Live Polling in Instruction

By Samantha Harlow, Online Learning Librarian, UNCG Libraries

[Using Polling and Smartphone to Keep Students Engaged](#)
By John Orlando
-quick article about why polling can help keep students engaged.
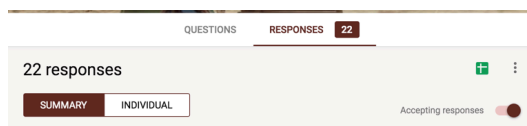
Google Forms:
With Google Forms, you can plan events, make a survey or poll, give students a quiz, or collect other information in an easy, streamlined way. You can create a form from Google Drive or from an existing spreadsheet that can record that responses to your form.
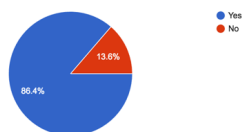[Creating a survey using Google Forms](#)
[Google Education Training](#)

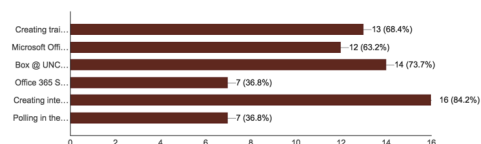[Online Learning Guide: Google Forms in Education](#)

Google Forms can be used for polling since they now include live result features built into the Forms.

Google Slides Q&A:
Presenters can start a live Q&A session with an audience during a presentation with Google Slides. You can present the questions at any time, and people can ask questions from any device.
Google: Accept and present audience questions
Interactive Presentations: Google Slides and Forms, Pear Deck, and more

LMS Polling:
Canvas: Canvas Polling mobile app allows you to poll students through app and connect to a course. There could also be polling apps that could be implemented within Canvas (dependent upon your university/college/etc).
Moodle: there is a Moodle poll plugin that can be used within a Moodle course.
BlackBoard: there is no polling app within Blackboard (that I could find), but iClickers, Poll Everywhere, and more can be embedded within courses.

Discussions within LMS:
You can create a poll through a Canvas discussion (or other LMS's that allow liking in a Discussion) and then allow for liking in order to create a quick poll in Canvas (this way your students will not need a smartphone/mobile device to download the polling app). For instructions on this process, read this Canvas documentation by UNCG College of Art and Science Instructional Technology Consultant Anita Warfford:
Polling in Canvas

Springshare LibGuides:
You can create a poll in Springshare Libguides by creating a standard box, and then Add - Poll. You are limited to only multiple choice options, but it is embedded easily in guides and shows results in live time.
Adding Polls in Libguides

Virtual Meeting Polling:
Both UNCG WebEx Meeting Center and Training Center have polling options where you can set up polls ahead of your session (or during your session) and release them to your audience/participants. There are detailed instructions on how to create and release polls to students in both centers in the guides on WebEx:
WebEx Meeting Center Polling
WebEx Polling Feature

Of course other SLMS tools have polling options as well:
Blackboard Collaborate Polling
Zoom: Polling for Meetings
There is no built in polling app in Google Hangouts, but you can use other free tools that we mention in this webinar through sharing link to a poll in the chat box.

Poll Everywhere:
Poll Everywhere lets you engage your audience or class in real time. It works by asking your audience a question with the Poll Everywhere app. The audience then answers in real time using mobile phones, Twitter, or web browsers. You then can see your responses live on the web or in the PowerPoint/Google Slide presentation.
How Poll Everywhere works
Video on how Poll Everywhere works
Adding Poll Everywhere to Google Slides
Adding Poll Everywhere to PowerPoint/Keynote on Mac
Adding Poll Everywhere to PowerPoint on PC

This free tool allows you 40 participants (with edu account).
Poll Everywhere: Free versus Paid Plans

Socrative:
Socrative is a polling application that is free for up to 50 participants, and comes with app for android, chrome, and iOS, and does allow for reporting on quizzes (excel, pdf, etc). The quick questions/quiz (grouping question) allow for anonymous polling: multiple choice (need to choose right or wrong answer), true or false (need to choose right or wrong answer), and/or short answer.

Students can access your room to answer questions through:
https://b.socrative.com/student/
And then enter the room number of your account. You can edit your room name through Rooms (tab on top) and edit icon next to room name. This can make it easier for your students to enter the room.
Socrative pricing
Socrative app

Mentimeter:
Mentimeter is an audience response system using smartphones or laptops by creating polls through "presentations." There is a free option with email sign up, which allows you unlimited audience members, but no exporting of data. You can save a PDF of your polls for assessment. Students do not have to log in - they can access through a link or code. It does create a link to share your results as well.
*free option you are limited to two questions per presentation (poll).
How to use Mentimeter
Mentimeter: Free versus Priced Licenses

Sli.do:
Sli.do allows live Q&As, polls and slides for your meetings or events, free with an email sign up. Sli.do allows for up to 1000 participants in Q&A and polls, even in free version but no exporting of data and your data from the event is public.
Sli.do Questions
Sli.do Polling
Sli.do pricing

AnswerGarden:
AnswerGarden is a new minimalistic, free feedback tool. Use it for real time audience participation, online brainstorming and classroom feedback. AnswerGarden requires no account set up or log in with email address, and is easy to use and share for free form questions. You are limited to 20 or 40 characters per response. AnswerGarden is free.

Kahoot:
Kahoot is where you can create a learning game called Kahoots, made from a series of multiple choice questions, surveys, or discussions. Add videos, images and diagrams to your questions to amplify engagement. Kahoots can then be "played" by your students/audience - in the classroom or a synchronous online environment. Kahoot is free.
Getting Started with Kahoot

Plickers:
Plickers is a simple tool that lets teachers collect real-time formative assessment data without the need for student devices. Plickers works by printing out cards that can be laminated and distributed to students. You can then use Plickers for quick checks for understanding to know whether your students are understanding concepts or mastering skills.
Example of Plickers being used in a classroom - video
Plickers FAQ
Standard Plickers Card Set - free

This is a lot of information!
Poll Everywhere has a table comparing many of the programs mentioned above in terms of prices, participant limits, data exports, etc:
https://www.polleverywhere.com/vs
*Scroll down to access the table comparison.