NYU-UAG
User Needs/Requirements: Video Annotation

As the academic use and analysis of media other than print expands with the much easier availability of images and video, the need to close-read and annotate in these media increases. Working from some prior identification of user needs done in Gallatin, the UAG developed the following itemization of needs for the annotation of video.

Immediate Needs

- Time-specific annotations (with bookmarking of time-stamps, with ability to color-code or otherwise mark the author of the annotation) in following forms:
  - Text, including rich-text editor (for embed of images, video, etc.)
  - Link
  - Audio response/voiceover (both simultaneous narration and video stopped while comment plays)
  - Comment on annotations
- Collaborative Annotation
  - Ability to create private groups
  - Ability for all group members to post annotations (with annotations that can be set either to be visible only to group members or beyond the group)
- Markers to show where annotations are placed (in time)
- Annotation overlay on major streaming video platforms/sources (YouTube, Vimeo, NYU Stream, Bobst sources (eg, Alexander Street, Criterion Collection, Swank), etc)
- Web-delivered tool rather than desktop client
- Population of annotation group by roster pull (from SIS or Classes)
- Ability to copy integrated video from one course site (eg, in Classes) to another without annotations being copied (eg from one semester’s class to another’s)
- Ability to annotate in different languages
- Accessibility - screen-reader for text comments (with voice activation of numbered comments)
- Means to see all annotations within a video aggregated (not having to scroll through video)
- Ability to post multiple comments at the same time-point in the video
- Ability to post general comments (eg a prompt) that sit outside but are associated with the video
- Embed of annotated clips in standard document types (Google, Word, Pages, WP, Classes etc.)
Eventual Needs

- Ability (for, eg, instructor) to moderate comments in an annotation group
- Ability to download annotated video (eg, for circumstances when wifi not working)
- Integration with LMS (eg, ability to grade aggregated annotations by each student and feed to gradebook)
- Export to text (for use in print essays)
- Analytics - ability to see common stats on use (# comments by clip and by user, length of annotations, timestamps at which they appear, etc.)
- Ability to tag annotations (taxonomy/folksonomy)
- Additional annotation format: Highlight/Heat-map (eg, of a frame in the video)

Nice to Have

- Roles/permissions that allow editing of another user’s’ annotations (as in, eg, Wp or Google); permissions assignable by faculty member
- Ability to attach/retrieve documents to an annotation
- Ability to create clips from longer videos to annotate (don’t need to be able to do within the annotation platform; can happen in the video platform)
- Messaging to annotation author through the annotation
- Ability to create video playlist of annotated videos (pulled from different video sources/platforms)
- Ability to pull bibliographical information into annotation
- Generate tag cloud from tags (see above under eventual needs)
- Additional annotation format: Video annotation