Click It!
Implementing classroom response systems alongside archival instruction

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The Background

• Small liberal arts college (1400 students)
• We conduct approximately 50 instruction sessions per year across academic disciplines
• Also implemented LibGuides, a content management system designed for creating subject guides
The Research Problem

- Quantify student knowledge
- Measure student awareness
- Anonymous way to track student progress
The Plan

- Contact college’s media services department to obtain clickers
- Review literature for possible questions
- Develop questions
- Implement
- Assess

Sample Questions

Pre-Instruction Questions

• Which of these is a primary source?
• I can find the best resources for my research on Google?
• What is a finding aid?
• Which citation is correct?
• Which of these is a scholarly peer-reviewed journal?

Post-Instruction Questions

• Which of these is a primary source?
• How would I find [insert collection name]?
• What is a finding aid?
• Which answer gives the title of the book?
• I can contact an archivist via …
Which of these is a primary source?

1. Biography about Lincoln
2. William and Mary Quarterly
3. Civil War diary
4. All of the above
5. I’m not sure
Results

• Student response was positive
  – Students appreciated anonymity
  – Questions helped keep students engaged because content wasn’t redundant

• Faculty response was positive
  – Teaching faculty could clearly see what their students learned in one session
  – Helped to create buy-in with other faculty
Next Steps

- Utilization in overall instruction
- Questions for future research
- Integrate information literacy throughout departmental curriculum
Selected Bibliography


