

11 Jodie Lawston

[MUSIC PLAYING] JODIE LAWSTON: My name is Jodie Lawston. I am a professor at California State University, San Marcos. And my Revel title is Sociology-- Structure and Change.

Being an instructor, it means working with students to get them to see that they can change the world. My students, they don't have as much time as they used to have. They're much more digitally-savvy. I've had to learn to work with them from where they are. They're much more engaged when the material is digital. They're less engaged when the content is just traditional book form.

So my classroom is very different after using digital products because it's more interactive. Students have done the reading. Students have done quizzes. Students have watched embedded films. And they come to class much, much more prepared to have a discussion. It gives me time to explore other concepts and theories.

What I love is students are able to actually listen to the chapters, which means they can multitask. Revel is so interactive. Through actually doing, not just reading, they're actually reinforcing the material. They're not just reading it really quickly and then forgetting about it.

Also, Revel is extremely current. It's updated more frequently. Students have told me they love digital. They like being able to access the material and do it on their phone wherever they are.

Revel enlivens the text through social explorer activities. Students are able to click on maps and see the data in real time. I think it really gets students' attention. They see these things as relevant to their lives, which is really critical to getting them to keep coming back to class.

They're doing the work. And what we're seeing with Revel is that the students' grades are going up.

They are also loving the Pearson Originals videos, which bring the content of each chapter home. It gives it a more personal touch. I think Revel can change the way somebody teaches. A lot of the assignments are automatically graded.

Students are doing the reading. They're not doing the reading when it is in print books. They're doing the reading with Revel. This frees up instructor time to actually go into class to not have to explain the reading line by line. But to actually go into class and have a more compelling discussion with them. And that's where the critical thinking happens.

I think that Another really important part of Revel is that students become more active agents in their education. They're able to track their progress. They are able to get reminders on their phone. And this is really important for students. They feel like they have, I think, more power over their education and I think that's extraordinarily important.