

Quincy College



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Quincy College Surgical Technology Program Publishes Results of iPad Adoption in Classroom

Fall 2016 Journal of Allied Health article explores Quincy College's adoption of iPad Technology to enhance active learning



***Surg Tech Students 2015.jpg Suggested Caption:
Quincy College Surgical Technology Students pose with their iPads which have been shown to support learning and engagement***

SOCIAL MEDIA RELEASE (140 Characters): .@QuincyCollege published in recent @ASAHPDC study: iPad technology in classroom to enhances learning and engagement in Surg Tech program

Quincy, MA (10/6/16) - Quincy College Instructor of Surgical Technology, Ross Little along with Quincy College Research Analyst, Amanda Colligan and Dr. India Broyles, University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, ME have published a study entitled "Student Perceptions of iPad Applications-Assisted Instruction in Health Professions Education" in the Fall 2016 edition of [*Journal of Allied Health*](#). The study concluded that the use of iPads and application technology for literacy instruction supports learning but also engagement, and students demonstrated creative ways of responding to technology. This research was done as part of the lead author, Ross Little's degree in Master's of Science in Medical Education Leadership at UNE.

Starting in the Fall of 2015, Quincy College implemented various digital applications to support and engage students in the classroom and laboratory. The [Quincy College Surgical Technology program](#) leverages a Flashcard mobile app to help students identify the myriad of surgical instruments, a touch surgery application that allows visual learners to understand a procedure step-by-step and more importantly practice it before the Quincy College laboratory class.

Rounding out the digital tools, students also utilize ebooks to support practical, hands-on learning. Purchasing an Ipad or Tablet to support these new educational tools is a requirement for students in the Surgical Technology program. However, most are able to take advantage of Financial Aid support in the purchase of a tablet or Ipad to support their studies.

The purpose of this study was in part to reflect on the newly implemented technology in the Quincy College Surgical Technology labs and examine student's perceptions of the iPad applications-assisted instruction as part of their learning. In this study, multiple features and applications were evaluated as an instructional tool. The first cohort of student to use this technology as a learning tool, Fifteen participants in total, responded to a Quincy College generated anonymous survey and were asked their perceptions of the iPad and applications used as part of their course. Overall, the Surgical Technology students favored the use of this technology as an instructional tool in their learning and indicated several aspects that could be improved.

Instructor Ross Little reflects on the value of the study and the application of the technologies in the classroom: "The real value in integrating technology in the classroom is that it facilitated active learning. Prior to introducing technology into the curriculum in the Quincy College Surgical Technology program, as an Instructor, I struggled to find supporting content that was accurate and relevant to the hands-on instruction that I was looking to provide my students. I took to filming myself to demonstrate core techniques. The integration of the iPad and the corresponding applications that support my instruction have changed the way I teach and engage students."

The study concluded that the effective use of technology-assisted learning requires a combination of good instructional design by the teacher, good learning strategies by the student, and technical competency by both teacher and student.

This application of digital technology is in part about meeting students where they are, more students will enter college each year having used similar technologies in learning and technology has become a part of their learning styles and preferences. Students expect college instructors to utilize technology assisted instruction in their classroom, and college instructors should adapt to these preferences to take advantage of not only the preferences, but also because they are a more effective way of instructing than traditional methods alone in the eyes of the students.

The future of the Quincy College Surgical Technology program is bright and remains on the cutting edge. As a result of the study, Instructor Little is looking to integrate leading STEM Publisher Cengage's MindTap course materials in addition to the iPad Applications.

For more information on the Surgical Technology program at Quincy College, please visit: <http://quincycollege.edu/program/surgical-technology/>.

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About Quincy College

Founded in 1958, Quincy College is a two-year, municipally affiliated community college serving approximately 4,500 students at campuses located in Quincy and Plymouth, Massachusetts. Quincy College is an open access institution that encourages academic achievement and excellence, diversity, economic opportunity, community involvement, and lifelong learning. The College facilitates valuable learning relationships that inspire students to realize their educational and professional futures. The college offers 35 associate degree programs and 21 certificate programs in a variety of disciplines, including those within Professional Programs, Liberal Arts, Natural & Health Sciences and Nursing. The college is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and is licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education to grant the degrees of Associate in Arts and Associate in Science. The college draws a diversity of students from the greater Boston area as well as 121 countries around the world. For additional information, visit www.quincycollege.edu

