

Size Matters: Tips and Techniques for Teaching Large Classes

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CETL Workshop
October 18, 2018

What's the Problem...



For Students?

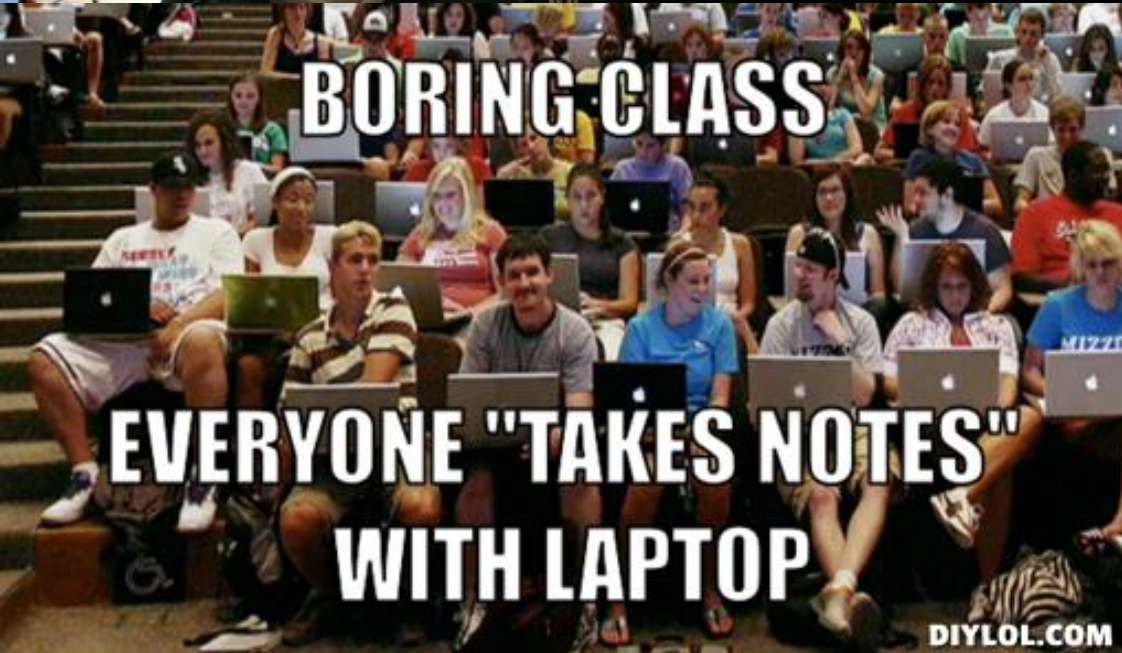
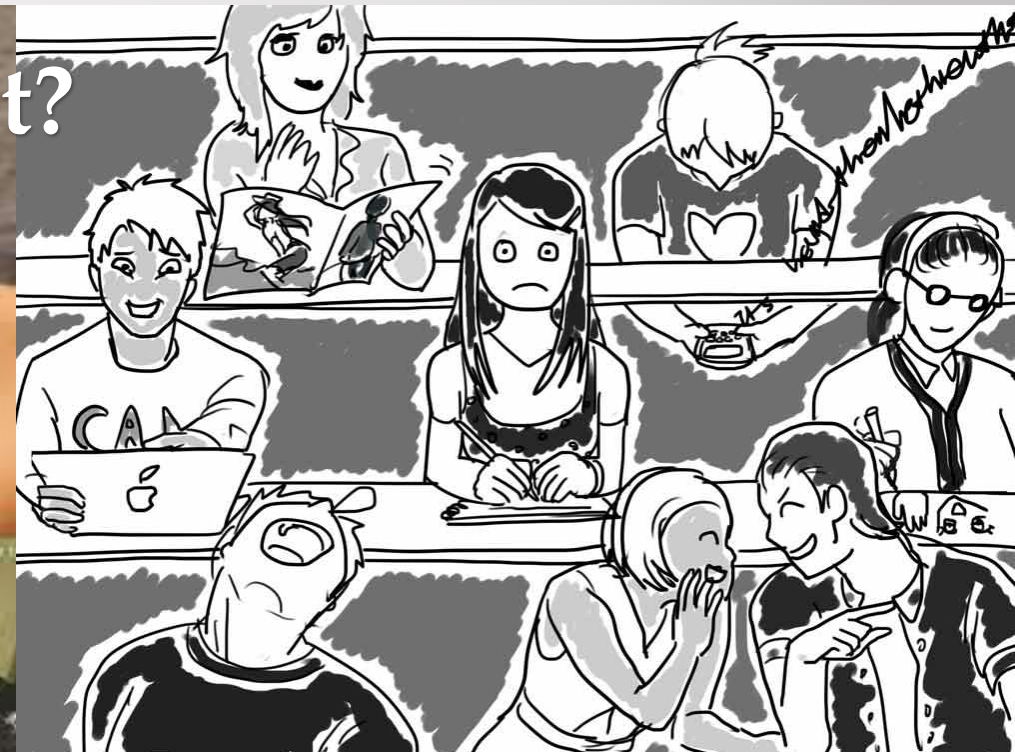
For Faculty?

What we imagine





What we get?



UI Snapshot

- 53% of classes have fewer than 20 students
- Student-Faculty Ratio: 16:1
- 93% of graduating seniors reported being satisfied with their opportunities to interact with faculty
- >80% were satisfied with class size, academic rigor, student-faculty interactions, and personal attentiveness to students.
- UI advertises a “personalized learning experience” for undergrads
- *What challenges, expectations, and opportunities exist in this mix?*
- *Do you think class sizes will go up?*

Some (non-UI) Data

ANONYMITY

The size of the class made me feel _____ anonymous than in smaller classes:

	<u>W1</u>
More	63%
Less	9%
No Different	28%

MOTIVATION TO PARTICIPATE

The size of the class made me feel _____ willing to participate in class discussions:

	<u>W1</u>
More	14%
Less	44%
No Different	42%

ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE

The size of the class made it _____ to participate meaningfully in class discussion:

	<u>W1</u>
Easier	21%
Harder	42%
No Different	37%

YET FOR THE QUALITY OF DISCUSSION...

The size of the class had a _____ effect on the quality of class discussion:

	<u>W1</u>
Positive	46%
Negative	20%
Neutral	34%

Implications?

- What does this tell us about our students?
- Do they like anonymity?
- When you think about where they and what they do, what do you think their strategy is?
- Loss of control

Faculty: Challenges and Solutions

- *The biggest challenge is...*
 - Grading
 - Student engagement
 - Quality of instruction
 - Inclusion
 - Other
- *Solutions?*



Options

- Pause with intentionality
- Clickers, Sli-do, Plickers, Poll Everywhere
- Interactive Lecture
- Quick Writes
- Clearest/Muddiest Points
- Think-Pair-Share
- Work on assignments/problems in class
- Case Studies
- Peer Review
- Informal groups and formal groups
 - Are you bound to your space?
- Make 'em Work!
- Work the Room

