3-13-2014

Polls Without Clickers

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Polling without Clickers: 2014 Update

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Polling students

Use polling to quickly check in with students about class concepts. Polls are easy to set up and administer. They do not take much classroom time. You can use polls to:

- Check to see if students retained what was taught in an earlier class
- See if students are ready to move on during class, or still have questions
- Ask students if they agree with the outcome of a case
- Have students respond to political questions anonymously

While polls once required clickers, the resources below work with computers, smartphones, and tablets.

Polling tools

CALI Instapoll

http://www2.cali.org/instapoll/
One of the simplest tools available for creating online polls. Students can use any browser to answer.

Pros	Cons
Easy to use	Limited features
Free	Does not display specific answers

Westlaw TWEN Instapoll

Instapoll is part of every TWEN site, although it may be hidden on your site. Let us know if you'd like to use it. TWEN's Instapoll is similar to CALI's version, but with a few more features. Students can use any browser to answer.

Pros	Cons

Easy to use	Requires a TWEN site
Tracks number of participants who have not voted	Students need to login to TWEN
View results as bar or pie chart	Limited features
	Doesn't display specific answers
	Doesn't work on TWEN's mobile site (but works on mobile devices if you view TWEN in "full site" mode)

Flisti

http://flisti.com/

A simple multiple choice polling tool that displays specific answers. You can ask your students to respond during class or embed the poll in a website. Students can post comments about polls.

Pros	Cons
Easy to set up	Limited features
Free	

Poll Everywhere

http://www.polleverywhere.com

A powerful online polling system. Questions can be multiple choice, free text, or clickable images. Options include:
· Set the number of times students can respond with a number or "as much as they like"
· Download polls to PowerPoint slides
· Share poll in email or on websites

Pros	Cons
Offers many features and options	Free account is limited – only 40 students can respond
Students can respond with any browser or use cell phones	Takes more time and effort to set up

Another approach

Padlet

http://padlet.com/

Students can post anything on a virtual wall using this free tool. When students visit a Padlet website, they can either type responses or post files. It works with mobile browsers.

You can use this to ask open-ended questions such as what questions students still have at the end of a class. Padlet can also be used for feedback to see what teaching methods are working well for your students. Padlet does not require a login, but pages created without a login may be removed after 24 hours.

Google Forms

http://drive.google.com

Create forms in minutes and share them with your students. You can set up the form to automatically collect student emails, or have the students respond anonymously. Main campus faculty have been using Google Forms on iPads to ask students questions at the end of class to see what concepts are clear and where students need more information.

Emily's Handout from Staff Training (July 2013)

Slides