Using Mobile Devices As An Audience Response System In A Large Class Setting

Gabrielle O'Kelly¹

Abstract

Background/Purpose

This paper examines the use of student mobile devices as an interactive teaching and learning methodology in a university class of 160 students. Audience response systems can be used to measure attendance, student engagement, participation and assessment. The context is an elective module entitled 'Interpersonal and Teamwork Skills' delivered over 12 weeks in which a cooperative learning method of teaching was used.

Aim/Objective

The aim is that the audience will have an opportunity to learn about as well as experience the audio response system using their own mobile devices at the conference.

Methods

The type of audience response system used was Qwizdom © in conjunction with PowerPoint.

The presenter will describe the variety of questions that can be incorporated into the Qwizdom response system. Lecturer preparation and student preparation for the use of the audience response system will be outlined. Also, some tips for using the audience response system to best advantage are explored.

One of the challenges is the production of higher order questions that encourage students to apply, analyse, synthesis and/or evaluate their knowledge. Examples of these will be presented.

Results/Conclusions

The efficacy of using an audience response system will be discussed. There are several advantages and challenges to using an audience response system which will be examined. In conclusion, students' evaluation of the system will be elaborated upon.

Keywords: Audience response system, mobile devices, large class teaching, Cooperative learning

¹ University College Dublin (Ireland)