

A photograph of an astronaut in a white space suit, seen from the chest up, floating in space. The astronaut's hand is visible on the left, holding onto a metallic structure. The background is a deep blue space filled with stars, with a bright, glowing blue and white arc of light representing the Earth's horizon on the right side. The overall scene is dramatic and high-tech.

# An **Articulate<sup>®</sup> Storyline<sup>®</sup>** User's Guide to **Lectora<sup>®</sup>**

An eBook by **Trivantis<sup>®</sup>**

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# Preface

**T**ransitioning from one authoring tool to another isn't always an easy task. But when you decide to make the switch, this Trivantis® eBook will help you get up and running as quickly as possible. In other cases, one tool isn't enough! If you're an eLearning developer, adding another authoring tool is great because you can expand your development abilities. Having multiple authoring tools at your disposal means you can combine the power of each product, allowing you to satisfy more customers. Unfamiliar with additional authoring tools or deciding which second tool to use? This eBook will help with that too.

In this eBook you'll learn:

- The similarities and differences between Storyline® 2 and Lectora®
- The basics of putting a course together in each tool
- How to review your course using ReviewLink™
- The benefits of creating a Lectora-wrapped Storyline 2 course
- How to add Storyline 2 content into a Lectora course

<b>Similarities and Differences</b>				
	<b>Storyline 2</b>		<b>Lectora 16 and Lectora Online 3</b>	
	<i>Similarities</i>	<i>Differences</i>	<i>Similarities</i>	<i>Differences</i>
<b>Tests and Quizzes</b>	26 testing varieties, including the option to create a survey		<b>36</b> testing varieties, including the options to create a survey or <b>insert games</b>	Additional options available for Lectora Inspire users when they access the <b>built-in eLearning Brothers Template Library</b>
<b>Ease of Use</b>	Includes pre-built page templates, themes, and wizards	Limited abilities to add and customize HTML, CSS, and JavaScript	Includes pre-built page templates, themes, and wizards <b>as well as built in objects like menus, progress bars, and status icons</b>	Easy to use and implement HTML, CSS, and JavaScript
<b>Simulations</b>	Simulations can be built using a wizard. Simulations can then be output as view only, guided simulations, or quizzes.	Interaction and feedback is limited and fits the full screen	Simulations are built using a <b>free form method</b> where you can insert any images, functionality, and feedback	Lectora Inspire users also have access to Camtasia® for creating and sharing simulations
<b>Video</b>	Create videos by recording your webcam or using the simulation method	Limited editing capabilities	Lectora users can create videos <b>right in the product</b> by recording with a webcam or editing content	Lectora Inspire users also gain <b>access to Camtasia and Snagit®</b> to address additional needs and customization
<b>Audio</b>	Create audio clips by recording your microphone or using the simulation method	Limited editing capabilities	Lectora users can create audio clips within the product by recording on a microphone or editing content	Lectora Inspire users also gain <b>access to Camtasia and Snagit</b> to address additional needs and customization
<b>Image</b>	Insert an image from your computer, 40 illustrated characters, and one photographic character	Limited editing capabilities	Insert an image from your computer, clip art from the library, and 23 photographic characters found in the live model gallery.	Lectora Inspire users also gain <b>access to Snagit</b> where you can take screenshots and do beginner to advanced level editing
<b>Interactivity</b>	Storyline 2 has features such as templates, characters, audio, video, simulations, as well as buttons, hot spot, and drag-and-drop questions to add interactivity to a course	Storyline 2 also offers a motion path, slider, and interactive markers	Lectora has features such as templates, characters, audio, video, simulations, as well as buttons, hot spot questions, and drag-and-drop questions to add interactivity to a course	Lectora Inspire users can also access the <b>eLearning Brothers Lectora Template Library, Cutout People Library, and Interaction Builder</b>

# Variables

Variables are logical objects within a title that enable you to store, modify, and test values of numbers or strings during the runtime of a published title. You can conditionally perform actions in a title based on variable values, and you can display variable values to the user.

There are many uses for variables, including branching to different sections of a title depending on user preferences and displaying information based on multiple user inputs. Variables enable you, as the title author, to capture what a user has done (such as click on a button) within the title and to conditionally act on that at a later time.

In Storyline 2, variables are used to hold one piece of data. This data can be text, a number, or relate to a true/false statement. The variables are used as project based data that can be evaluated and acted on over and over again in a course.



# Responsive Design

Responsive design is the ability to create a course which will be viewed on multiple platforms. Most authoring tools that offer responsive design operate on the same core principle—the content is laid out on a fluid grid. This grid responds to the width of the device that the content is viewed on. As the view area gets smaller, the grid collapses, and content is repositioned to allow for viewing without the need to scroll through the content horizontally or to zoom.

As mentioned in the whitepaper "Delivering E-Learning in a Mobile World" by Articulate® CTO Arlyn Asch, "Articulate does not believe that responsive design for slide-based content is the answer to multi-device e-learning." Instead they've taken the approach that courses simply need to be placed into a mobile viewer to be responsive. The slide itself is simply scaled down in size to fit the device. The player supports "touch control, including finger-friendly buttons, clear iconography, and improved support for common gestures such as swiping, dragging, and pinch to zoom."<sup>1</sup>

**For Lectora, Trivantis developed a new way of thinking called Responsive Course Design (RCD). RCD is based on the principle that technology will change and new devices will be released. Instead of focusing on the scaling and breakpoints of pages, we've chosen to focus on designing for device types and orientation.** That way, you only need to design once—content will be automatically sized and positioned in other views. Of course, you can still tailor each view to accommodate your unique needs. Trivantis CTO John Blackmon writes, "It's a multi-device world we live in, and Trivantis is bringing you the tools you need to produce eLearning content for all of them. With Lectora, you can truly publish once, and distribute everywhere."<sup>2</sup>

1. Arlyn Asch, CTO, Articulate. "Delivering E-Learning in a Mobile World." 25 April 2016. <https://www.articulate.com/support/storyline-2/delivering-e-learning-in-a-mobile-world>

2. John Blackmon, CTO, Trivantis. "Responsive Course Design." 25 April 2016. <http://trivantis.com/whitepapers/responsive-course-design>

**Joe Ganci, also known as eLearning Joe, has written about Responsive Course Design in *Learning Solutions Magazine*. [Check out his article.](#)**



## Section 508 and WCAG

The Section 508 requirements are based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), an international set of standards. WCAG outlines how content shared on the Web must be compliant for users with disability to work. For this to happen, the course must not rely on one method of communication but offer multiple options to suit the needs of people with visual and physical impairments.

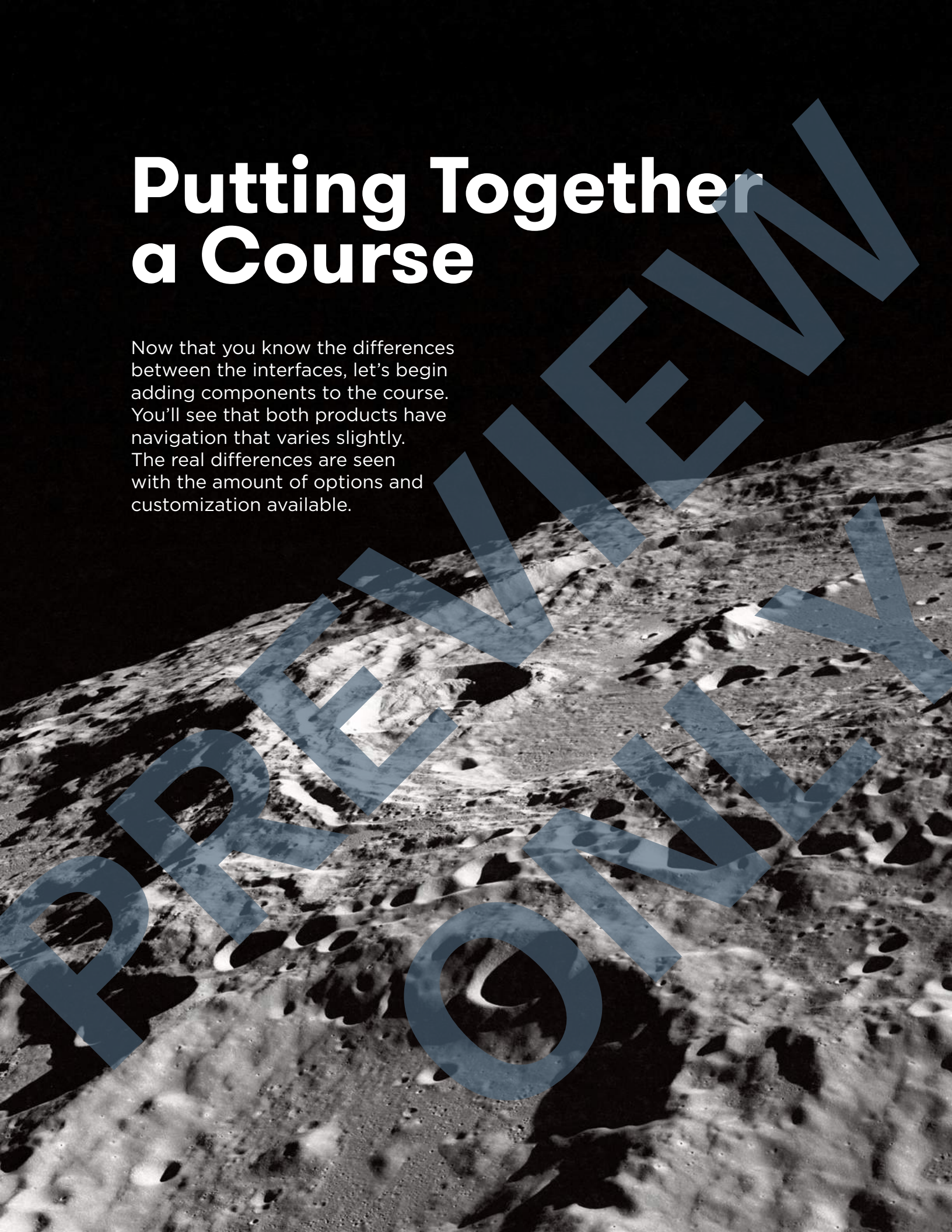
Storyline 2 offers Section 508 and WCAG compliance when a course is published into the standard player. As soon as content is published to HTML5, Storyline 2's mobile player does not support the 508 accessibility guidelines.

If you intend to publish your content to the Web, you can use Lectora to create content that complies with Section 508. **Lectora has an integrated Accessibility Checker which will help you identify objects within your title that must meet specific requirements in order to comply.** Lectora also allows you to develop content that meets Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 AA requirements.



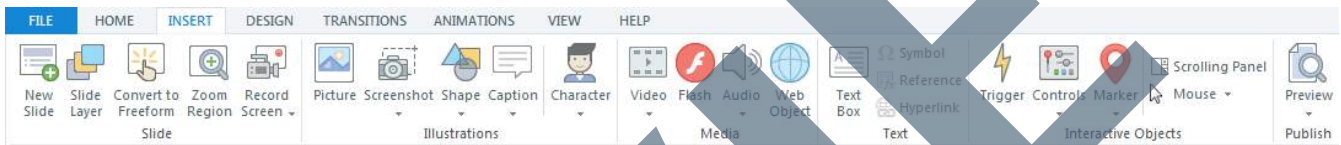
# Putting Together a Course

Now that you know the differences between the interfaces, let's begin adding components to the course. You'll see that both products have navigation that varies slightly. The real differences are seen with the amount of options and customization available.

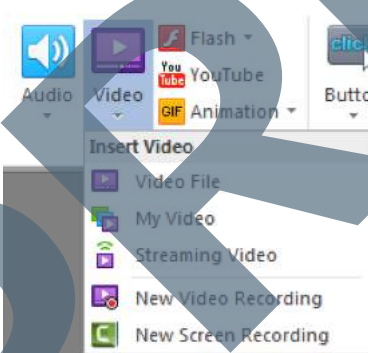
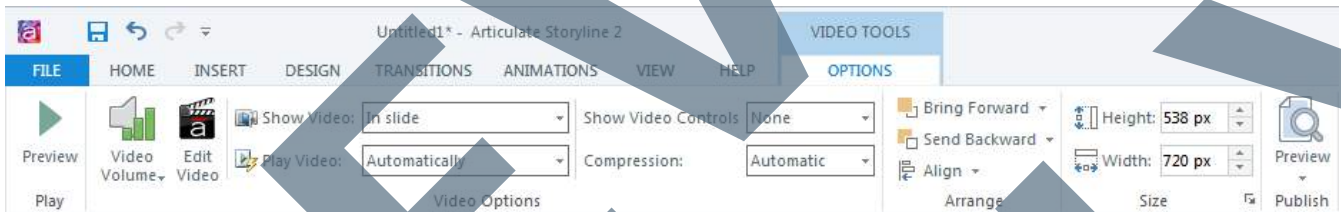


# Video

To add a video file in Storyline 2, you'll navigate to the *Insert* tab in the menu and select the *Video* drop down. From here you have three options: *Video from file*, *Video from Website*, and *Record Webcam*.



To edit the video, you'll select the video from the title by right clicking and then select the *Video Editor*. From here you can trim, crop, change the volume, adjust the brightness and contrast, and insert a logo.



In Lectora 16, you'll navigate to the *Insert* tab and select the *Video* drop down. From here you have five options: *Video File*, *My Video*, *Streaming Video*, *New Video Recording*, and *New Screen Recording*. *Video File* (similar to Storyline 2's *Video from file* option) is for opening your File Explorer as you search for images on your local drive, and *Streaming Video* (similar to Storyline 2's *Video from Website* option) opens streaming video from a web address such as a YouTube or Vimeo channel. The *New Video Recording* (similar to Storyline 2's *Record Webcam*) gives you the option to record new content using your webcam. **In addition, *New Screen Recording* opens Camtasia so that you can start recording your screen.**

# Tests, Quizzes, and Surveys

With Storyline 2, you get eleven gradeable options, nine survey options, five free form options, a fill in the blank, and three pre-created pages that show the results. Storyline 2 offers a question import feature where you can upload questions in a CSV format which can expedite the process. Questions are added using a wizard.

With Lectora, there are nine options which can interact with the LMS, three that are non-gradable, plus a slew of survey and form options. **The main testing level option includes plenty of features like establishing the passing threshold and randomizing questions.** Questions can be pooled by placing them into test sections to make selecting from various options possible. You can also choose to retain values if you want learners to retake the test and see their previous selections. You can import multiple questions using a CSV. Questions are added using a wizard.

## Publishing

In Articulate you have five publishing options: *Web*, *Articulate Online*, *LMS*, *CD*, or *Word*. For *Web* publishing you can include HTML5 output. To view a course on a mobile device, you'll need to view the course in a mobile player or download the course for offline viewing. Articulate states, "By default, Storyline 2 publishes Flash output, but you can add mobile output by marking the HTML5 and/or Articulate Mobile Player options."<sup>1</sup> This means your course is restricted by Flash players. Publishing to *Articulate Online* sends the course to Articulate's proprietary LMS and requires a month to month or yearly plan. Publishing to *LMS* allows for publishing of HTML5 content packaged in SCORM 1.2, SCORM 2004, AICC, and Tin Can API (xAPI). By selecting *CD*, you can publish your course to a CD, DVD, or computer hard drive for local use. You can also publish your project to *Microsoft Word*, so the learner can have a printable copy of the course or to give to people involved in the review process.

In Lectora, you can publish to *ReviewLink*, for *offline use*, *HTML*, *CourseMill*, *AICC*, *SCORM*, *xAPI*, and *SCORM/Disconnected*. **By default your course will be published to HTML5**, and no Flash is needed to run the course unless you insert Flash objects. You also don't need a mobile player to view the course. Instead, the published files understand what type of device you're on and fit the screen accordingly. Creating a responsive course ensures this process is even more defined.

1. "Publishing Your Course." 25 April 2016. <https://www.articulate.com/support/storyline-2/publishing-your-course-sl2>

# Reviewing Your Course Using ReviewLink

With Lectora and Lectora Online, you can publish directly to ReviewLink or upload content from Storyline 1 or 2 or Adobe® Captivate 8. Then, send email invitations to an unlimited number of users like your team members, manager, or subject matter experts (SMEs) to review your course. You can even assign deadlines. Once the reviewers are ready to view the content, they'll access ReviewLink and add comments or attach files to individual pages to provide feedback. Once the updates have been made, the reviewer can go back into your course and mark feedback as Fixed, OK, Not OK, or Archived. Each time an update is made, you'll be informed by email notification, and new comments will be marked for your attention. At any time, pull the feedback to be able to filter, sort, search, save, or export as a PDF or CSV for printing. If you're working with reviewers overseas, you don't have to worry about uploading to a local server or dealing with lag when one isn't available since the product is available online and in seven languages.

# Getting Ready to Publish

Within Lectora you have the option to set up your ReviewLink Preferences. This screen makes it easy to access ReviewLink at any time and also helps speed up the publishing process. While this step isn't required, it's highly recommended.

1. Select Lectora Preferences from the File ribbon. The Preferences window opens.
2. Click the ReviewLink tab.
3. Use the fields in the ReviewLink group to specify your server settings. In the Host field, specify the Web address of the ReviewLink server. By default, this value is reviewlink.com.
4. In the Path to ReviewLink on Host field, specify the location on the ReviewLink server where the ReviewLink system resides. By default, this value is /reviewlink.
5. Specify the email address with which you registered with ReviewLink in the Publisher Email ID field.
6. Specify the password with which you registered with ReviewLink in the Password field.
7. Click OK.

A photograph of the International Space Station (ISS) in orbit above Earth. The station's complex structure, including a large cylindrical module wrapped in silver thermal blankets, is visible on the left. In the center, a robotic arm extends from the station. Two astronauts in white space suits are visible, one near the robotic arm and another in the lower foreground. The Earth's blue and white clouds are seen in the background.

# 5 Reasons to Include Lectora in Your Toolbox

While building a course, you may find that Storyline 2 isn't powerful enough for what you need. This is a great case for adding Lectora to your toolbox. You can even wrap Storyline 2 content in Lectora to take full advantage of both products. Let's take a look at 5 examples when Lectora should be used.