For students who grew up with video and social networking, going to class and passively listening to lectures can feel like going back in time. Now colleges and universities are catering to the learning style of a new generation by introducing flipped learning. Faculty members assign prerecorded video lectures as homework to be completed before class, freeing up class time for discussions, group work, quizzes to assess understanding, and labs.

The flipped classroom model is gaining enormous momentum and is one of the hottest topics among educators today, according to Renee Patton, Cisco's director of education for U.S. public sector. "In the flipped classroom, video is critical because it delivers what pure audio cannot: the entire spectrum of communication between human beings," she says. "It's a way for students to connect more meaningfully with their professors and with the content."

How It Works: Capture, Transform, Share

New, easy-to-use video solutions like Cisco® Lecture Vision enable professors to share video without specialized equipment or training. "Video is fast becoming the way we acquire information and learn these days, and as a university, we need to adapt to our clientele," says Joseph Deck, chief technology officer for Our Lady of the Lake University, in San Antonio, Texas. "We are using Cisco Lecture Vision to enable our students to have access to compelling content no matter where they are."

The lecture-sharing process works like this:

- Faculty members capture a lecture using any camera, often the built-in camera on a laptop, tablet, or smartphone. They can also use a Cisco TelePresence® System or other professional equipment.
- Behind the scenes, another Cisco solution called an MXE Media Experience Engine transforms the video for optimized viewing on different devices, from smartphones and laptops to large, high-definition displays in common areas. The engine also makes the video searchable by keyword or speaker.
- Faculty members share the video with students on Cisco Show and Share®, a webcasting and video sharing application. Students visit the campus Show and Share website, or use the free Show and Share app for iPhones and iPads. "Rather than just passively viewing the lecture, students can respond and interact with their peers by posting comments at any point in the video," says John Tuohy, education solutions manager at Cisco. "An instructor who notices a flurry of questions several minutes into the video receives valuable feedback that the concept needs further explanation."

Patton concludes, "Flipping the classroom was technically challenging until only recently, but solutions like Cisco Lecture Vision have changed the game. The flipped classroom increases access to the best learning experiences possible by allowing students to view a lecture multiple times, to rewind, fast forward, pause, and absorb the knowledge."

Read Renee Patton's blog:
http://blogs.cisco.com/education/flipping-the-classroom-%E2%80%93-is-it-really-all-about-technology/

Learn more about Cisco Connected Learning:
http://www.cisco.com/go/connectedlearning

Learn more about Cisco Lecture Vision:
http://www.cisco.com/web/strategy/education/enhanced_edu_capture.html