Using Mobile Phones as Classroom Response Devices

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INFORMATION LITERACY EXCHANGE

MILEX

MARYLAND

Maryland Information
Literacy Exchange

Agenda

* Warm up poll questions
* Introduction
* Literature Review
* Why Poll Everywhere?
* Discussion: student engagement and information literacy
* References

Quick lit review…

* Discussion of classroom audience response systems dates back to 2000 and earlier
  CONSENSUS :

  * Learner-centered

  * Increased student engagement

  * Increased student participation

  * Possible time drain

  * Possible technical problems

  * Possible budgetary constraints

Positive Aspects

* Active learning ➡ And does this make it *fun*?
* Increase student engagement
* Feedback ⬅➡ Participation Loop
  * Assessment of student learning
    * Visual (on screen) and transparent (visible to all, real time)
  * Self- reflection
    * Librarian/Instructor
    * Students

Ongoing questions for information literacy instructors…

* Audience Response System tools:
  Clickers versus mobile phones?
* Cost for use of ARS
* Ease of use for instructor? Students?
* Preparation time for optimizing ARS (provocative/reflective questions that produce useable data)
* Gauging appropriate pace and use of time during lesson

Poll Everywhere.com

* Interactive tool without clickers or interactive white board

* Multiple choice and free text question options
* "Vote" by texting to a number or keyword

* Cost of students' mobile phone plans
* Web based responses possible as alternative

* Other free online poll sites
  * SMSpoll www.smspoll.net
  * Text the Mob www.textthemob.com/

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Results

* *Poll Everywhere* demonstration

* http://www.Pollev.com/TUEdLibrarian
    * Create a sample question…

    * Account subscription and pricing options, etc.

More Positive Aspects

* Comfortable for shy or reticent students

* Facilitates class discussion

* Collective brainstorming is possible

* Group work is possible

A recent summer instruction experience…

* Longer one-shot session in condensed summer course
* Embedded poll questions into instruction:
  * Favorite search engine?
  * Use of Wikipedia?
  * Familiar with graphic search engines?
  * Keyword synonym exercise
  * Reflective summary…

Other strategies for student engagement?

* Google Docs?

* Other collaborative options?

* How do we gather evidence of student learning?

* What are we doing in classes to get students involved?

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Please stay in touch! We'd love to hear about your instruction experiences using polleverywhere.com!

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Happy Summer to all!