CHECK THIS TECH! *innovative teaching tools & services*

Taking the Pulse of a Class   *Inside Higher Ed*

New **free** app seeks to shake up student ratings of instruction by promoting open-ended feedback in the moment, throughout the semester, so that the feedback becomes more constructive.

"...allow(s) students to offer anonymous, instantaneous feedback on instruction, ClassPulse is a free application students and professors download to their phones. From there, students can post comments or questions visible to everyone in the class. Professors can gauge the significance of each post by the number of supporting votes it gets from other students. So a comment with one vote might not mean much. But a comment with 25 votes is probably representative of students' concerns, depending on class size. "

See this article for more information.
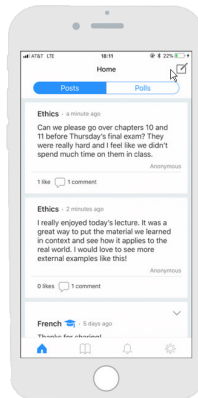
Did you know?
Tips for faculty

Multiple Choice Tests: Revisiting the Pros and Cons

This article presents some in-depth analysis of the multiple-choice assessment format and presents both perks and pitfalls to consider. One strategy describes how creating a collection of questions can refine your testing. UCM's Blackboard LMS provides mechanisms to create pools of questions, as well as the option to randomize question presentation among students. Contact CTL staff for a personal demonstration if you're interested. Several links to additional information on the subject of multiple-choice test creation are included at the bottom of the Pros & Cons article.

Designing Better Quizzes—free 20 page report download with advice from 15 teaching peers on the subject.

Suggestions? Please click on our Ideas box!

Faculty Watercooler
Faculty discussions on subjects that matter to you

Write an Engaging Video Script with These Six Tips

from Screencast-o-matic

"An awesome video always starts with an engaging script"! Whether you're creating a how-to screencast of a process or a more complex video, this article provides some good common-sense planning advice. Apply this list of practical considerations when developing your Adobe Presenter shows, screencasts, or actual video productions.
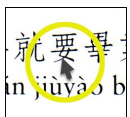
Keeping Up
The latest in Teaching and Learning

UCM Instructor Creates Effective Learning Solution

Screencast-o-matic has been instrumental in helping Abigail Chang, UCM's Chinese II instructor, create instructional aids for her students. With the circular progress indicator and the addition of Ms. Chang's voice narrating the chapter exercises, the recordings provide a unique and customized language practice tool. Inserted into her Blackboard course as embedded videos housed in each chapter's folder, students can view the videos as many times as necessary to reinforce character recognition and pronunciation correlation. Click here to view a sample lesson.

CTL staff coached Ms. Chang on implementation and scanned lesson exercises from the course textbook so they could be screen captured along with her narration and the program's progress indicator. Ms. Chang says students love the new videos, and she has seen dramatic improvement in her course since adding them. Contact CTL if we can help you integrate this easy to use tool in your course!

Check out this "**2 minute* takeaway**" for a short videotaped nugget of advice you can apply to your teaching. In this video, Dr. Natalia Bailey's math education student demonstrates how the lightboard tool in CTL can be used to create a unique video lesson.

2 minute takeaway

MATH 3800 Lightboard Lesson

By UCM student Allyson Guffey

*some videos may be a bit longer!