

## Using Cell Phones in the Classroom

Some instructors have embraced the use of cell phones and mobile devices in the classroom. Liz Kolb. (2011) *Cell Phones in the Classroom: A Practical Guide for Educators* discusses how K-12 teachers use cell phones in classrooms across the United States or Canada, New Zealand and Australia and included the following assignments:

- Discussion -- Blogging and Twitter
  - Students discuss Shakespeare one line at a time
  - Connect with people in other countries and cultures
- Facebook
  - Real life examination of privacy issues, appropriate use of social media
  - Post things related to topics covered in class (Psychology)
- Wiki and Smartboard
  - Language class –in class students post anonymous attempts to construct grammatically correct sentences
  - Literary discussions
- Photographs and Video
  - Document things that relate to everyday life
  - Photograph notes on the board
  - Use amusement park rides to demonstrate laws of physics
  - Use phones to take photographs to use in Microsoft office applications
  - Videorecord interviews
- Podcasting
  - Use cell phones to call into voice recording sites and create podcasts
- Voice recording
  - Language pronunciation quizzes
- Calculators
  - Students don't have to purchase separate devices
- Polling
  - Poll Everywhere
- Research
  - Search for definitions
  - See who can find correct answer first from any source
  - Taking notes
  - Evernote and other drop box applications
- Calendars
  - Develop organization skills
- Scavenger Hunts
  - QR codes
- Taking notes
  - Evernote and other drop box applications

## More information

Liz Kolb. (2011) *Cell Phones in the Classroom: A Practical Guide for Educators International* Washington, D.C. Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)

Bernard, S., (2008, May 28). Zero-thumb game: How to tame texting English teachers take text messaging to task -- as a teaching tool. *Edutopia*. July 18, 2012 <http://www.edutopia.org/text-messaging>.

Bugeja, M. J. (2006). Facing the Facebook. *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 52 (21), C1-C4 and (2007). Distractions in the Wireless Classroom. *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 53(21), C1-C4.

Burns, S. M., & Lohenry, K. (2010). Cellular phone use in class: Implications for teaching and learning a pilot study. *College Student Journal*, 44(3), 805-810.

Campbell, S. (2006). Perceptions of mobile phones in college classrooms: Ringing, cheating, and classroom policies. *Communication Education*, 55(3), 280-294.

Demb, Erickson, Darlene, Hawkins-Wilding, Shane (2004). The laptop alternative: Student reactions and strategic implications. *Computers & Education*, 43 (4), 383-401.

Gilroy, M. (2004). Invasion of the classroom cell phones. *Education Digest*, 69 (6), 56-60.

Ling, R. S. (2008). *New tech, new ties: how mobile communication is reshaping social cohesion*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press

Perumal, M., & Elumalai, K. (2011, March 28-30). *A study on mobile phone within the educational premises*. Paper presented at Proceedings of the International Conference on Technology and Business Management.

McMahon, K., Sparrow, B., Chatman L, & Riddle T.(2011) Driven to distraction: The impact of distracter type on unconscious decision making. *Social Cognition*, 29(6):683-698.

Prensky, M., (2004). What can you learn from a cell phone? Retrieved from [http://www.marcprensky.com/writing/prensky-what\\_can\\_you\\_learn\\_from\\_a\\_cell\\_phone-final.pdf](http://www.marcprensky.com/writing/prensky-what_can_you_learn_from_a_cell_phone-final.pdf)

Tindell, D. R., & Bohlander, R. W. (2012). The use and abuse of cell phones and text messaging in the classroom: A survey of college students. *College Teaching*, 60(1), 1-9.  
doi:10.1080/87567555.2011.604802

Watters, A., (2011). Texting in the classroom: Not just a distraction. *EduTopics*. Retrieved July 18, 2012 from <http://www.edutopia.org/blog/texting-classroom-audrey-watters>.

## Web Sites

Cell Phones in College Classrooms

<http://libraryguides.lib.iup.edu/aecontent.php?pid=383038&sid=3138877>

Cell Phones in Learning Blog <http://cellphonesinlearning.blogspot.com/>