Genio

Using Genio Present to **bridge the confidence gap at Moreno Valley College**

How Genio Present is transforming student anxiety into professional presence for the next generation of graphic designers.

Introduction

Joe Gonzales is the Accessible Technology Media Coordinator (ATMC) at Moreno Valley College where, as a business instructor, his mission is centered on equity.

Whether he is engaged in producing accessible media formats for individuals with diverse learning and sensory needs, or teaching his Business Management class for Graphics Communications students, Joe's goal is to ensure every student, regardless of their learning modality or personality type, has an equal footing in the professional world.

> *"Rarely do you find a person who is totally excited to make a speech in front of people they barely know. The challenge was getting students to move beyond their comfort zone and actually analyze how they communicate."*
>
> **Joe Gonzales**



How public speaking fear **holds back great ideas**

In the competitive world of graphic design, a great portfolio isn't enough. You have to be able to sell your vision to a client or a hiring manager. However, Joe noticed a recurring barrier in the form of presentation anxiety.

Before adopting Genio Present, students lacked a structured way to evaluate their own performance, leaving them to face a number of challenges while relying on low-tech practice methods that offered no objective feedback.

> *"At first, it was kind of awkward being in front of the camera—not as bad as being in front of people, I guess—although I still struggle with my camera awkwardness. I think Genio is very important and key to becoming more self-aware."*
>
> **Student user**

▶ Mirror rehearsal

Students would stand in front of a mirror, which helped with posture but provided no data on verbal clarity.

▶ Distracted audiences

Many practiced in front of pets or family members who weren't paying close attention, leading to a false sense of security.

▶ The retention wall

Students struggled to move away from reading word-for-word off paper, often getting stuck or losing their place two minutes into a pitch.

▶ The introvert's barrier

A significant portion of the class suffered from such high anxiety that they avoided eye contact and struggled to project their voices.

Generating a **confidence engine**

Joe integrated Genio Present into his curriculum as a confidence engine. He deployed the licenses to his cohort, focusing on high-pressure, real-world scenarios.

Some example situations he created are shown below.

> *"I had them recording while they were doing the live presentations since it was in front of a practice audience... they kind of feed off the energy of the crowd."*
>
> **Joe Gonzales**

▶ The 30-second commercial

Students had to pitch a product's name, benefits, and call-to-action within a strict 30-second window.

▶ Entrepreneurial pitches

Developing longer-form presentations to sell a product in a Shark Tank-style setting.

▶ The elevator pitch

Presenting cover letters and resumes as if they were in a literal elevator with a dream employer.

▶ Note taking for memory

Joe taught students to use the note taking feature to place "hump markers", short text blurbs that prompted their memory at difficult transition points in their speech.

Witnessing the glow of **student confidence**

The transformation in student performance was driven by a newfound ability to self-correct using objective data.

One student noted that while being on camera felt awkward at first, the tool was key to becoming more self-aware while another cited the value of feedback and opportunity for repeated practice as critical for a greater confidence when presenting.

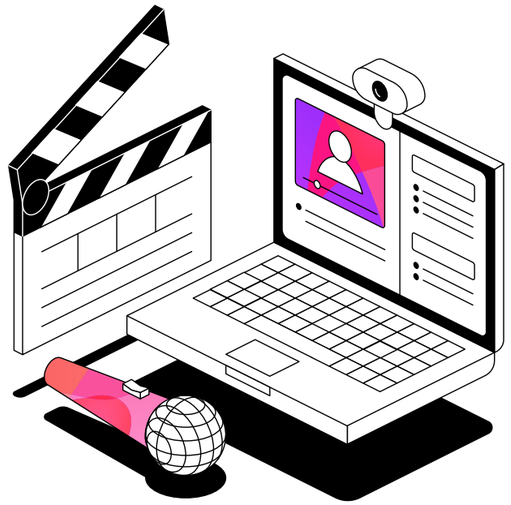
This technical improvement sparked a profound behavioral shift in the classroom that Joe describes as "the glow".

> *"I feel more confident. I enjoy being able to review my dialogue throughout the presentation and revise any issues I find."*
>
> **Student user**

Prior to using Genio Present, many students avoided eye contact and appeared unengaged. After working with the tool, Joe observed students walking into the room with visible pride. He was even able to push his most introverted students to stand at the front of the class and project their voices.

Beyond mere delivery, Genio Present acted as a critical tool for content optimization and self-realization. By reviewing their recordings alongside the timing data, students realized exactly where their presentations were becoming too wordy or unfocused.

This empowered them to weed out unnecessary information and shorten their pitches to fit professional time constraints. Rather than a soulless AI replacement, Genio Present served as a bridge for personal growth, helping even the most introverted students express their passions with clarity and professional presence.



Combining technology with human coaching

One of the most powerful outcomes was how Genio Present complemented Joe's live instruction. While the technology handled the filler words and pacing, Joe was free to focus on other core elements of presentation success such as body language, fidgeting, and mannerisms.

"Because they had the repetitive practice with Genio, they had the confidence to handle the live crowd energy. By the final presentations, students weren't just rehearsing, they were recording their live performances they could review later to see how they handled the pressure of a real audience"

Joe Gonzales



The future of **Moreno Valley College and Genio Present**

The impact of Genio Present, through the feedback from Moreno Valley College is clear, students want more time with the tool. Joe is aiming for the tool to be a permanent fixture in the student's toolkit, a reliable 24/7 coach that prepares them for everything from a Zoom interview to a TED Talk.

"If it's a tool just to get the butterflies out, then it's doing its job. It's building confidence and restructuring memory. I see the excitement and the glow in their faces."

Joe Gonzales

Discover how Genio Present could transform student anxiety into professional presence at your institution

▶ genio.co/present

