Clickers in the classroom, or
What I learned along the way

Matthew Carnes, S.J
Department of Government
Opinion: What are clickers best for?

- A. Testing reading comprehension
- B. Testing reading completion
- C. Gathering opinions from students
- D. Conducting final exams
- E. Checking how well students are understanding new material
Quiz: The evidence on clickers

- What is the minimum percentage of a student’s grade that studies recommend giving to clicker points?
  - A. 2 %
  - B. 5 %
  - C. 10 %
  - D. 20 %
Question Types

- Quiz questions
- Connections
- Opinions
- Implications/Extensions
Points and how to assign them

- Pure participation vs. “graded” points
- The 10% threshold
- Student preferences
  - Quite a few questions (7-10/hour)
  - More participation than graded points
  - Clear differentiation of graded questions
Pre-lecture tasks

- Write questions into Powerpoint
- Can ask questions on the fly, but . . .
- Spread questions across lecture

Three layers to class planning
  - Choosing content
  - Pedagogical approach
  - Adding questions every 8-12 minutes
Getting Started with students:
Registering your i>clicker

i>clicker Web Registration

Have questions about clicker registration? Contact us at support@iclicker.com or 866-209-5698.

Thank you for using i>clicker! Please complete the form below. Your professor will then be able to give you credit for using your i>clicker in class.

First Name

Last Name

Student ID

Clicker ID

Please type in the verification word in the image:

[Image of verification word]

Enter

To locate your clicker ID, see the back of your remote and enter the series of numbers on the bottom of your clicker.
Implications

What do I have to take into account regarding student reactions?

A. Students will find a way to mess it up
B. Students will cheat
C. Students will grade-grub
D. This will be one more distraction to students
During lecture: Student Psychology

- Need a policy on missed classes, forgotten clickers, make-ups

- Students overvalue individual points

- Discourage cheating

- Other technology in the classroom

- What happens if . . . .
  - Student not yet registered?
  - Student changes vote during voting?
  - Other iClickers start voting?
  - You hit a wrong button?
Post-lecture tasks

- Shut-down iClicker and eject the flashdrive properly
- Set the correct answers for graded questions
- Delete any mis-handled questions
Clickers and Blackboard

- Sync clickers with web registrations
  - (early in semester)

- Upload final results into Blackboard
  - Export into Excel
  - Adjust for any excused absences, etc.
  - Delete any extraneous iClickers
  - Upload a single column into Blackboard