Anytime I’m on the train, I would just type it up

Commuter Students Using Technology

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Symposium on Teaching and Learning with Technology
York College, CUNY | October 31, 2014
http://yorksymposium.commons.gc.cuny.edu/
Students Use Technology!

THE $1 TRILLION YOUTH MARKET OPPORTUNITY

THE YOUTH MOBILE GENERATION IN NUMBERS

1 billion
Youth under 30 own a mobile phone

71%
71% of youth said they would rather spend their last $10 on topping up their mobile phones than food

89%
89% of youth said they first thing they did in the morning was check their mobile phone

80%
80% of youth sleep with their phone

Youth spend
5 times more on mobile phones than they do on music

18-24 year olds own more smartphones

36%
Youth spend 36% of their disposable income on mobile phones

THE NEW YORK TIMES

September 27, 2013

Technology and the College Generation

Wired Campus

The latest on tech and education.

September 12, 2014 by Jeffrey R. Young

Will the Next Classroom Disruption Be in 3-D? Facebook’s Virtual-Reality Company Thinks So

THE WASHINGTON POST

Answer Sheet

Why a leading professor of new media just banned technology use in class

YORK COLLEGE SYMPOSIUM ON TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH TECHNOLOGY 2014

Explore, Record and Share
Student Experience Survey

[Bar chart showing ownership and access rates from 2010 to 2014]

- Own a smartphone
- Own a laptop
- Own an ebook reader
- Own a tablet computer
- Broadband access off-campus
- Cellphone access off-campus
- No regular internet access off-campus
- Use college computer lab 1-2x/week
- Use college wifi every day

CUNY Office of Institutional Research http://cuny.edu/oira
Born Digital?

Kermit photo by Eva Rinaldi
Proficiency Matters!

Eszter Hargittai
Web Use Project
http://webuse.org/
Undergraduate Scholarly Habits Ethnography Project

Qualitative interviews with ~180 students and ~60 faculty members explored . . .

• Where are students doing their academic work?
• Why do they choose those places? How do they make them work?
• What tools do they use or need?
What Technologies Do They Use?
Mobile Devices

With my phone, I can go on the internet, call people, text people, or whatever it may be. Everything is just on my phone. And . . . it syncs with my Google account. So, all my Google e-mails, my Google calendar, everything is on my phone, too. So, it's like a very mini computer. And I think that's one of the best things I have.
Cellphone/Smartphone Strategies
Cellphone/Smartphone Strategies
Computers on Campus

It says it’s a ‘Learning Resource Center’ but in actuality it’s a ‘Hang Out With Your Friends and Look at Your Cousin’s Wedding Pictures Center’ . . . ‘on Facebook.’
Laptops for Commuters?

Maybe once a week. 
Because it’s heavy. 
Plus my books. It’s heavy. It kills my back. 
Because I’m in school from 11:00 until 8:30.
The main computer is in the living room, . . . you know, it's kinda big, so . . . yeah. It's appropriate in the living room.
Technology for Academic Work
Ereaders for Academic Reading
Trying to navigate the CUNY website, which did run me into about 2 or 3 hours worth of a headache, followed by another 15 minutes on Google, where immediately it was the first link.
Using Quality Information

Let me see, what I would change? [ . . . ] Oh, I would probably not go to Google and find stuff. Because sometimes the sources are not that great.
I got home, started on my laptop and started up some torrents for some PDF books that I needed, 'cause yeah, as much as this library is well equipped with computers and stuff, it's fairly limited in what you can do with them. Like, certain things, it's just more comfortable to do at home.
Smartphones for Schoolwork

I can download stuff off my phone, as well as do reading on the train. That helps me a LOT.... Being on the train takes that time for you to just do what you have to do so when you get home you can do other things.
What do you usually do on your commute?

Really? Wow. On the train?

My homework. Because I have long days. So, I do my readings . . . Sometimes I type papers on my cellphone.

Mm-hmm. And then I upload it. I send it to myself as an email. Then I’ll upload it once I get to school. Then, you know, attach it as a, copy as a Word document, into a Word document. And that’s what I do.
I think it's something that we have to delve into more, and say: If they're going to hit the internet first, then we're going to have to be responsible for guiding them through it somehow.
For them to begin to sit down and begin working digitally is nothing. They will spend two or three hours online doing something on-task, if it keeps them interested, on the task. So my job is to keep them interested and on-task with my assignments.
What Can We Do?
Questions?

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Photo: Darwin Bell