

Background

Name

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Discipline/Teaching Area

First year BIOL*1090 and second year molecular biology MBG*2040

Questions

1. How would you describe your teaching philosophy?

Teach by problem solving

2. What types of technology do you use in your teaching practice?

- I write notes on the lecture slides using my ipad under the Doc Cam instead of pointing to things with a laser on a big screen.
- I record the Doc Cam using Zoom and post it so students have access to it. Students seem to value this more than the the laser pointer. I asked at the end of the semester using iClicker.
- I use iClicker extensively

3. How long have you been incorporating iClicker Cloud into your teaching practice?

6-8 years

4. What motivated you to start using iClicker instead of a different student response system technology?

Initially we had the physical box and the students had the wands. We then updated the textbook and moved to MacMillian which had the iclicker system, so it was an easy transition.

5. How did you introduce iClicker Cloud to your students?

Told them to sign up and that I use this to know if they understand the material and that they have it as a study tool. Completely voluntary. No marks or attendance.

6. What delivery method is being used in the course(s) where you are leveraging iClicker Cloud (e.g., fully on-site, fully online, hybrid/blended, hyflex)? How well did the use of iClicker cloud work in this modality?

Fully on-site now. In one semester it was a hybrid course with students logging in live on Zoom for a synchronous course, but they did not participate in the iClicker questions. During covid I used it, but not interactively. I just went through the motions. In both cases the students still had the questions and answers in their iClicker account for studying. Works really well in the in-person lectures, not well at all in the on-line method.

7. What types of activities do you use iClicker Cloud for (e.g., attendance, anonymous polling, graded quizzes, assignments)?

Anonymous polling

8. What are some examples of iClicker Cloud activities that you used?

Usually multiple choice questions.

9. What are some of the challenges you have had with iClicker Cloud?

More technical on the iClicker side but here they are:

- Being able to sync different lecture sections to one course
- For the multiple choice, allowing students to choose more than one right answer as an option
- Wifi/internet issues in Rozh 104, but this seems to be getting better (knock on wood).

10. Have you received any feedback from your students about the use of iClicker Cloud in your course(s)? If so, was the feedback generally positive or negative? Did you notice any trends or themes in the feedback?

- Students are generally positive about the use of iClicker. For one, it provides them with some exam-type questions that they can use to study with and
- It slows down the lecture, which in my case is usually a good thing and
- It allows them to engage in the course, which is important in a class of 600 students.
- I do notice that many (~1/3) of the students don't bother, so maybe they are not engaged or could care less.

11. What recommendations do you have for instructors who are considering using iClicker Cloud?

It works well for large first year and second year courses, but not in smaller (<~100 student) upper year courses. Students engage differently in upper year courses.

12. What resources would you recommend to instructors thinking about using iClicker Cloud or a student response system technology?

Reach out to MacMillian. They are pretty good in setting things up and integration with CourseLink, if needed.