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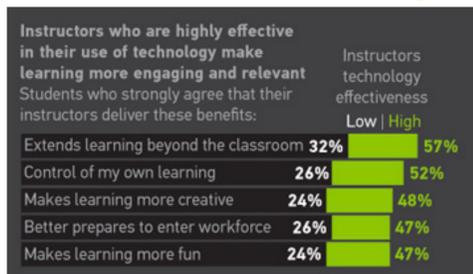
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Going beyond a library tour: Leading one-shots using iPads and QR codes

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ECAR National Study



According to the 2011 ECAR Study of Undergraduate Students and Information Technology report, "institutions and instructors do not fully harness [technologies] to create opportunities for more varied, inspiring, and beyond-the-classroom learning experiences."

Challenge for Libraries

How can libraries use technologies to excite and provide experiential learning for students to improve their information literacy skills?

What are QR Codes?



(scan me using your smartphone)

- Stands for "Quick Response"
- Similar to barcodes but with more capabilities
- Can take you to a website, send a text message, dial a phone number, etc.

How do you use it?

Use your smartphone and a QR code reader to scan the app with the phone's camera. The QR code will take you to the webpage, text, etc.

Students used "scan" app



The Activity (Overview)

Problem-based learning, broken into three different parts. Each part has a:

- Scenario
- QR code to scan
- Questions to answer

The activities' scenarios take students out into the library where they work in groups of 3-5 to identify the source.



Activity Objectives

- ✓ Recognize the difference between popular v. scholarly articles
- ✓ Ability to determine what are primary and secondary sources
- ✓ Become familiar with searching WorldCat Local



50-Minute Session Set-Up

Time	To do
8 mins	Basic introduction to using the iPad (wifi, typing, using the "scan" app) and talking about the activity and getting students out to the periodicals stacks
10 mins	Part 1 of activity
10 mins	Part 2 of activity
10 mins	Part 3 of activity
10 mins	Wrap up (talk about the differences between popular v. scholarly, primary v. secondary and searching WorldCat Local, and show students our research guides)
2 mins	Answer remaining questions

Secret to making sure that there was enough time for the entire activity: I used by phone timer.

Scenario and Parts of the Activity

You are an exercise science major and you have an essay due in 2 weeks. You've chosen to write about yoga. The assignment requires you to find at least 2 peer-reviewed articles (also known as scholarly articles).

Part 1

You find an article by searching google but the full-text is not available freely online. You find a print copy at the library.



Yoga: Stretch for Your Health
By PT Staff, published on March 01, 2001
Yoga, one of today's hottest fitness trends, is a centuries-old Indian practice that tones muscles, builds bone strength and enhances flexibility and coordination. It also fosters a mind/body unity that few exercise programs can offer.
The very word "yoga" comes from a Sanskrit word meaning "to yoke"—in other words, to link mind, body and spirit.

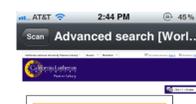
Part 2



Oops, looks like the first article is a scholarly article. Your friend recommended WorldCat Local to find scholarly articles.

Part 3

Now it's your turn! The assignment asks for a second scholarly article. Search for the article using WorldCat Local.



Disadvantages & Advantages

- ☹ Familiarizing students with iPads and QR codes in such a short introduction
- ☹ Feeling like 50-minutes is not long enough to finish the activity and cover important topics
- ☹ Finding articles on the same topic with both not available digitally but both available in print
- 😊 Grabbing students' attention right from the start with a technology they are interested in
- 😊 Giving students hands-on experience with library resources and searching
- 😊 Allowing students to work in groups to solve a problem
- 😊 Having the opportunity to go around and check on each group and to answer any questions they may have right away