

Video and LiveText: Q&A

- Q: What kinds of devices can I use to record video for the edTPA and/or upload to LiveText?
- A: It's best to use a flash-memory based video camera like a Canon or Sony camcorder (the Education Computer Lab checks out Canon FS200 model, some of the newer camcorders can record directly in .mp4 format). You can also use an iPhone, Smartphone or iPad if an actual camcorder is not available.
- Q: Why use a camcorder if I already have a mobile device?
- A: There are a couple of things to consider. A camcorder can be easily mounted on a tripod, giving a picture with no bounce. Not all mobile devices have a microphone that will pick up the sound from the whole classroom. If you are considering using a mobile device, test it out beforehand to make sure it works properly in the classroom environment, and that you can work with the resulting video as needed.
- Q: Do you have any tips for recording the video?
- A1: Use a tripod if available. Check the battery or keep the camera plugged in while recording.
- A2: If using an iPad, iPhone, or other mobile device, orient the camera to film in landscape mode, not portrait. More of the classroom will be captured.
- A3: Also, it's OK to cut off the children's heads since that keeps their identities private.
- Q: What kind of file should I save my video recording to before uploading to LiveText?
- A: The best file types for this purpose are .wmv, .mp4, and .mov
- Q: Any suggestions about saving the video?
- A: It is best to know up front what you want to do with the video. One option is to purchase your own SD card (class 4 or higher) and keep the video so that you have options if you decide to do something with the video later. If you know you need to upload the video to LiveText, transfer (and convert if necessary) your video to a computer. If you might need a DVD, the FS200 in conjunction with the burners in the lab can make a DVD fairly quickly if the original recording is still on the SD card. Remember, you have to most options when the original recording is still on the SD card that was in the camera.
- Q: What is the file limit on the finished video?
- A: Make sure the video is 100 MB or less before uploading to LiveText. You will very likely need to compress your video. (If your video is taking more than 10 minutes to upload, please check to see it is 100 MB or smaller. If not, the video should be compressed.) If possible, please come to the computer lab in the ED building and use iMovie to do that. If you are not on campus, first see if the school you are in has a Mac computer where you can use iMovie. If there is not a Mac computer with iMovie, then use the directions for [compressing your video with Handbrake](http://handbrake.fr/downloads.php). Be careful to use the specified link: <http://handbrake.fr/downloads.php>. Some students who have not used this link have had problems with computer viruses.