Exploring Digital Literacy Practices Using Mobile Apps and eTextbooks in Higher Education

Baiyun Chen & Aimee deNoyelles

Mobile/eBook Survey 2012

Section 1 Mobile

- 1. Which of the following mobile devices do you own?
- 2. Which of the following tablets do you own?
- 3. Which of the following ebook readers do you own?
- 4. Which categories of apps do you use most frequently for personal use?
- 5. Indicate how often you use mobile apps to complete an assignment for any of your classes?
- 6. Name a few mobile apps that you use specifically for academic purposes (reading, studying, completing assignments, etc).
- 7. Rate your response to the following statement. Mobile devices and/or mobile apps for academic purposes
 - a. Improve my quality of work
 - b. Make it easier to access my coursework
 - c. Make it easier to complete my coursework
 - d. Increase my knowledge in my field of study
 - e. Increase my motivation towards completing my coursework
 - f. Increase communication with other students
 - g. Increase communication with my instructor
- 8. Indicate how often you use the following devices (mobile device, tablet, ebook reader) for academic purposes (reading, studying, completing assignments, etc).
- 9. Indicate how often an instructor has asked you to use mobile devices to complete an assignment.
- 10. Give an example of how you used the devices above to complete an assignment.
- 11. Indicate how often an instructor has asked you to use tablet to complete an assignment.
- 12. Give an example of how you used the devices above to complete an assignment.
- 13. Indicate how often an instructor has asked you to use the following device to complete an assignment.
- 14. Give an example of how you used the devices above to complete an assignment.
- 15. Rate the following statement: I would like my instructors to use more mobile apps or devices in coursework.
- 16. Which of the following are reasons that you may NOT want your instructors to use more mobile apps or devices?
- 17. How would you like UCF to use mobile devices and apps in the future?

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Section 2 eBook

- 18. Have you previously used or are currently using an eTextbook for any college coursework?
- 19. How did you first become aware of the eTextbook option?
- 20. Were you required to use this eTextbook for any academic work?
- 21. List the courses in which you used an eTextbook.
- 22. Did you purchase or rent?
- 23. Which device did you use the most to access the eTextbook?
- 24. Rank the following questions
 - a. How often did your instructor make use of the eTextbook features, such as highlighting important information and making notes on pages?
 - b. How often did you actively use the eTextbook features, such as highlighting important information and making notes on pages?
- 25. Rank this statement: I found the reading of the eTextbook as easy as a print textbook
- 26. Would you recommend using these eTextbooks to other students?
- 27. What are the reasons you have not used an eTextbook for college coursework?

Section 3: eBook Features

- 28. Consider the following reading navigation feature listed below and rank its importance in influencing you to select an eTextbook.
 - a. Search for keywords within the eTextbook
 - b. Click on a word and immediately access an electronic glossary
 - c. Make text and images bigger or smaller
 - d. View multimedia elements such as movies, simulations, and scrolling images galleries within the chapter
- 29. Consider the following study feature listed below and rank its importance in influencing you to select an eTextbook.
 - a. Add tags or keywords to categorize information in the chapter
 - b. Respond to an instructor's notes or discussion topic in the eTextbook
 - c. Have the instructor reply to your notes/discussions in the eTextbook
- 30. Consider the following instructor feature listed below and rank its importance in influencing you to select an eTextbook.
 - a. Read highlights and notes made by the instructor
 - b. Respond to an instructor's notes or discussion topic in the eTextbook
 - c. Have the instructor reply to your notes/discussions in the eTextbook
- 31. Consider the following social feature listed below and rank its importance in influencing you to select an eTextbook.
 - a. Leave notes in the eTextbook for students or instructor to comment on
 - b. Take a poll within the eTextbook and view the class results
 - c. Share passages from the eTextbook on Facebook or Twitter to further discussion

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- d. Follow other readers (student, teacher, author) using social media like Facebook or Twitter
- **32.** Which of the following factors would influence you to select an eTextbook rather than a print textbook?
 - a. Lower cost than print textbook
 - b. Environmentally friendly by saving paper
 - c. Ability to store many textbooks on one device
 - d. Ability to access my textbooks anywhere
 - e. Ability to access my eTextbooks on my device without being connect to internet
 - f. The eTextbook is integrated directly with an online course
 - g. Ability to print pages from an eTextbook
 - h. Other
- 33. Rate the following statement about eBook
 - a. I believe I have the technical skills to access and use an eTextbook effectively.
 - b. I believe I can adapt my study habits to use an eTextbook.
 - c. I believe I can learn as effectively with an eTextbook as with a print textbook.
 - d. I would be more motivated to use an eTextbook rather than a print textbook.
 - e. I would be more engaged in the class if my instructor used an eTextbook in class.
 - f. Using eTextbooks in a class could strengthen the feelings of community in the class.