Sample Script for Recording Course Overview Videos

Recording brief course videos is a great way to introduce yourself and your course to students and to make a connection with them before the first day. Below you will find a sample script with some talking points that may be helpful when preparing to record your video. Please feel free to modify it so it works for you.

“Hello and welcome to [insert course title].
   Tip: Use both the course number and the formal title (e.g., ENG 1010 – Basic Writing).

My name is [insert name] and I am excited to be your instructor (or professor). I want to give you a brief overview of what you can expect from this course.
   Tip: It’s a good idea to pronounce your name and let the students know how they should refer to you.

In this course, you will learn [insert a few topics].
   Tip: In addition to content knowledge, you might describe some skills or habits of mind students can expect to develop. You could also describe prerequisites or what the course is NOT about. You could talk about the course environment, particularly if it’s a hybrid or online course.

You will also be given the opportunity to [name a couple of assignments].
   Tip: You may also want to call out any key activities or assignments in the course that may require emphasis, so participants can plan early on to complete their work.

To help you learn, we utilize [insert pedagogies and/or technologies].
   Tip: You could mention specific instructional technologies like iClicker or Blackboard. You could also highlight activities like case studies or group work.

I look forward to working with you in this upcoming semester!”
   Tip: If you intend to reuse the video, don’t identify the current semester.

More Tips!

- Keep it conversational and light. Use “we” when appropriate.
- Your video should be 60-90 seconds.
- You are ‘warming up’ the participants to the course.
- Be yourself.
- Remember, you are talking to an individual student who may register for your upcoming course. Express warmth and really try to connect with the student through video.