

Teaching Enhanced Through Smart Phone

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Abstract

Nowadays, technology has been improved by way of smartphones and by other inventions. The general finding of this paper will show the use of smartphones in the classroom, has a great impact on both teaching and learning practices. The smartphone is weightless compared to books and is easy to carry; one can learn through mobile application like dictionary, Thesaurus, translator, group exam and other competitive exams. Students should know the positive side of the smart phones, as it happens, the linguists may present an opportunity for educators to design educational methods, activities and material that are suitable for smart phones. Students need to be allowed to use this technology. Smartphone application has found its way into our lives. The mobile application has contributed to creation, interaction and providing the necessary feedback to make the present and future classes into a better thing and helps in experiential learning. Smartphone is a better way to enhance the teaching in the present and in the upcoming days.

Keywords: Mobile applications, smartphone in education, technology, eLearning.

Smart Phones – Choice Technology

The increasing capabilities of mobile or smart phones are positioning them as the technology of choice, replacing PCs, for many users, especially college students. As such, the use of these devices is considered an inevitable learning tool available to higher education. This paper explores the evolution of the smart phone into a potentially powerful learning tool by providing a literature review on smart phones. Smartphone is used in higher education that lays a foundation for future research that examines the digital gap between teacher and student related to knowledge.

Lessons & Activities

In Class Polling/Quizzing:

One of the favorite tools to use in class is a program called Poll. This is a great piece of software to use in the classroom. The teacher can create quiz questions for the students from the text and a easy way to check in their answers. No need to buy an expensive clicker system to set up, and/or maintain. If students register their cellphone numbers, the teacher can even track their answers for impromptu quizzes or reviews.

In-class Backchanneling:

Backchanneling refers to the use of networks & social media to maintain an online, real-time conversation alongside spoken remarks. For example, if you attend a keynote presentation at a conference these days, you will often find that some listeners in the audience are using their mobile devices to take videos, to record their speech and to comment to other

audience members about things that the speaker is talking about, while the speaker gives a lecture.

Backchanneling can be a great way to give quiet students a voice, to introduce additional facts and insights during a lesson, or simply to encourage “conversation” during lecture or group readings when you do not want to interrupt the presentation.

While Twitter is probably the most popular medium for backchanneling news and entertainment events, teachers will probably want a more controllable platform than the one Twitter provides. Educators can readily set up a private backchannel using free webtools. One popular program is Today’s Meet, which allows individuals to create temporary rooms to host backchannel discussions.

In-class Readings & Handouts:

Smartphones can also be productively in the classroom as eReaders for books, handouts and Drop Box folders. If we are reading or doing work in class, they can access our Dropbox space via the internet and open reference material without printing it up or asking for a new copy. It is *literally* right in the palm of their hands.

Of course, for traditional reading materials like textbooks and paperbacks, you can use mobile apps like Kindle eReader, Nook App, iBooks, or Google Play Books, Kobo, WhatsApp, etc. Many of them host free content and some allow you to load content of your own. This is a great way to save money on book purchases and photocopies. Using these apps, students can even highlight and develop their vocabulary.

Research

One of the greatest active uses of smartphones is in the area of research. The days with photocopies, taking meticulous notes, and trying to employ a series of notecards in a vain attempt at some semblance of a coherent organized system, are gone. Smartphones do a much better job. In this case, the power is in the apps these days. The student’s favorite research is the tool smartphone “camera scanners” which capture information using the phone’s built-in camera. One of the best apps is a program called Genius Scan+, available for iOS, Android, and Windows based phones. This app allows the student to take pictures of documents even books with those bendy pages, crop them, and then enhance them for ready viewing. They can create notebooks of documents of a book or article and then it can be stored on the device or export them as a photo image or PDF to Google Docs, DropBox, Evernote, and more. It is a great tool for teacher and to the students to organize research materials.

Evernote is another great application that students can use to organize their notes and images, take voice notes, write notes by hand, and gather web clippings, sort emails, and so on. They can put them into pre-categorized folders as class, project, theme, etc., as well as give them “tags” which makes them easy to search and sort later.

Google Search

Most people can grasp the power of having Google in their pocket, but few recognize that the mobile version of Google is much more than a web browser. The Google Search App is used not only for traditional searches, but has a voice search feature as well.

The Google Search is the ability to perform searches using images. This feature, called Google Goggles, is a creative way to search the internet for image-based content in which they can watch the videos. These mobile Google capabilities offer a great way for students to explore material on the fly, using a variety of media. Any content, images, etc. that they find can be sent to a Google Drive account. For example, the teacher can give a separate email id for the class to use in which they can operate google drive; the teacher can upload the assignments, notes, etc. in the account so the students can download the materials from it.

Social Media

The social media landscape is dynamic, and students will regularly embrace new apps. Therefore, teachers should examine the instructional and communication possibilities of these apps and consider their potential to engage students and to augment learning in new ways. As an academic device, social media improves the chance to learn by enabling learners and instructors to link and communicate in new, interesting ways. Websites such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn provide a place where users can dialogue, exchange ideas, and find solutions to problems. These websites have been designed to promote cooperation and conversation. Social media is used as educational tool and today's students arrive at school, fluent in Web and social networking technologies. Teachers can make use of this knowledge to enhance opportunities to learn. With social media, teachers can promote cooperation and discussion, create meaningful conversation, exchange ideas, and boost student interaction. It enhances student engagement that is an effective way to increase student involvement and build better interaction skills. Learners who hardly ever raise a hand in class may feel more comfortable on Facebook, Twitter, or YouTube. Social media systems enable instructors to identify "back channels" that promote conversation and surface ideas that students are too shy or nervous to speak out in class. It improves communication among students and teachers and enhances the interaction among learners and teachers. It prepares the students for successful employment and students entering the workforce can use social networking sites to network and find employment. It also helps the student to know about the daily news or current affairs happening in society and improves their learning skill.

Discussion Forums

Rather than going on the open Internet, there are many resources available for teachers to set up their own online class discussion forums. This is a great way to develop students' skills in writing for an audience, as well as presenting and defending their opinions. In addition, it gives new opportunities for students to be heard, particularly those who are less likely to participate in classroom discussions. The discussion forum enhances the speaking skill and listening skill where the forum conducts group discussions and makes the students to speak through online. So, the tutor rectifies their mistake and the student can enhance his confidence level. In the discussion forum, the students can also raise doubts regarding subjects and other things, which improves their learning skill.

Audio Recording

The audio recorder is a useful app which helps the student to record the lecture and hear it again when he cannot understand the concept. When a student is absent for the class the audio of the lecture can be send to the particular student through social media and this might be helpful for the student to improve his/her knowledge and it also improves in listening and writing skill. They can also increase their speed in writing as the audio runs.

Students may use to record lectures or to flesh out their assignments by adding in audio elements; and doing an oral history assignment with a smartphone is another possible use.

The audio can be a music, a different context, or even a speech by a different person from a foreign country so the students will be able to follow the pronunciation and the fluency of the speaker. Students and the teacher can listen to the audio to enhance their speaking skill.

This is certainly only a starter for smartphones in classrooms. Many teachers and students are already using them in other, untold interesting ways, but that is the point. Smartphones are compelling tools in the hands of students and well-informed educators, and they will only become more so over time. Using smartphones in classrooms presents new opportunities for teachers and students to work together on leveraging these devices.

Increasingly, students own smartphones at the very young age and, as with other aspects of their lives, they will turn to them as a matter of course to enhance their experience of learning. This study has shown that once students begin to use their smartphones for learning they will appreciate the benefits and the further possibilities that exist within their current frame of reference. It suggests that academics and educational developers continue to develop their understanding of personal technologies like smartphones, tablets and PCs and it reflects on the differences between these emerging technologies and established learning environments and technologies. The educators also reflect on their assumptions about the design and delivery of the curriculum and the formal and informal engagement that the students can have with it.

This study has demonstrated the potential of personal technologies with students, which has enhanced teaching through smartphones that is to be insightful for academics.

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