Academic Video Online: A Professor’s Point of View

Meet Dr. Raul Machuca
Dr. Raul Machuca is an Associate Professor of Counseling at Barry University. He has been using Academic Video Online (AVON) professionally since 2013, having obtained demo access in 2012. He said he was one of the first academics at his university to try AVON; he was also one of the faculty members who asked the resources librarian to acquire AVON.
Comprehensive & Structured Content
“What I liked about AVON was that it seemed to be a very complete collection on a variety of topics. We had another video collection at the time but it needed updating,” said Dr. Machuca. “Most of the AVON videos have a pretty helpful structure: for example, the ones on Counseling and Psychology start with an introduction followed by a demonstration, a discussion and a conclusive commentary. They’re easy-to-use and help the students to understand the concepts.”

“...Invaluable resources for practical classes”
Dr. Machuca mainly uses AVON when teaching in the Counseling Program. Topics to which the videos contribute include clinical mental health counseling, school counseling, rehabilitation counseling, couple/marriage and family counseling, as well as school and sport psychology. The videos have proved invaluable resources for practical classes.

During their practicum and internship experiences, counseling students have to accrue a minimum of direct clinical hours in order to meet class requirements; these are complemented also by a compulsory number of “indirect hours” – for example, work put in on specific assignments. For the indirect hours the students can watch videos and complete video reviews for additional learning on applied concepts, as well as for acquiring new skills. Being able to work with the videos makes the time they log more “collectible” and it is convenient for the students as they don’t have to be on campus when engaged with AVON.

For research or a refresher
AVON benefits Dr. Machuca himself when he is researching new topics or looking for refresher information.

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