

IGNITE SESSION: Poll Everywhere

AALL 2013

Teaching FCIL Research Group

Introduction

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- 2010 --

Teaching Responsibilities

- LARW: about 4-6 classes/semester
- IFLR: 8 classes of 1.5 hours in spring
- LARWINT

Legal Research Instruction: Challenges



Solutions?

In class exercises

- Improve engagement
- Practice skills and tools
- Not much opportunity for feedback from students

Socratic-ish method

- Crickets
 - Bored? Lack of knowledge? Lack of investment?
Fear?

Enter: Poll Everywhere



Poll Everywhere

[Pricing](#)

[Take a Tour](#)

[Help & FAQ](#)

[Signup](#)

[Login](#)

Instant Audience Feedback

Try voting on a multiple choice poll

Text a free text poll

Watch the demo video

How does Poll Everywhere work?

Create your first poll

Takes 30 seconds. No signup required.

What's your favorite animal?

Text a **KEYWORD** to 22333 [Change Region](#)

100%
80%
60%
40%
20%
0%

LION

TURTLE

GRANDPA

Message and data rates may apply. What does it mean?

Basic Account

- Unlimited polls
- Up to 40 votes per poll
- Live PPT polls, web voting, downloadable results
- NO SPAM

There are other features, but these are the ones I've used.

Equipment Required

Instructor

- Register for account
- Download PPT slides from web & upload into your slides

Audience

- Laptop or mobile device (no smartphone required)

Training?

Built in time at beginning of class for students to ask questions and troubleshoot

- 5-10+ minutes
- User friendly
- Students help each other
- Simple instructions included in slide

Normal text message charges will apply for students who elect to use their phone (o charge for voting via laptop).

Poll Options

- Multiple choices
 - Used to ensure specific points are established before moving on
 - Used for “choose your own adventure” approach to assignments
- Open ended
 - Used successfully for “any questions?”

Students Love


- Answers displayed in real-time
- Appreciate efforts to solicit their input
- More dynamic classroom experience
- Anonymous participation
- Humor

Instructors Love

- Student engagement
- Lively classroom experience
- Confidence students have learned a particular concept
- Students more forgiving (e.g., often assume they all need/want the same thing)
- Creates PPT slides ready to embed/go live

Open ended example I

Research Guide Questions: Open Ended!

 **Start** this poll to accept responses

"Is there a grading rubric? How is it scored?"

5 months ago

"How many sources should we have in the research guide?"


5 months ago

"what is the best way to incorporate several different research guide topics into a single presentation"

5 months ago

Open ended example II

Research Guide Questions: Open Ended!

 **Start** this poll to accept responses

"birds carry diseases"

5 months ago

"Shout out to Sarah and Chad for providing a veritable feast"

5 months ago

"Are there any specific things you are looking for in our presentations?"

5 months ago

"Cats kill up to 6.5 billion birds annually, including songbirds."


“Choose your own adventure”

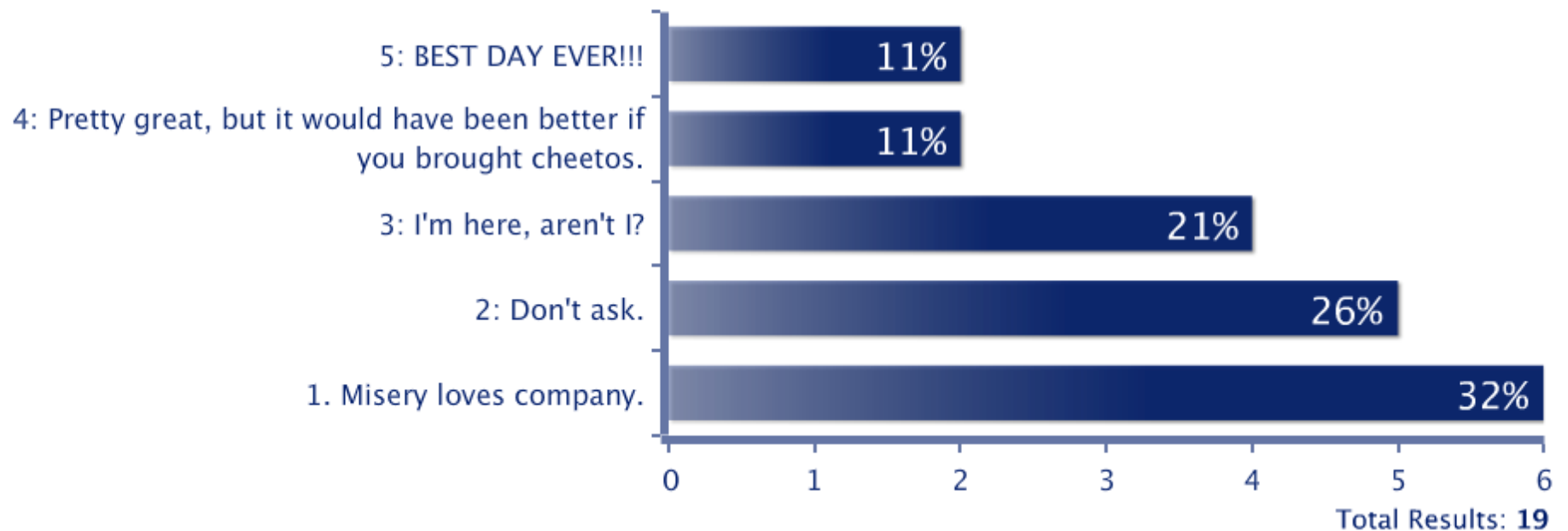
Would you like a short presentation to be factored into your grade for this class?

- Only if it means less work (45%)
- I would rather gouge my eye out (23%)
- Not really, but I could probably use the practice (18%)
- I was hoping you would ask! (14%)

Also used to check in with students...

On a scale of 1 to 5, how are you doing?

 **Start** this poll to accept responses



Unanticipated challenges

- Students voting more than once
- Off-topic responses to open-ended questions

Solutions to challenges

- Cap number of votes to number of students in class
- Only one vote per device
- Establishing “appropriate” use

Unanticipated benefits

- Students requested more polls (i.e., *they were excited about participating*)
- Two other legal research instructors incorporated them successfully in classroom
- Governing faculty member heard about it from students and asked about using it in her classroom
- Fun
- Better than polls used outside of classroom

Questions?