The Beauty and Joy of Computing

Lecture #10
Social Implications of Computing

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BERKELEY JOINS EDX!

Online education now has a player in the open access / free education space, it’s called edX, and UC Berkeley was the first west coast school to become involved with the initiative. Several UC Berkeley classes are now available!

You have a few chapters of reading during these weeks, don’t wait...

Your project partners may be in different sections, try to attend “Project Work” labs together

Read BYOB project tips!

Tech.mit.edu/V132/N30/edx.html
Overview

- META: This course is NOT just about programming!
  - Lecs + Reading: Big ideas
  - Labs: Programming
  - Disc: Distillation

- META: plug CS195 Social Implications of Computers

- Computers in Education
  - Most important use?
  - Judah Schwartz’ continuum
  - RSA Animate “Changing Education Paradigms”
  - UC Online Pilot
Peer Instruction (thanks to BH)

The most important use of computers in education so far...

- Web search
- Arithmetic drill programs
- Word processing
- iclicker-like technologies
- Social networking
Multiple choice tests have changed what counts as knowledge in schools. Open-ended questions were the norm 30 years ago. The kind of knowledge you can report on multiple-choice tests is unimportant in the big scheme of things, and what's really important is not what you already know, but how you can take what you already know and apply it something you've never seen before. Multiple choice tests make that hard. Teaching follows tests! The folks who invented Standardized Testing didn't foresee how it would affect what knowledge means! (unintended consequence)!“ – Brian Harvey
RSA Animate: Changing Education Paradigms

Sir Ken Robinson
Changing Paradigms

Every country on earth, at the moment, is reforming public education.

There are two reasons for it.
UC Berkeley Online Pilot

- Basics of Pilot
  - Blended vs Online
- What should we do?
  - How can CS10 be the course for everyone?
  - How can we use peers?
  - What’d help you most?
- Would you take this course if it’d been offered at another UC?
  - Does f2f matter?
Taking CS10 Online

The most effective thing for your learning, if you were taking CS10 online (remotely)…

a) “Test yourself” mini-quizzes
b) More illustrations to learn hard concepts
c) Tree-structure interface to lectures
d) “In the browser” Snap! coding for labs so you don’t have to leave the browser
e) A “smart” system that adjusts the difficulty of a problem to match your ability