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Engaging Millennials: Using Twitter in the Classroom

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Why Use Twitter?

- Provide instant information
- Connect with students on their level
- Increase student involvement
  - Contests
  - Discussions
  - Class participation

Classroom participation

Tweet questions to me during this presentation!

@PaceLawASP

Classroom participation

- Ways for shy students to participate by asking questions – before or during class
- Actual Student Examples:

@PaceLawASP btb did we also get an example (not nec to this one) of a PERFECT answer, just for chuckles and so I know for exams ... **#AASMPT3**

@PaceLawASP can you go over some anxiety relief methods or things to help lessen the amt of anxiety one feels during timed conditions, etc?

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Twitter Contests

1L Outlining Contest

Task: To tweet case fact summaries suitable for outlining.

Goal: Getting students to focus on rules/holdings of cases, and not get caught up in the details of the facts.

Tweet forces students to be brief when summarizing facts!

Even if they don't use Twitter, thinking about fact summaries as tweets helps remind them to keep it short and simple.

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Twitter Contests

- Examples:

Lucy v. Zehmer

Typical fact statement from a case brief: In December 1952 after several drinks, Zehmer (D) wrote a contract on a napkin in which he agreed to sell his farm to Lucy (P) for $50,000. Zehmer later insisted that he was drunk and was joking; did not realize Lucy had been serious. Lucy claimed they were both sober. Zehmer claimed that he was bluffing to try to get Lucy to admit that he did not actually have $50,000.

Twitter fact statement for an outline: **@PaceLawASP** L & Z drinking in a bar, Z agrees to sell L his land & they sign K on napkin. Z later says he was joking. K enforceable?

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Twitter Contests

Dioguardi v. Durning Facts: Dioguardi (P) imported "bottles and tonics" from Italy. Claimed that Durning (D), customs officer, improperly seized and sold them at auction. Dioguardi, representing himself pro se, drafted his own defective complaint for an action for conversion. Durning filed a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim. *Holding (for reference here, not included in the tweet):* In order to withstand summary judgment, complaint need only provide a short and plain statement of the claim demonstrating that the pleader is entitled to relief.

Student Tweets:

@PaceLawASP P claimed D stole his goods. P wrote a poorly written complaint. D filed to dismiss for failure to state a claim **#outlining**

@PaceLawASP P imported tonics from italy and sued D for improperly seizing and selling goods. P sued for conversion, d was granted a 12b6.

@PaceLawASP P imported "tonics" and claimed that D wrongly seized, converted, and sold the shipment at auction. Claim dismissed for 12b6

@PaceLawASP P claimed D improperly handled his imported tonics and sold at auction. sued for conversion (pro se)

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Fostering Class Discussion

@crowland87 : **@PaceLawASP** Just submitted MPT#3. Glad the examiners don't expect a perfect answer. 90 minutes is WAY too short for all that info! **#AASMPT3**

—@daniell684 **@crowland87** **@PaceLawASP** 90 minutes is TOO short for all that information your right. I feel like I am rushing through it

—@PaceLawASP **@daniell684** **@crowland87** You'll feel like that the entire BAR. But that's what we'll practice, getting enough pts even when rushing

@lolyeratlawl **@PaceLawASP** Emily Dunn is dunn. (Ha nasa.) Back to normalcy...if you can call anything on the bar normal, that is. **#AASMPT3**

—@daniell684 **@lolyeratlawl** **@PaceLawASP** Metover was not so bad either. I agree - it was the best out of the three of them I think

@SCVenezia **@PaceLawASP** Thought about the Franklin Code today while using the CPL at work...that could be very confusing for this coun **#AASMPT2** **#BarPrep**

@legall **@PaceLawASP** **#AASMPT3** was much easier than **#AASMPT2**. I'm looking forward to moving on to MBE stuff now

—@PaceLawASP **@legall** Me too. If there is such a thing as a "favorite" Bar day, the MBE would be it for me!

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Fostering Class Discussion

Want to continue this discussion after the workshop?

ID your tweets with **#ILTLTwitter** so all participants can find them!

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Issues and Solutions

Students might need a little "encouragement" to participate outside of what is absolutely necessary.

- Raffle tickets, extra point on a graded assignment, etc., help to encourage participation

"Twitter-speak" -- abbreviations can be confusing! Look for "Twitter glossaries" online.

Some students actually don't use Twitter!

-Facebook can have the same effect -- and everyone is on Facebook!

- For classes, create a Facebook group
- For departments, create a Facebook page (ours is www.facebook.com/PaceLawSchoolAcademicSuccess)

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Contact Me!

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