

## Notebook (+ WiFi) in Courses?

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## Notebook (+ WiFi) in Courses?

#### **Aspects:**

- In this discussion: notebook  $\hat{=}$  tablet  $\hat{=}$  smartphone  $\hat{=}$  . . .
- Difference: normal vs. in course usage?
- Multitasking: possible? efficient?

#### Note:

Slides based on survey paper *Laptop und Internet im Hörsaal? - Wirkungen und Wirkungsmechanismen für evidenzbasierte Lehre* by Manfred Spitzer (Editorial of *Nervenheilkunde 11/2013*).



# **Multitasking in Courses - Study 1**

additional activity during course	n	%
Facebook		
Text message (SMS)		
Instant message (chat)		
e-mail		
Listen to music		
Work on other classes		
Talk on the phone		
Eat		
Drink		

Students **frequently or very frequently** engaging in multitasking behaviour while being in the classroom.

Data taken from study [1]. Total number of participants: N=774.

L. Burak, Multitasking in the university classroom, International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, 6(2), 2012



# **Multitasking in Courses - Study 1**

additional activity during course	n	%
Facebook	111	24.7
Text message (SMS)	392	50.6
Instant message (chat)	102	13.2
e-mail	116	15.0
Listen to music	51	6.5
Work on other classes	136	17.6
Talk on the phone	25	3.2
Eat	202	26.1
Drink	440	56.8

Students **frequently or very frequently** engaging in multitasking behaviour while being in the classroom.

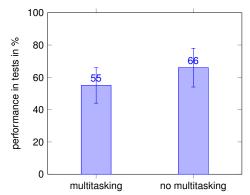
Data taken from study [1]. Total number of participants: N=774.

L. Burak, Multitasking in the university classroom, International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, 6(2), 2012



## Multitasking in Courses - Study 2

#### Does multitasking affect results in examinations?



Data taken from study [2]. Total number of participants: N=40.

<sup>[2]</sup> F. Sana, T. Weston, N.J. Cepeda, Laptop multitasking hinders classroom learning for both users and nearby peers, Computers & Education, 62, 2013



- Aspect "but multitasking works elsewhere"

```
singing + dancing, eating + breathing, walking + talking, ...
```



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⇔ really? brain vs. spinal cord



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- ⇔ really? brain vs. spinal cord
- Aspect "peace of conscience"
  comprehensible . . .
  but inverse long-term effects & false security



Aspect "but multitasking works elsewhere"

```
singing + dancing, eating + breathing, walking + talking, ...
```

- ⇔ really? brain vs. spinal cord
- Aspect "peace of conscience"
  comprehensible . . .
  but inverse long-term effects & false security
- Aspect "but I can really do multitasking!"

   ⇔ distraction effect for peers (see next slide)



#### **Distraction Effect for Peers**

#### **Experiment:** different views



vs.



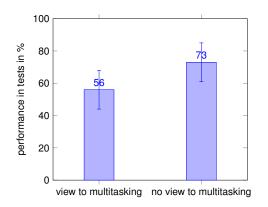
Pictures taken from [3].

<sup>[3]</sup> M. Spitzer, Laptop und Internet im Hörsaal? - Wirkungen und Wirkungsmechanismen für evidenzbasierte Lehre, Editorial of Nervenheilkunde 11/2013



### **Distraction Effect for Peers - Results**

#### **Experiment:**



Data taken from study [2]. Total number of participants: N=38.

<sup>[2]</sup> F. Sana, T. Weston, N.J. Cepeda, Laptop multitasking hinders classroom learning for both users and nearby peers, Computers & Education, 62, 2013



### **Summary**

- Notebook + WiFi in courses: tools with pros & cons
- Be aware of the effects!
- Use only where really appropriate!
- If needed: consider last row ⇒ avoid distracting others!

Also interesting:

[4] Cal Newport, Deep Work, Piatkus, 2016