A Wimba Way, A Wimba Way

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BCLA Conference
Penticton, BC April 23, 2010
Outline

• Demonstration
• How we’re using Wimba
  – Distance learners
  – Large undergraduate classes
  – Library workshops
• Building capacity
• Discussion
  – Other uses of Wimba
  – Best practices

April 23, 2010

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THE CAST

The student “Katherine”
The instructor “Charlotte”
The narrator “Sally”
Undergraduate Biology Courses

• BIOL 140
  – The students (first year undergraduates)
  – Contact methods
  – Privacy
  – Statistics

• BIOL 363
Original Contact Method

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Current Contact Methods

- Email: Email sent from instructor directly to students

- Course page: Link on course page to live class

- Course page: After class is completed, link on course page to recording (shown right)
How to Prepare for an Online Class

How To Prepare for an Online Class

- **Set-Up Your Computer**
  Run the SET-UP WIZARD to ensure that the audio and other computer settings will work correctly. You will need earphones or speakers to hear the instruction and other students’ comments and questions. Alternatively, you can dial in using a local Vancouver phone number and PIN – please let us know if you need that information. **Mac Users**, please note the Safari browser works best with this software.

- **Connect to Library**
  Please make sure to connect to the myVPN or the library proxy server, so that you can access the UBC Library resources.

- **Log-in 5 minutes before class**
  Log-in 5 minutes early to make sure everything is working properly. When you log-in, type a nickname or alias in the Participant Login box. This class may be recorded and archived for your use and others in your class. By using a nickname or alias, this will better protect your privacy.

- **Tech Trouble?**
  If you are not able to access the class and need technical assistance, please call our reference desk at (604) 822-4440.

... more information
BIOL 140 Students Taught Through Wimba Classroom
October 2009 - January 2010

- 76% live class 65 students (6 classes)
- 24% archive 20 students
Future Projects

- BIOL 363
- Mobile Devices

Image “IPhone - in Hand” by William Hook on Flickr
Distance Learners

• People
  – Healthcare
  – Time since graduation
  – Working professionals
  – Time zones

• Course
  – Finding the evidence
  – Asynchronous
  – Group work
  – Assignment #9
Is There Anybody Out There?
The Results

### Question 22: Which of the following features enhanced the experience? [select all that apply]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seeing a photo of the instructor</td>
<td>33.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing the instructor's voice</td>
<td>33.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using a microphone</td>
<td>53.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatting (text message)</td>
<td>8.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessing the instructor's computer</td>
<td>8.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having a virtual place to meet with the instructor</td>
<td>10.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using classroom simulation techniques</td>
<td>5.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responding to questions via polls</td>
<td>60.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stopping, starting and pausing the instructor's voice</td>
<td>30.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downloading the archived recording</td>
<td>0.0 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Feedback

• Ideas for future directions
  – Longer
  – Repeat
  – More time to practice

• Least liked (10)
  – Technology problems

• Liked (12)
  – Convenience
  – Human connection
  – Classroom environment .....
Comments…

• the ability to both write and talk to the instructor and other students …as realistic as possible (i.e. putting up your hand to ask questions, laugh, etc.)

• The most helpful was hearing the voice of a warm body! …..I desperately miss the learning that occurs through face to face interaction

• … having this experience be as realistic as possible (i.e. putting up your hand to ask questions, laugh, etc.)
Library Workshops

- Courses
  - RefWorks
  - Web of Science
  - PubMed
  - CINAHL
- Online vs. in person
  - Checklist
  - Notify participants
  - Script
  - Interactivity
  - Length
  - Archived recording

RefWorks for the Sciences: Outline for Online Session (Wimba Classroom)
Revised January 27, 2010

Important information
Admin login: http://wimbalearning.ubc.ca/admin/
Welcome slide: http://daily.library.ubc.ca/webpage/webpage.0?mid=748

Blue phone: (604) 638-5113

Checklist before session:
- Send invite to participants with key links, wizard, RefWorks account, WNC, VFN
- Firefox clear cache, reduce bars, open 3 tabs
- WNC set to stay on top
- Create a Word doc and save on desktop (clear desktop of other files)
- Share Content Frame then Screen Area (resize browser so its top 2/3 of screen)
- Go to Welcome Slide
- Lock Talk (use CTRL to mute)

Welcome & Introductions
- Welcome and thank you for coming to this RefWorks session.
- Can everyone hear me?
- I've taught RefWorks many times but only a few times using Wimba classroom so I'm very interested in any feedback you have about the experience.
- Technical support: If you have problems with Wimba, feel free to send a message.
- Round of introductions: name and department. If you have a mic, please feel free to use it. If not, you can type your hello using the chat box on the lower left of the screen.

Wimba Classroom logistics
- My plan is to demonstrate RefWorks so I'll be sharing my screen with you.
- I'd like you to be able to follow along in your own RefWorks account and to search for articles, so please open two other windows or tabs.
- Archiving? I also wanted to ask your permission to record the session. I would like to review it for my own improvement but also to make it available for others to learn.
- Does anyone have any questions before we begin?
Statistics for RefWorks

• Live sessions: average 8 participants in Wimba vs. 11 in person
• Archived recordings: ~ 50 views of 20+ minutes

Access:
- Login to the web recording or view the .MP4 file on your smartphone (e.g. iPhone)

About this tutorial:
- The following tutorial is an audio recording with screen captures of an online session taught January 27, 2010.
- The recording is 1 hour and 20 minutes and can be fast forwarded.

Instructions for web recording:
- Type guest in the participant login box
- Click on Run Wizard if you have not used Wimba Classroom before. The wizard will check that your audio and other computer settings will work correctly.
- If you have run the wizard previously, click on the link just below it to access the tutorial.

Questions:
- Sally Taylor

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Feedback for RefWorks

😊 “Convenience. The technology worked surprisingly well. I'm not used to computer based instruction working well. The screen sharing was VERY important and helped a lot.”

😊 “Seemed awkward to ask questions sometimes because the instructor seemed to have moved on at some points where I was still stuck because she couldn't see the confusion on my face. On the other hand, the semi-anonymity made me less shy about participating.”
Building Capacity

• Librarians

• Library assistants

• Infrastructure
Teaching with Wimba Wiki

http://teachingwithwimba.pbworks.com

April 23, 2010
Teaching with Wimba Log Book

FRIYDAY, MARCH 12, 2010

Trish's Laptop Settings

Trish has generously offered her laptop as a possible laptop to use for our online instruction. I just tested Trish's laptop with Sally to hear the sound quality for a presenter. Summary: sound works well to teach/present from, however, when you hear other's speaking there's a bit of static in the sound - but nothing that prevents you from hearing the other person's message.

A couple of lessons learned:

1) How to disable wireless on Trish's laptop. It has a slider button on the top right-hand side to activate/deactivate the wireless. You disable the wireless connection by switching that button off.

2) How to troubleshoot sound. We had trouble getting the sound to work (hearing). I checked the following: a) the sound wasn't muted on the laptop b) sound was on - on the microphone and insured they were both on. c) I also tested from another audio site...

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Teaching With Wimba Resources

BLOG ARCHIVE

• 2010 (17)
• March (1)
Best Practices

1. Be prepared!
2. Communicate with participants in advance
3. Avoid technical glitches
4. Make the session interactive
5. Archive the session

http://teachingwithwimba.pbworks.com/Best-Practices
Discussion

• Thinking about your experience… do you have any best practices or suggestions?

• Thinking to the future… how do you see using Wimba in your teaching or for other purposes?
Thank you!