

# Classroom Response Systems

## *An annotated introduction*

Workshop, August 2017

Andrew Owen, Instructor, Political Science

Do this now:

- Go to [www.learningcatalytics.com/demo](http://www.learningcatalytics.com/demo)
- Enter the information (you can use a fake email if you like).
- On the next screen, enter **97492076** as the class session ID

# LC Demo

# Learning Catalytics

## Pros:

- Lots of question types
- Dynamic group creation for discussion.
- Question banks
- Many types of delivery

### **Instructor-Led Synchronous**

Students respond individually to questions as they are delivered one at a time, typically in class or online with an instructor present.

### **Automated Synchronous**

Students respond individually to questions as they are delivered one at a time in an automated format, typically out of class at a set time when an instructor is not present.

### **Self-Paced**

Students respond individually to questions in any order, typically outside of class.

### **Self-Test**

Students respond individually to questions in any order and receive feedback on each of their responses, typically outside of class.

### **Team-Based Assessment**

Students respond individually to all questions in the module, and then gather in their groups and respond as a team to the same questions.

## Cons:

- Server in USA / FIPPA
- Interface and display is a bit clunky/ugly
- No anonymous questions (I think).

# Top Hat

Very similar to Learning Catalytics:

- Fewer question types
- Better interface
- Canadian servers

TH demo

- Go to [www.tinyurl.com/ubc-eclipse](http://www.tinyurl.com/ubc-eclipse)
  - OR <https://app.tophat.com/register/student>
- Enter 163299
- Sign up (fake email ok), skip student id and phone number
- Click enroll

# Top Hat

## Pros:

- Friendliest interface, best external tech support
- Canadian servers
- Anonymous questions
- Choice to embed in lecture or not

## Cons:

- Fewer question types than Learning Catalytics
  - Eg: many choice, data collection, image upload, ...
- No question bank
- To see how 'presentation mode' (where you use your usual presentation software like power point and TopHat works in the background, go to: Presentation mode (external ap) go to:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQIcj8\\_IISg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQIcj8_IISg)

# iClicker (Classic and Cloud)

The original!

- Classic: students purchase a device (that has 5 buttons)
- iCloud (aka Reef): students can use own devices
  - Attempt to move closer to TH/LC
  - Question types: MC, numeric, short answer (140 char), region
- Iclicker video
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98rsHNufhMg>  
(Watch ~20:05 to 22ish and 15:30 to 17 ish).

# iClicker (Classic and Cloud)

## **Classic:**

### Pros:

- No wifi needed
- Fewer e-distractions
- Questions embedded in presentation

### Cons:

- Only multiple choice
- Software doesn't 'know' questions

## **icloud:**

- More Qs than classic, but very few
- Students choose device/distraction
- Much worse than web based alternatives

# Google Docs

- Cloud based software applications
- Students can use to send information to instructors and/or the class.
- Examples: spreadsheets, form input and output

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Y1Zp70mJ29yeyvQwTVeASi\\_jTRTNnomggz8TpHWivV4/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Y1Zp70mJ29yeyvQwTVeASi_jTRTNnomggz8TpHWivV4/edit#gid=0)

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1JjvoLiFwluxKiMu\\_UCAQNK7\\_8dEoX1Qyst8S19Bz7n0/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1JjvoLiFwluxKiMu_UCAQNK7_8dEoX1Qyst8S19Bz7n0/edit)



# Google Docs

## Pros:

- Free
- Intuitive to use
- Compare multiple answers for one student/group
- Collaborative editing

## Cons:

- US Servers (but no personal info)
- No 'memory' of student ids
- 50 person limit for editing

# Kahoot

Free web based quiz application

- Essentially only multiple choice
  - Can do 'order' but in different session.
- Defaults to 'gameified' version with points

Kahoot demo

You can create a kahoot at [create.kahoot.it](https://create.kahoot.it)

# Kahoot

## Pros:

- Very easy to set up
- Free
- Private for students

## Cons:

- No data collected (can't record participation/ score)
- Just multiple choice

Comparison	Cost	Devices	Question Types	One person's opinion
iClicker Classic	Device cost	hardware	multiple choice	No wifi needed, fewer distractions? Software clunky, 1 type of question
iClicker Cloud	\$20/6 mo \$24/yr	Web device or hardware	Multiple choice, short answer, numeric, click on target	Worst of both worlds
TopHat	\$34/6 mo \$48/ yr	Web enabled, sms	Multiple choice, word answer, numeric, sorting, matching, click on target	Smooth interface, good support, Cdn servers More limited compared to LC
Learning Catalytics	\$16 / 6 mo \$26 /yr	Web enabled	Composite sketch, Confidence, Data collection, Direction, Expression, Highlighting, Image upload, Long answer, Many choice, Matching, Multiple choice, Numerical, Priority, Ranking, Region, Sketch, Word cloud, Slide	Asynchronous Delivery, Peer Instruction through seatmap and algorithm, question banks FIPPA, clunky interface
Google Docs	Free	Web enabled	Multiple choice, many choice, short & long text answer, numeric	Free, easy to use, free, collaborative editing Hard to link across sessions, FIPPA, 50 person max for some apps
Kahoot	Free	Web enabled	Multiple choice	Free, easy to use, gameify no record of responses

# More

- Piazza
  - Free online discussion space. Enables Q&A among students and instructors
- Pulsepress
  - UBC-made twitter-like “classroom backchannel”
- CLAS
  - Arts-built Video platform with lecture/class recording and classroom backchannel synchronization
- Plickers

Important! ..... Check out:

<http://isit.arts.ubc.ca/other-tools-for-teaching-and-learning/>

which you can link to at: <https://tinyurl.com/niftytools>

# Final thoughts:

- More active thinking by students than a lecture but account for cognitive load and student expectations
- Learning the software requires modest overhead cost, question design is fun and encourages reflective teaching.
- Teaching is messier, more cognitively demanding, more rewarding and more effective.

# Other stuff

- Use CRS as readiness check for group activities