Interactive Learning, online and in-person

IAP Symposium on Innovative Leadership: Transforming Higher Education in the Digital Age
June 21, 2021
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@eric__mazur
Ana Moreno-Núñez: “Have any of you thought of potential applications for this video commenting tool in your lectures? [...] I will definitely love to give it a chance for my students to watch and comment a video of one of these experiments on Perusall prior the class, so we can follow up with the debate about it during the lecture.”
Goal of this session
demonstrate how to integrate Perusall in your teaching approach
information transfer
sense-making
Perusall Feedback — Pedagogy

- motivating students
- instructor involvement
Motivating students

Pedro Ruiz: “Most of my colleagues that do not want to embrace flipped classroom always complain that students do not work in advance. What are your experiences on this?”

Rocío Gómez: “I agree, What would be the consequences for the student if he/she doesn’t complete the assignment before class? I guess they won’t be allowed to participate in the lecture, but how can we control it?”
Motivating students

Silvia Lavandera Ponce: “Every student ready for every class”. How are we sure about it? In Peru during Pandemia I realized that students are not ready for this kind of methodology.”
Motivating students

César Cáceres: “The worst mistake I made one day many students didn’t do it before was to explain in class the things they should have worked in advance... There is no turning back from there.”
class test results

percent of students

number of chapters missed before class

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

30 60 70 80
class test results

close to 95%!
Motivating students

Margarita Billon: “Do your students receive additional written instructions about the tool, apart from those you provide in the video, at the beginning of the course?”
Reading Assignment Overview

Because there are no lectures in AP50, you will be using Perusall to familiarize yourself interactively with the basic content of the course. You will do so by reading one chapter per week from a textbook that evolved from a set of lecture notes for an introductory physics course. The textbook, *Principles and Practice of Physics* (Eric Mazur, Pearson 2015) is available at no cost in Perusall. If you want a printed copy, you can purchase the book via one of the many online textbook vendors, but this is neither required nor necessary.

The Perusall platform permits you to interact asynchronously with other students in the class and help each other build a deeper understanding by annotating and discussing the material within the context of the text you are reading.

If you haven't yet done so, watch this short introductory video about Perusall before proceeding.

Purpose of the reading assignments

The goal of the reading is to gain sufficient knowledge to be able to participate in subsequent activities in a meaningful way — just as a lecture would (but now you can do it at your own convenience and pace, and you can interact with others). The goal is not to master every little detail — the other activities are designed to reinforce your understanding of the important principles before you begin to apply them in the projects. There is no need to memorize any of the information in the text, as you will always have access to it. Therefore you can focus on understanding, rather than memorizing.

Fostering a community of learners in Perusall

Perusall is your space and provides a good opportunity to create happenstance encounters and build an online community of learners. The teaching team will not participate in the discussions in Perusall, although to help facilitate and bootstrap both the conversation and your critical thinking about the material, we will pre-annotate the chapters in Perusall with a number of questions that students in previous years have asked. The Perusall Curators Program, however, permits some of the most burning lingering questions or points of confusion to be transferred to the #perusall-loose-ends channel on Slack, where everyone, including members of the teaching team, can join in on a conversation.

With this space on Perusall for interacting with others also comes the responsibility of maintaining professionalism. It is important to always behave respectfully, even with conflicting view points. While there is no moderation of the annotations on Perusall, you can anonymously report an annotation if you deem it to be inappropriate or plagiarized. Click the small 'hazard' triangle underneath the annotation and the annotation will be removed until it is reviewed by the teaching team.
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Purpose of the reading assignments

The purpose of the reading is to gain sufficient knowledge to be able to participate in subsequent activities in a meaningful way — just as a lecture would — and to demonstrate that you can interpret the concepts presented in the text independently. This is not to master every little detail — the other activities are designed to reinforce your understanding of the important principles before you begin to apply them in the projects. There is no need to memorize any of the information in the text, as you will always have access to it. Therefore you can focus on understanding, rather than memorizing.

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Instructor involvement

Cristina Gimenez Elorriaga: “Flipped class required much more effort from the teacher, right?"

Marco Antonio Garcia de Carvalho: “This requires a big change in course planning.”
Instructor involvement

How I prepared myself
Perusall Feedback — Technology

• grouping
• scoring
• LMS
• synchronous use
• content
Grouping

Ana Moreno-Núñez: “Are these partitions randomized, or do they follow any distribution rationale (e.g. alphabetical order by last names)?”

Pedro Ruiz: “That’s an interesting point. I guess those groups are maintained for the whole course, or is it on a per-assignment basis? ”
Scoring

Andreia Inamorato: “Although it is a great feature to have AI and machine learning reporting on students’ engagement, also helpful for grading, the flip side of it could be ‘online surveillance’ of students’ behaviour. Have you researched the ‘social pressure’ that annotated social reading can cause on students? “
Carmen Hidalgo Giralt: “I would like to know if the reality of the grading algorithm has been tested? I am very surprised that students can be assessed like this. Will we have more information in the session?”
Rhona Lohan: “Can this integrated assessment tool be applied to other classroom teaching platforms? For example, in my university we use CANVAS, I know Perusall can be used through the platform but can it automatically add grades to the gradebook on CANVAS?”
Synchronous use

Rocío Gómez: “I see why students can learn with each other asynchronously. But, is it possible to make assessments to be active at certain times? as for example, that all students should log it at a certain time to discuss synchronously?”
Alejandra Carina Santos: “How could it be done to test Perusall in a course that we are teaching? Is it free and free?”
Documents you can use with Perusall

• PDF, Word, html, or ePub files (free)
• video—YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, Dropbox (free)
• open access material (free)
• source code with syntax highlighting (free)
• books (purchased by students or institution)
Reflection

• asynchronous preparation
• synchronous time for discussion
Reflection

• asynchronous preparation
• synchronous time for discussion
• dig deeper post-session
The Perusall Exchange 2021 will be held virtually, Perusall-wide.

Perusall facilitates a portfolio of digital resources and tools for teaching and learning, with a focus on improving student outcomes across a shared ecosystem.

The event will include virtual synchronous and asynchronous exchanges of ideas, questions, and reflections. Our theme is "Transforming Perusall with Perusall:" ideas we hope to provide to our community, as well as to explore and implement.

Get ready for online learning and engage in discussions about teaching and learning at the Perusall Exchange 2021.

May 17–28

perusall.com/exchange

May 17–28, 2021

An event for innovators in teaching

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Upgrading to Instructor Account

• log in to your Perusall Account
• click “Enroll in Course”
• enter code: VVTQIBJNVK
for a copy of this presentation:

mazur.harvard.edu

additional resources in Perusall course

also see  bit.ly/fliponline

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