Getting beyond attendance: 
Best practices for 
student response systems
Agenda:

• What are student response systems
• How does it aid active learning
• Best practices and effective use
• Q&A
What is a student response system?

Any response system that allows you to collect student feedback
How does it aid active learning

• Keep the class material interesting
How does it aid active learning

• Keep the class material interesting
• Increase participation
Do you currently use polling?

Respond at PollEv.com/dcsrutgers

Text DCSRUTGERS to 37607 once to join, then A or B

42% I currently use polling

58% I do not use polling
How does it aid active learning

• Keep the class material interesting
• Increase participation
• Gauge student understanding
  • Baseline
  • Test key concepts covered
    • Move on
    • Review further
• Proper timing
• Feedback from entire class
• Peer instruction
You poll your students after introducing a new topic and some of the students get the correct answer, do you?

Respond at PollEv.com/dcsrutgers

Text DCSRUTGERS to 37607 once to join, then A, B, or C

- Move to the next topic: A (54%)
- Review the topic further: B (21%)
- Not sure: C (25%)
How does it aid active learning

• Keep the class material interesting
• Increase participation
• Gauge student understanding
• Force students to think conceptually
How many gallons of water would you need to fill this room with water balloons?

Respond at PollEv.com/dcsrutgers

Text DCSRUTGERS to 37607 once to join, then text your message
How does it aid active learning

- Keep the class material interesting
- Gauge student understanding
- Increase participation
- Force students to think conceptually
- Give students feedback on their own understanding
Best practices

• First time polling
  • Practice to make sure in-room technologies work with it
  • Establish ground rules
  • Including an ice-breaker or low-stakes question
  • Time management
Best practices

• Simple short questions
• Interweave throughout lecture
• Review answers after poll
• Have an objective for all questions
• Compare past semester polls
• Have supplemental content available
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