Who Are You?

What course? | Class size? | Polling before?
Ways Instructors Use Polling

- Warm-up
- Peer Instruction
- Peer evaluation
- Anonymous polling
- Participation and grading
Different Types of Question

- Checking for understanding
- Critical thinking
- Facilitating discussions
- Opinions and personal experiences
- Confidence level
Conceptual Understanding

You’ve just driven around a curve at 25mph when you notice a car identical to yours coming straight towards you at 25mph. You have two options: hitting the other car head on or swerving into a massive concrete wall, also head on. In the split second before impact you decide to:

A. Hit the other car
B. Hit the wall
C. Hit either one—it makes no difference
Confidence Level Question

How confident were you in answering the previous question?

A. Very confident
B. Somewhat confident
C. Not at all confident
Critical Thinking Questions

- You are a triage nurse in a pediatric urgent care clinic and the following patients are waiting. Who would you triage first?

- What other author would agree that economic grievances motivate civil wars?
Facilitate Discussions

The simplest yet MOST effective method of preventing the spread of infectious disease is to:

A. Undergo an annual physical examination
B. Ensure that your immunizations are up-to-date
C. Wash your hands in between patient contacts
D. Undergo HIV and TB testing at least twice a year
Student Perspective Question

Scientists don’t really know if the climate is changing.

A. Strongly Agree
B. Moderately Agree
C. Moderately Disagree
D. Strongly Disagree
What kind of question works in your class?
4 Considerations

- In a lecture class, use a polling question every 5-7 minutes
- Give students credit for answering: make polling participation part of the grade
- Incorporate varied types of questions
- Keep answer options short with similar structure
Lecture Tools

- Large lecture classes
- Besides polling...
  - Q&A between student and instructor or TA
  - Notetaking with slide
  - Student flag confusing slides
- Want to try? Let us know!
Collaborate

- Access through Blackboard
- Teleconferencing Software
- Instant Messaging Capabilities
Next Steps for Getting Started with Polling in your Classroom
Clickers online: blogs.commons.georgetown.edu/clickers_cop

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THANK YOU