Revel pilot in Social Psychology

School: University of Iceland

Educator: Harpa Lind Jónsdóttir

Course: Social Psychology

Platform: Revel

Book: Hogg, Social Psychology
“The students I spoke with like Revel and say it helped them. Our experience is that those who used it are also high in class participation.”

Harpa Lind Jónsdóttir

Overview
Our school has set a goal to improve teaching and learning by 2026. The ambition is to improve research and overall academic outcomes for students, but for instructors it can be challenging to find ways to achieve this.

We could see how the use of Revel could support with this goal. Revel is a new tool, better than a digital textbook, so we made the decision to trial the platform in a group.

Assessment
This is a two-semester course. The exams at the end worth 30% of the final grade.

In semester 1 students work on a project, which gives 20% of the final grade.

After the trial we identified where Revel could be used for whole class assignments. Our plan is to set students with a number of points-based questions which on completion would make up 15% of the grade. We would also like to integrate Revel with Canvas.

Benefits
It is possible to use the outcomes search feature in Revel to check in on students' progress, that’s very helpful for lecturers. Students benefitted from the questions.

Summary
Overall, this was a positive experience for the students, they seemed to like it. When students were asked, they did not have any problems - they liked the reading format/screen reading and the quiz questions.

I love that I can assign components and skip parts of the textbook.

For more information about Revel®, please visit https://www.pearsonhighered.com/revel/index.html
What students said about Revel

What was your initial reaction to REVEL?

Improved learning

• Revel has been a huge help in learning and engaging, I love the practice questions and questions that pop up while reading the chapters.
• I liked that the chapters were sectioned out so that I could focus on one thing at a time, and that there was a short quiz after each reading material.
• It makes it a lot easier for me to keep up, I don't have to look up how much I need to read before the next class, Revel automatically tells me. I love that it makes it easier to read on digital devices. I love that there are so many quizzes from the book you can take.
• The questions helped a lot.

Self-assessment

• I liked it. It was good to answer questions and take tests regularly. It was also good to see when you should read information.
• I like that it has questions.
• I am familiar with similar products from other publishers, and I am a big fan of reading/quizzing intermittently.
• I was not too sure about it at first, but after using it I would recommend it. My favourite was the pop-up text you would get by pressing “Key concepts” in the text.
• I liked it very much. I like that between sections I can test my knowledge on the text that I had just read.
What students said about Revel

How did you feel this resource compares with the traditional books/eBooks and University LMS (Canvas) resources you’ve used until now?

Improved reading experience
• I feel like more people would read the books if they were as manageable as Revel.
• Greatly superior to print books, especially with the easily accessible questions at the end of each chapter.
• It was better than regular books that don’t have quizzes.
• It helped me, it’s a nice way to stay on track.

Easy technology
• I felt that general smoothness of the experience was better, good programming. Techy products from publishers tend to run clunky, Revel did not.
• More interactive and easy to use.
• There were a lot more features than I’m used to. This will be great for the modern student.
• It is superior to most!

“I feel like more people would read the books if they were as manageable as REVEL.”
What students said about Revel

What difference has REVEL made to your preparation for lectures, seminars and assessments, compared to other modules without REVEL?

Improved learning
• A big difference, having practice questions is so valuable and the best way to learn.
• I read at least half the material where I usually read none of it.
• The questions helped a lot to get a sense of my understanding of the material.

Increased organisation
• It was easier to see if I was on schedule with my reading because of the deadline the teacher had set, and I felt more confident of my progress by taking the quizzes.
• I was better prepared and understood the emphasis of each chapter better due to the questions at each chapter.
• It was much better. Good to be forced to finish early and write answers.
• Having the regular quizzes helped me prepare for graded tests and the due dates helped me keep up to date on my reading.
• I like that it breaks the reading up so it isn’t as overwhelming. I like the videos that make the reading come alive.