallery of Stories on many topics (by StoryCenter) <http://www.storycenter.org/stories/>