

## Use of Personal Response Units

A personal response unit (commonly known as a “clicker”) is a small radiofrequency transmitter that resembles a TV remote. Students purchase their clicker in the bookstore and register it against their student number for use in all classes using this technology. In class, instructors can ask a variety of structured questions to which students may respond by pressing the appropriate button on their respective clickers. Individual responses are collected and displayed as a graph at the front of the room. If the instructor chooses, these responses may also be saved for future analysis.



In this course, clickers will be used primarily to provide you with credit and feedback on lecture preparation and/or participation. The information below provides further details

### Exclusivity

Only one specific type of clicker will work in this course: the CPSrf unit produced by eInstruction. It is available in the Western Bookstore along with an enrolment code. (Although clickers may be obtained from alternate sources, your enrolment code must be purchased in the Western Bookstore. The same clicker and enrolment code will work in all of your courses in a given term.)

### Responsibility

It is your responsibility to ensure that your clicker is registered and functional. Since all clickers on campus look identical, it may be best for you to customize yours in ways that make it identifiable to you. For each course using this technology, you must go to the course WebCT site ([vista.uwo.ca](http://vista.uwo.ca)) to register your clicker. You will need your UWO email login and password to get onto the WebCT site. Click on the “Register your Clicker” button and follow the instructions. The first time you register a clicker, you will need to choose another username and password. Make up anything you like but make it different than that used by your UWO account. Then you will need your clicker enrolment code (from the Bookstore) and your clicker serial number (displayed on the LCD screen). You will be given a “pad number” that you can use during lectures.

If you are also using your clicker in another class, go to that course’s WebCT site and repeat the registration process. (Now you will need all of the information mentioned above as well as the username and password that you just created.) You will be given another pad number that is specific for this second class. You should keep all of this information in a secure but accessible location.

Questions or comments regarding clicker use should be posted to the course WebCT Discussion Board.

## Academic Record

In this course, your clicker use will be recorded in class and will become part of your academic record. As such, your clicker record will be afforded the same degree of security, confidentiality and transparency that is customary for test marks etc. You can earn course credit through clicker participation as follows. Clicker participation questions will often be asked at various times during lecture as instructors decide. At the end of the year, we will determine the total number of clicker questions asked. The proportion of questions that you answered will determine the fraction of the available participation grade (5%) that you earned as shown. Clicker participation requires only that you try; *you don’t have to get the questions right to get this part of your course grade.*

% Questions Answered	Grade
1 – 19	1
20 – 39	2
40 – 59	3
60 – 79	4
80 & above	5

You can monitor the success of your clicker record through the appropriate link on the course WebCT site.

### Privacy

Although clickers may be used in the classroom for polling opinions and/or collecting some types of personal data (e.g. How many people have ever seen a manatee?) such responses will not become part of your academic record and will not “count” toward clicker participation grade. Such non-academic data will either be recorded anonymously or not at all. (A simple anonymization exercise will invite you to swap clickers with a neighbour for the moment.)

### Academic Integrity

Since clicker records are used to compute a portion of course grades, the use of a clicker other than your own is an academic offense. In lecture or tutorial, possession of more than one clicker, or that of another student, will be interpreted as intent to commit an academic offense.

### Please visit

<http://instruct.uwo.ca/biology/022-023/>  
for course information.

<http://vista.uwo.ca/>  
for lecture notes and much more.

<http://www.uwo.ca/biology/>  
for departmental information.

**IMPORTANT** Make sure your UWO email address is active. We may not answer personal enquires from non-UWO emails.

