e-Learning Authoring Software
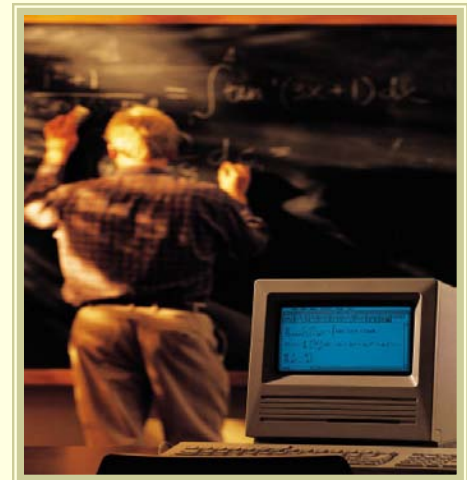
Lectora and Producer
(Blackboard and Centra 7)

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Authoring Software

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Purpose

Why Web-based Authoring software?

- Computer enhanced instruction
- Creating Virtual Community of Learners
- Anytime, anywhere, learning
- Designing instruction that is limitless
- Technological tools that are easier to use and more sophisticated
- Enhancing curriculum with technology
- Greater technology literacy
- Better educated workforce

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Allyn and Bacon, 2002

Design Principles

Effective Instruction

- Learning goals and content presentations
- Learner and Instructor interactions
- Assessment and measurements
- Instructional media and tools
- Learner support systems and services

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Use of Multimedia in Education

Different multimedia elements

- **High-level multimedia**

  * Exploration, discovery, collaboration, interactive games, simulations, virtual tours, web links, problem solving skills. More costly. Hardware specific, high speed connection.

- **Mid-level multimedia**

  * Video, animations, slide shows, audio web casts. Less costly and less hardware prohibitive.

- **Low-level multimedia**

  * Passive media formats, still images, static formats, printable texts. Relatively inexpensive, modem connection.

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Schecter & Fair, 2004

Authoring Software

Lectora ver. 4.0 (http://www.trivantis.com/)

- Trivantis Lectora is a software package that allows an individual or group to easily create interactive instructional courses.

- Can be deployed as Internet Web sites, and/or standalone CD-ROM applications.

- Lectora supports a wide variety of common media types including **text, images, audio, video, animation**, **file linking**., and even popular Internet technologies such as **Shockwave, Flash, HTML, Java, ASP, PHP and JavaScript**.

- Trivantis Lectora is easily integrated with Blackboard and also with Centra through file linkages. Through Blackboard, a Lectora-generated course can be posted and students utilize it. Can also link the testing option in Lectora to Blackboard and have faculty review any grades that have been submitted.

- Students can interface with other students who are taking the same class… whether they are across the room or on the other side of the world.

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Other features

- Audio Editor
- Image Editor
- Video Editor
- Screen Camera
- Screen Capture
- Templates
- Help file
- Online support

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Lectora (http://www.trivantis.com/)

Windows Movie Maker

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Learning Management Systems

Blackboard and Centra

- One click publishing outputs HTML, single-file .exe, or zipped content ready for posting to Blackboard.

- Educators can easily create tests, quizzes and interactive exercises using Lectora's step-by-step assessment wizard.

- Then use Lectora's Building Blocks integration to post results to the Blackboard grade book.

- The same one click publishing that outputs your Lectora content to CD-ROM, Internet or Intranet (as HTML) can be text-linked from the Centra system.

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Things to know

System requirements and media types

System Requirements

- Intel® or AMD® class processor
- 32MB RAM
- 40 MB free hard drive space for application
- Windows® 98, NT, ME, 2000, or XP operating system*

Internet-published content is cross-platform compatible** with Microsoft® Internet Explorer® version 4.0 and higher***, Netscape® version 4.7, 7.0 and higher, and Mozilla®.

Supported Media Types

Images: TIF, GIF, JPG, BMP, PNG, IPIX 3-D image format
Audio: WAV, MIDI, MP3, AIFF, WMF, streaming audio by Microsoft® or Real®Audio
Video: AVI, MOV, MPG, streaming video by Microsoft® or Real®Video
Other: Flash, ASP, JSP, PHP

*The Lectora International Publishing Suite is supported only under Windows® NT 4 (SP 4), 2000, and XP.
**To use the test result submission, form submittal, and/or email features of Lectora published HTML content, Macintosh® based browsers must support LiveConnect™ internet functionality.
***For viewing published content in Microsoft® Internet Explorer® Trivantis recommends using version 5.5 or higher.

Conclusions

Online Instruction using Lectora

- Ease of use for a wide range of teaching methods and strategies.
- Create professional-quality digital multimedia portfolios and lessons, websites, student projects and course content.
- Blackboard Integration.
- File and text linking through Centra.
- No programming knowledge required.
- Publishes content to CD-ROM, Internet and Intranet.
- Cross-Browser compatible.
- Accessibility Standards supported.

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Questions

From present to future …

THE END.

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Possible answers

- Macromedia Captivate, Microsoft Producer
- Captivate cost: $199.00 (Academic license)
- Captivate general license: $499.00
- Producer cost: Free download

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Other authoring software

- The Hot Potatoes suite includes six applications, enabling you to create interactive multiple-choice, short-answer, jumbled-sentence, crossword, matching/ordering and gap-fill exercises for the World Wide Web. Hot Potatoes is not freeware, but it is free of charge for publicly funded, non-profit, educational users who make their pages available on the web. Other users must pay for a license.

- http://www.halfbakedsoftware.com/hot_pot.php

http://www.easyprof.com/demos/pral.jsp

Cost: Annual license - €1105

Bring your educational content online without programming

EasyProf® is a software to create e-learning courses and multimedia presentations. It is easy to handle yet it gives you a lot possibilities, thus it is made for authors that have an idea how their courses or presentations are supposed to work and look like.

Authoring software

- Hyperstudio
- Cost: Teacher: $199.95
- Student: $69.95
- http://www.sunburst-store.com/cgi-bin/sunburst.storefront/EN/Product/9859

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Multimedia Authoring software

- http://www.educational-software-directory.net/multimedia/authoring.html

- http://vivisimo.com/search?query=multimedia+authoring+software&v%3Asources=Web&x=44&y=14

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Lectora

Ideas of possible Applications

Lectora Publisher helps integrate the classroom with the world of digital content such as the Internet. Some of the classroom materials and projects that educators, students, and administrators can create with Lectora Publisher, include the following:

K-12

- e-Portfolios as a student website or a CD-ROM
- Professional development modules for teachers and staff
- Interactive courses for students, teachers, or staff
- Web projects
- Webquests
- Interactive study guides
- Online tests that can be scored automatically
- Classroom websites
- Collaborative multimedia projects for students
- Classroom lessons
- e-Newspapers for classroom, school, or school community
- e-Newsletters for students, parents, teachers, staff, or school community
- Multimedia classroom presentations
- Student technology survey

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Ideas of possible Applications

University

- e-Portfolios website or a CD-ROM for students or teachers
- Professional development modules for teachers and staff
- Interactive courses for students, teachers, or staff
- Web projects
- Interactive study guides
- Online tests that can be scored automatically
- Department or college websites
- Course websites
- Classroom websites
- Collaborative multimedia projects for students
- Classroom lessons
- e-Newspapers for classroom, school, or school community
- e-Newsletters for students, parents, teachers, staff, or school community
- Multimedia classroom presentations
- Student technology surveys
- Course and teacher evaluations
- Pre-class assessments

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Other answers

- **Posting Lectora test results to the Blackboard Gradebook**
- **Integrates with WebCT**
- **Who uses it? http://www.trivantis.com/academic_success _stories.html**

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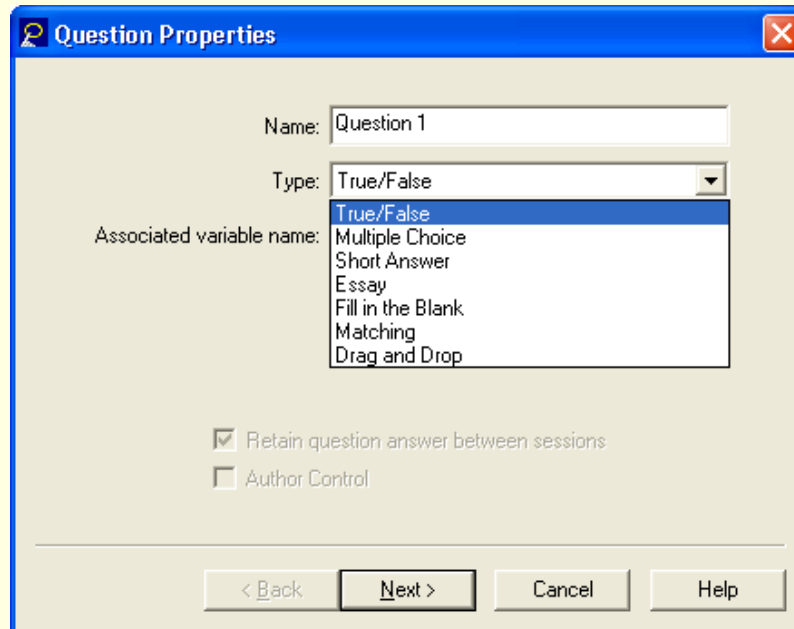Instructional Media Technology, COE, Missouri State University

Lectora

Testing and Assessment

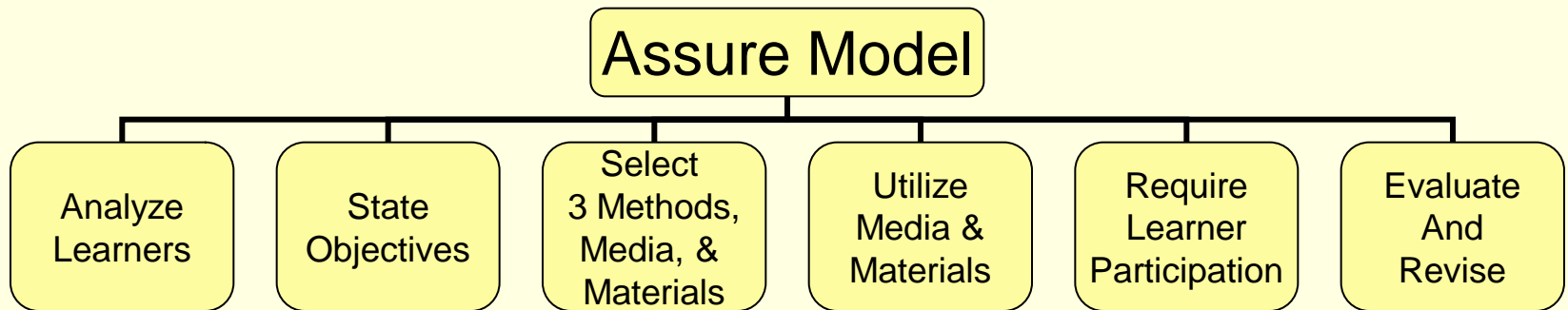- **Advanced Testing & Survey Capabilities**
  Create review questions and complete tests using any combination of true/false, multiple choice, essay, and short answer formats. Testing options include automated grading, multiple or single page testing, per- question feedback, timed testing, show/hide results from student, randomized test questions from master question lists, set passing and failing scores

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Teaching and Design

Methods of planning

```
                    ┌─────────────────┐
                    │  Assure Model   │
                    └─────────────────┘
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| Analyze Learners | State Objectives | Select 3 Methods, Media, & Materials | Utilize Media & Materials | Require Learner Participation | Evaluate And Revise |

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Other questions

- Support and Training
- Documentation
- Other authoring software
- Cost of Lectora

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