Leveraging Mobile Devices to Support Authentic Learning

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Poll Question

• Have you ever asked students to use a mobile device (smartphone, tablet) for an assignment?
  • A. Yes
  • B. No
What is Mobile?

Mobile Devices

Virtual/Augmented/Mixed Reality

Internet of Things (IoT)
Ownership and Academic Use

Recent UCF survey of 1,181 students:
  • 95% own a smartphone
  • 57% own a tablet (20% increase in two years)

Student use of mobile devices for learning*
  • 73% smartphones
  • 45% tablet

*at least once a week
Top 5 Academic App Categories used by UCF students

1. UCF (Canvas Mobile, UCFMobile, UCF Apps)
2. Education (Quizlet, Flashcards, Pearson)
3. Books (iBooks, Coursemart, Kindle)
4. Reference (Dictionary, Wikipanion)
5. Productivity (Evernote, Dropbox, Keynote)
Potential of Mobile Devices

- Support authentic learning
  - Tasks that provide opportunities to connect with real-world
  - Unique to student interests
  - Create a useful product to be shared
  - Develop workforce skills
“Students’ relationships with technology is complex – they recognize its value but still need guidance when it comes to better using it for academics” (Dahlstrom, Walker, & Dziuban, 2013, p. 4).
The Mobile Opportunity

Student usage to instructor requirement of devices for assignments ($N = 1,181$)
What’s Your Story?

- Every discipline and subject area contain stories to tell – narratives that can be told visually.

Photo credits: Blanton Museum of Art

Sarah Aslam
My Mobile Story

- Most popular news story on OS.com (28,000+ readers)
- No. 1 linked basketball story on ESPN.com
- Shared 4,880 times on Facebook
Mobile = Newsroom In Hand

- You have all the tools you need to tell visual stories in your hand.
Introduce Mobile Elements

- **News Reporting** blended course (JOU 2100). Use basic, native apps to…
  - Take notes.
  - Capture audio.
  - Take pictures.
  - Crowdsourcing from the field.

- Rebecca Males interviews a campaign worker during SGA election.
Advanced Element: Video

- Mobile Journalism course (JOU 4340).
- Techniques for shooting, editing and producing visual stories with photos and video.

- Daniela Torres
Objectives and Assessment

- A tool students already use.
- Consumer to producer.
- Immersive learning through storytelling.
- Simple rubric (sample handout.)
Results: Employment

• Tori Walker, student in the spring 2015 Mobile Journalism class, May 2015 graduate

• “My mobile skills and mindset to think digital first are definitely what landed me the job at The Ledger.” – Tori Walker, reporter, Lakeland Ledger
The Fire at Tivoli Apartments

• “I would like to thank Rick Brunson for giving me the tools to implement what I did … Thank you, Brunson.”

– John Kuntz
The Importance of Modeling
Are You Ready to Go Mobile?

- In what ways can you imagine your students using these devices for fieldwork in your discipline?
- How can you begin to practice and model that skill for them?
UCF Mobile Resources

- Mobile Essentials
- CDL Mobile Blog
- Mobile App Checklist
- M-OTTR
- Mobile Course Check
Questions?

- Seminar Resources
  - http://dl.ucf.edu/mobile