Training at BLS

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US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Seasonal Adjustment Practitioners Workshop
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Views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Before Covid

- In-person training

- 3-4 full days

- Software Demonstrations, but no labs

- Primarily taught by Tom Evans and myself, with selected session by Jennifer Oh and Reid Rottach

During Covid

- ■ Create virtual content that could be accessed on demand
  - ▶ Reorganized the slide sets for the sessions
  - ▶ Shorter and more focused
  - ▶ Added more engaging visual content where possible
- ■ Created narrated videos of the reorganized slide deck
  - ▶ Recorded narration for 13 sets of slides
  - ▶ Generated MP4s from those videos
  - ▶ Uploaded them to Microsoft Stream (previous version)

During Covid

- Generated transcripts of the narration
  - ▶ Corrected the text of the transcripts
  - ▶ Corrected the captions
- Also developed pre and post video quizzes for each video to evaluate learning
- Once videos were complete, videos loaded to a Teams site for seasonal adjustment
  - ▶ Tom Evans and Morgan Heyde
  - ▶ Quizzes were linked to the videos

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Curated Session

- Twice a month, I would host a Teams sessions playing the different videos
  - ▶ Introduce each video and play the video
  - ▶ Usually, Tom Evans would moderate the chat for questions (rare)
  - ▶ Q & A after the session
- We had these sessions for about a year and a half

Future

- We will continue to develop videos for on-demand viewing

- Once BLS moves to Suitland, we will examine options for doing hybrid training
  - What training rooms are available?
  - What computing resources can we rely on?
  - Should we merge operations with Census colleagues?

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