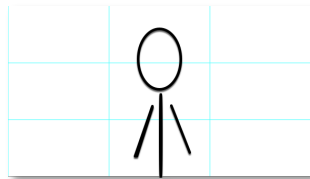


BASIC VIDEO RECORDING TIPS
CHS ONLINE AND DISTANCE LEARNING, FALL 2019

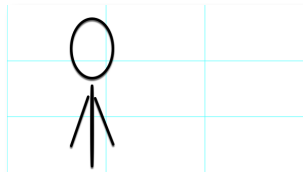
PREPARATION

1. **LIGHT:** makes videos easier to see and helps the image stay in focus.
 - a. Lighting placed 45 degrees to the side and 45 degrees above usually produces the best results, and reduces glare on those who wear glasses.
 - b. Avoid recording subjects with a bright background (i.e. windows or bright lights).
2. **DISTANCE:** Get close enough to the presenter or speaker to capture audio. If you can't hear very well, the microphone won't be much better.
3. **INTERVIEWS:**
 - a. Find a quiet place to record if possible.
 - b. Interviewees should repeat questions in their answer. (Ex: You ask, 'What is your name?' They answer, 'My name is Mike Smith', rather than just, 'Mike Smith'.)
4. **ANGLES AND FRAMING**
 - a. Try not to record people from below—it is an unflattering angle.
 - b. Think of frames in terms of 'rule of thirds'—broken into thirds on the horizontal and the vertical, as seen in the illustrations below.
 - c. For presentations, record mostly straight on. The subject's head should be framed slightly above the middle square.



Presenter:

- d. Have interviewees look at you, not the camera (like in news interviews).
- e. In the example below, the interviewee is framed slightly to the side, looking left at the interviewer. (The interviewer would be on the right of the camera.)



Interviewee:

RECORDING

1. Slow panning (moving from side to side) or zooming in or out is nice if done smoothly and not too often.
 - a. Don't pan too fast, or move around too much. This can make people dizzy.
2. Lean against something to steady the video if possible.
3. If you are trying to edit in-camera, stay on each clip for 5-10 seconds before pausing.
4. If editing afterwards, record clips for a longer time. You can cut out the excess later.
5. Remember that a projector screen is very bright, and can make your subjects look dark by comparison—record one or the other unless there is adequate lighting in the room.