The Advantages of Utilizing a Text Message Application to Support Student Learning in Academia

What is Remind & Why Should I Care?
**Remind:** Remind is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps teachers share important updates and reminders with students & parents (K-12). Subscribe by text, email or using the Remind app. All personal information is kept private. Teachers will never see the student’s phone number, nor will you see theirs.
How does Remind work?
Why Should I Care?

- 9 out of 10 Americans own a cell phone (Pew Research, 2014).
- In 2006, 158.6 billion text messages were sent in the U. S.
- 61% of students use text messages to communicate with fellow students about coursework
- 19% of students use text messaging to communicate with their professor
- 93% of students use text messaging as a communication tool
- In a recent study pertaining to STEM community college students....students reported that the nudges (text messages) have "helped them improve their time management, access resources like financial aid renewal, and feel more connected to their college;"
Why should you use Remind?

Excellent way of keeping students on track, even with a Learning Management System (LMS) such as Blackboard.

Provides you with a way of communicating with students if you are late, going to cancel class, following up.

In addition to the LMS, this application is a great way of sending friendly reminders about assignments (i.e. homework, quizzes, final exams, etc.)

Also provides a method of communication when life happens (death, sickness, car accidents etc.)
The participants

- Used the application with several courses. The participants included both male and female students and ages ranged from 15 (high schoolers)-60 (older students).
  - **Timeframe:** Fall 2015 to Spring 2018 (Seat based courses)
  - **Course(s)**
    - IT 1005 Computer Fundamentals
    - IT 1010 Introduction to Microcomputer Applications
    - IT 1025 IT Concepts for Programmers
    - IT 1030 Internet Fundamentals
- Survey Monkey was used to collect data
Other instructors can use Remind to send reminders to students when a paper or an assignment is due. I think it is very helpful because if you forget about an assignment you will receive a reminder about it.

It was better to receive messages on my phone because I don't always check my email. So it was very convenient.

When using Remind send reminders frequently but not too much. It was very helpful, but I think it was only helpful because my instructor sent the reminders at the right time and often.

I thought the app Remind help me stay on track this semester.
Based on your experience, what are your thoughts and suggestions on how other college professors can use Remind in their courses?

- I think it would be very helpful for other instructors to use it because there would be fewer late and un-submitted assignments.
- Remind can be used by other instructors just by letting the students know their next assignment.
- Remind is a great program, and it helps remind the student of important assignment dates. Remind is definitely for student success.
Suggestions/Tips on incorporating Remind in Higher Education

1. Explain to students why you want to use the application
2. Explain how you have used it in the past
3. Introduce the application to students on the first day
4. Share the handout provided by Remind with students
5. Add an assignment to the curriculum & provide points for participation (extra credit...you will receive 10 points for signing up)
6. Schedule announcements whenever possible
7. Make sure you provide consistent communication
Tell people to text @tric2018 to the number 81010

They’ll receive a welcome text from Remind.

If anyone has trouble with 81010, they can try texting @tric2018 to (216) 592-8826.
Questions?