uCreate Print Training

Transcript for: Text content objects

XM PIE

A CareAR Company

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Notices

Voice over script	Thumbnail
Hi! Welcome to the XMPie uCreate Print training. In this module we demonstrate how to work with Text content objects.	
The topics we will cover in this session include: • Placing text content objects into the design • Changing font characteristics • Highlighting the dynamic objects in the design • Suppressing spaces and lines when a field is empty • Finding shortest and longest records • Automatically handling copyfitting, and • Flowing text onto multiple pages	
When you link to a data source with uCreate Print – as shown in the previous module – all the columns or fields in the data are created as Text content objects. If the data includes simple text values that you want to place into the document – for example, name and address – simply use the InDesign Type tool, select the text and double-click on the content object name.	
The selected static text is replaced with the database value for the current record. You can scroll through the records and see the data change in the InDesign document.	
When you place text content objects like this, the font character and paragraph settings defined in InDesign will take effect. And, you can change these later at any time.	
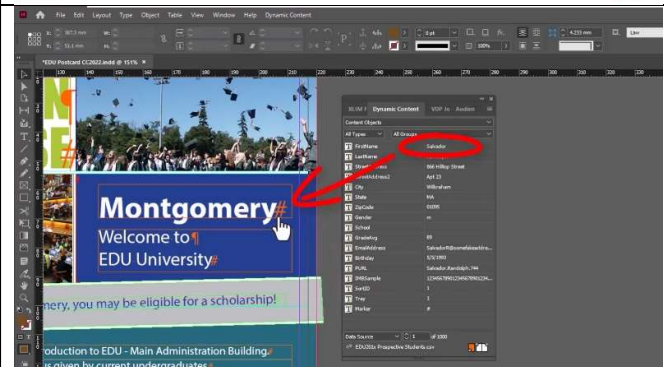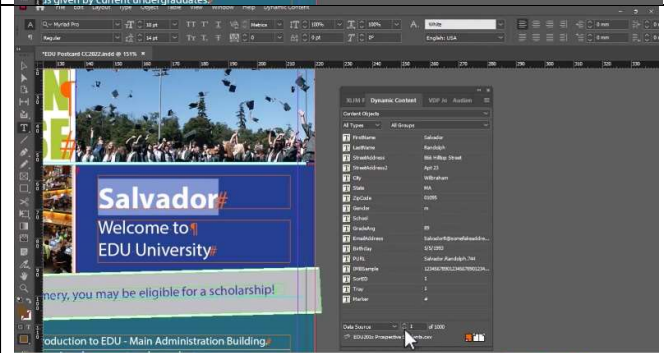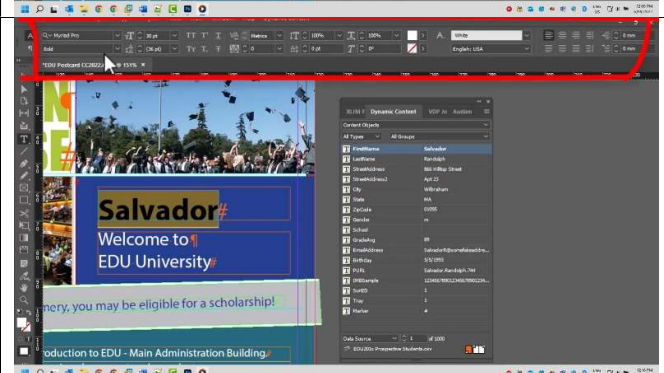
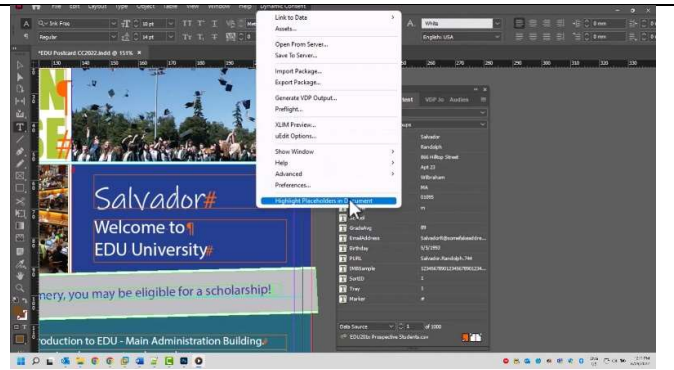|	
The shaded area is helping to show where in the document the dynamic objects are located. If you want to get a clearer view of the document without this shaded area distracting from your design, you can uncheck the Highlight All Content Placeholders in Document from the Dynamic Content menu or the panel menu. It is also possible to select one or more text or graphic content objects in the panel, right click and select to highlight these specific content objects. I'll quickly add the name and address fields to the document.	
Sometimes, when you position several text content objects next to each other in the same text box, you may want to hide the extra spaces or lines when there is nothing in one of the content objects.	
To do this, use the selection tool. Select the text box, then right-click and select Dynamic Content, then Supress trailing spaces on empty content.	
Notice how the city and postal code lines now move up if there is no second address line.	
Also, if your design calls for the top lines to move downwards when there is an empty line, then you can use the InDesign Text frame options to set vertical justification to bottom.	
In addition to empty data fields, you also need to consider different lengths of text that may be in the data. For example, this text box is quite small and if the database contains a long name, the text might overflow the text box.	
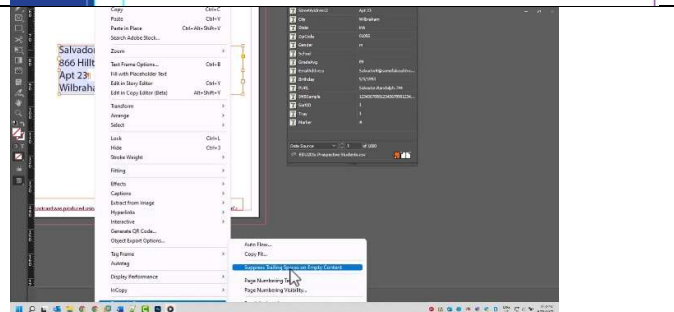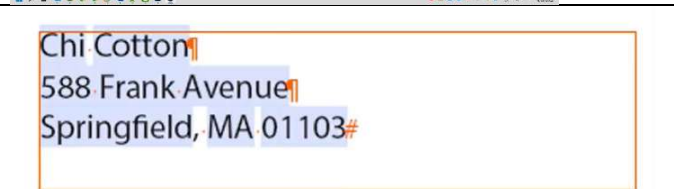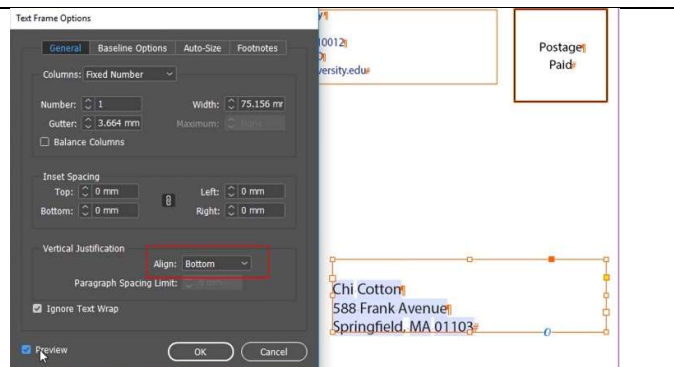
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uCreate Print has a useful feature to find the longest or shortest value for each content object. For example, to find the longest firstname, right-click on the firstname content object and select go to longest. This search uses a character count to find the longest value. Depending on the font used and the width of the letters in the value, this may or may not be the longest in terms of printed text length.	
Using the selection tool, select the text box and right-click. Select Dynamic Content, and then Copy Fit...	
To copy fit or dynamically change the font, check this box. Underflow will increase the font if the text does not fully fill the frame. Overflow will reduce the font when the text overflows the frame, and both will increase or decrease the font to fill the frame as much as possible.	
These checkboxes determine how the font will be changed. Font size, horizontal scaling or leading – in the case of multi-line text boxes. Each setting allows you to define the minimum or maximum amount that uCreate Print will try to change the size. For example, on a business card, when you are already working with small font sizes, you would not want to decrease the font size too much or it would become unreadable.	
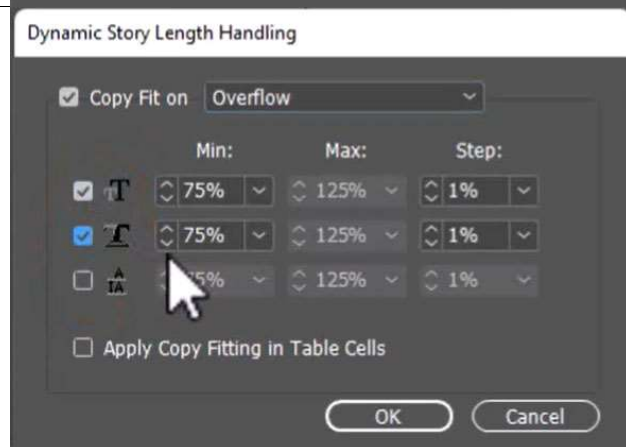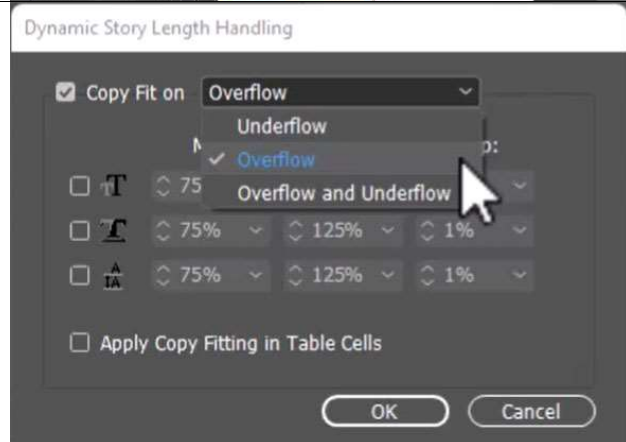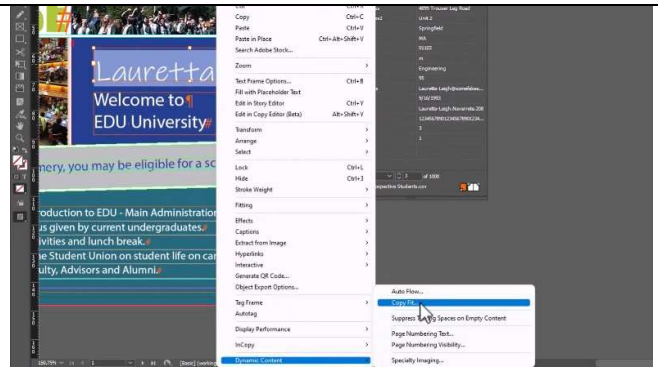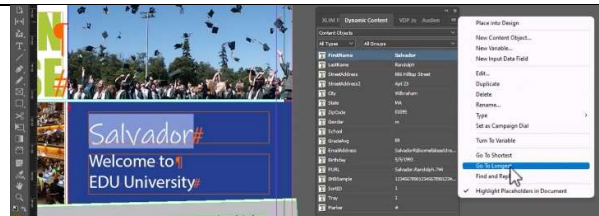
If the text will still not fit once the limit is reached, you will receive a warning during print production and you can set a policy on how to handle the warning. We will look at this later in the dynamic print module.	
The step setting controls the amount of change in between each test to see if the text will fit. Smaller step percentages will result in the text fitting closer to the frame size. While larger step percentages will process faster since uCreate Print has to check fewer times.	
You can now see that our short name will use the preferred font size set in InDesign, and when a larger name is found, it will reduce the font size and horizontal scale so that the name will now fit in the text frame.	
For other document types, letters and statements for example, you may prefer the text to overflow onto a second page rather than to copy fit. This option is also available with uCreate Print. In this document, I have two pages to represent the design of the letterhead and following page. You can see this recipient receives a single page letter with everything fitting on the first page.	
While this recipient's text does not fit.	
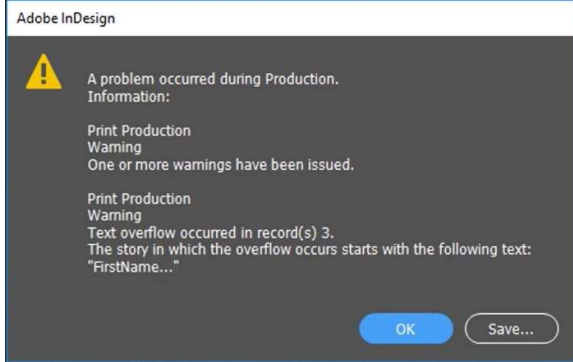
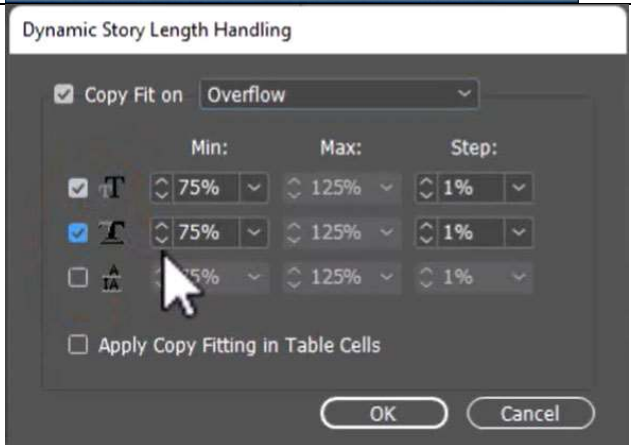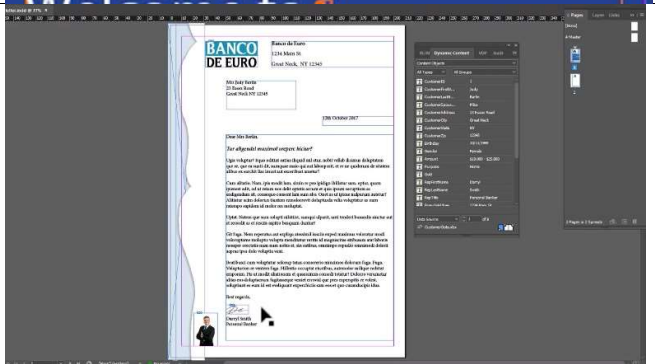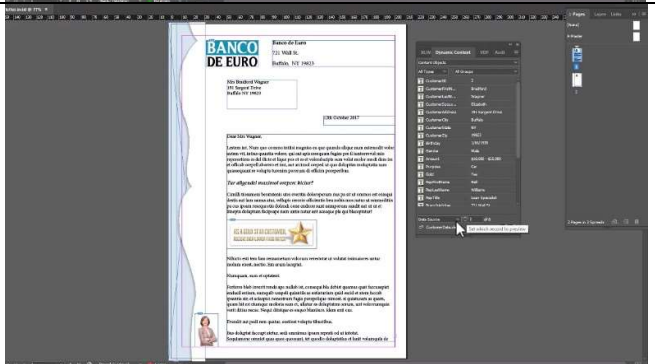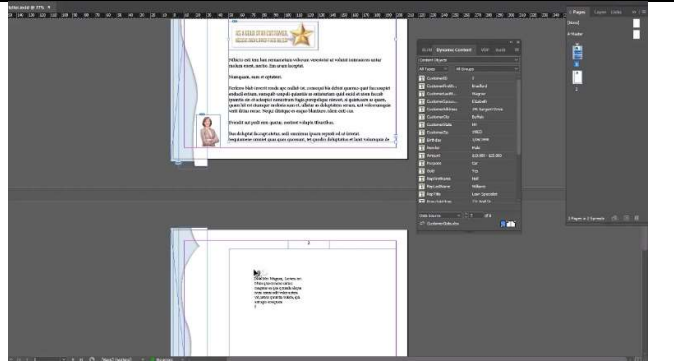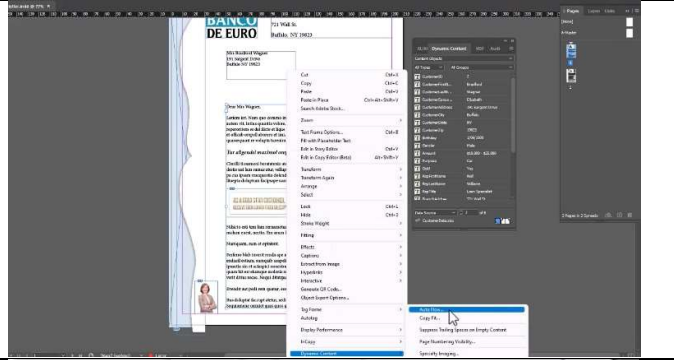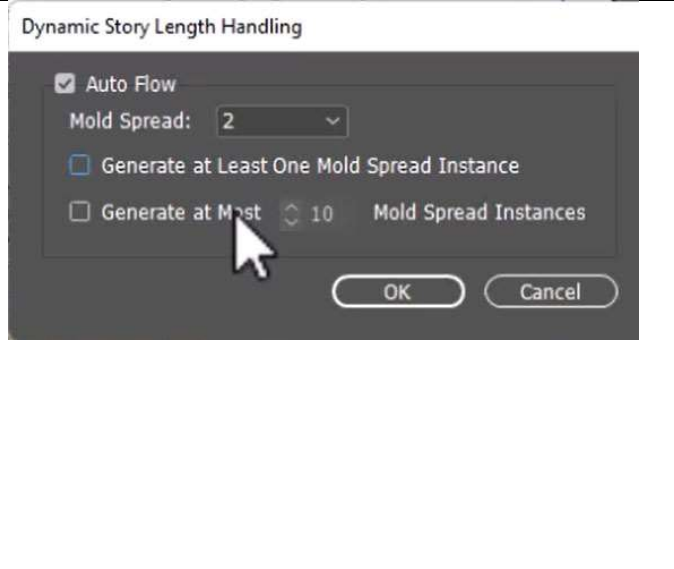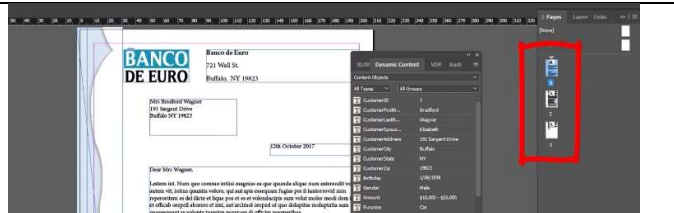|	
First, flow the text onto the second page like normal for InDesign. Notice that this recipient's letter even overflows on the second page.	
Go back and use the Selection tool to select the first text box and right-click. Select Dynamic Content.	
This time select the Auto Flow option. The Mold spread selection allows us to choose which page we want to duplicate when more pages are needed. The next setting allows me to force the printing of the mold spread even if there is no need for it. If I leave this box checked, when I dynamic print the document, my first recipient - who only needs one page - would get a second page with the logo and address, but no letter text. The generate at most setting allows me to stop auto flowing after a set number of pages. This is more useful when you are flowing a dynamic table over multiple pages.	**Dynamic Story Length Handling** ☑ Auto Flow Mold Spread: 2 ⌄ ☐ Generate at Least One Mold Spread Instance ☐ Generate at Most ⌑ 10 Mold Spread Instances (OK) (Cancel)
Even in the Pages panel you can see that uCreate Print has added an extra page for this recipient.	
Notice that the InDesign page number character increments automatically.	

The third recipient's letter is only two pages long.

And if I go back to our first record, you will see the second page is still visible in InDesign, but when I create the VDP output, I will see only the first page because I turned off the setting that forces the mold page to display when not needed.