

## 11 Video chat

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**Organisation:** Dalarna University, NGL Centre

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**Projekt namn:** Video chat

### **Kort summering:**

Videochat is a system for live transmission of lectures on the Internet. Lectures that are accessible both on campus and online. There is also a possibility to record the lectures to be viewed in the future. By using a panel, teachers decide what they want they want to show their audience on the Internet and in the lecture hall. The teacher can alternate between a video picture of himself, a computer screen with a homepage, or a presentation and a document camera where handwritten notes on paper or details from books can be shown.

**Projekt hemsida:** <http://videochat.du.se/> and <http://www.du.se/en/NGL/NGL-Centre/Tools-and-Courses/Video-Chat/>

**Slide share:**

### **Kort sammanfattning om magnitud:**

12 lecture halls equipped for streamed lectures, approximately 3,500 recordings made each year. Dalarna University has approximately 16000 students that in some way comes in contact with the system.

### **Argument för nominering:**

Since 2002 Dalarna University has invested in distance education by establishing a department especially focused on distance and blended learning. By 2009 Dalarna University became one of the fastest growing institutes of higher education in Sweden. One of the reasons was the development of a system for live-streamed lectures, Videochat. The system has had a major impact for the continuing investment in web-based and blended learning at Dalarna University. In today's increasingly globalised world, knowledge and understanding of other languages and cultures are extremely desirable skills. The large majority of our language education are offered online, and are both well-regarded and well-known throughout Sweden in terms of their sophisticated use of technology and pedagogical quality. The University is constantly investing resources in online education and has been at the national forefront in this field of development for many years. This position has been made by our fantastic teachers as well as our technical and administrative staff and our technical educational tool, such as Videochat.

Videochat is a system that enables teachers, educators, staff and student to gather under lectures despite location. The system gives the same opportunities for students on campus and online to follow lectures and communicate with the teacher. Videochat is so simple that anyone of our teachers could use it without a technician or a wide technical know-how. Simple isn't always better, but in this case it is. Videochat invites users through its design and doesn't scare off teachers from using it. The system is for every generation to use, not only the ones who have grown up during or after the digital revolution. The name Videochat comes from the fact that one of the functions is that the viewer's online also can chat with each other and ask text questions to the teacher. This synchronous communication is one of the reasons why Videochat is such a success. Videochat is accessible via computer, pads and smartphones which means that more students can access the lectures, and from basically anywhere. Videochat enables students both on campus and online to have similar experiences during their education. The educational quality is the same for a student at Falun or Borlänge as it is for a student that's located anywhere else in the world.

Videochat is developed by ourselves since we couldn't find an existing system that met our requirements. The system is unique and has been developed by technicians and pedagogues, a reason why it's being used with great success in education. The success is also proved since other universities and organisations in Sweden have shown interest in the system and the fact that it's our own system we are looking to commercializing Videochat.

With all this considered, you will agree with me that Videochat is an excellent nominee for the Boldic Awards 2014.