

mySpace in the Classroom

Classroom Note Taking Collaboration Via a Social Networking Model

Jeff Ringenberg

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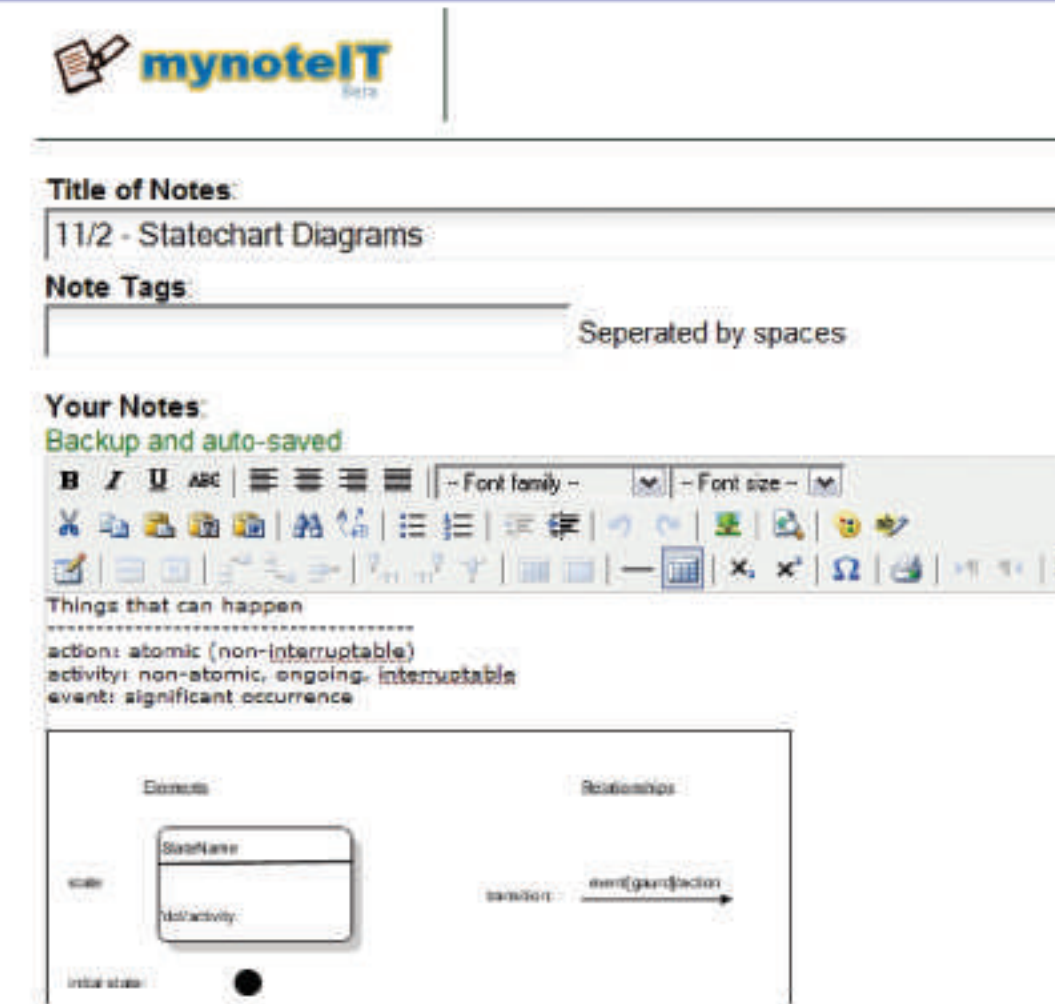
What is Web 2.0?

- Coined by O'Reilly Media in 2003 and popularized by the first Web 2.0 conference in 2004, Web 2.0 refers to a perceived second generation of web-based communities and hosted services – such as social-networking sites and wikis – which facilitate collaboration and sharing between users.

• Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_2.0

MyNoteIT

<http://www.mynoteit.com>

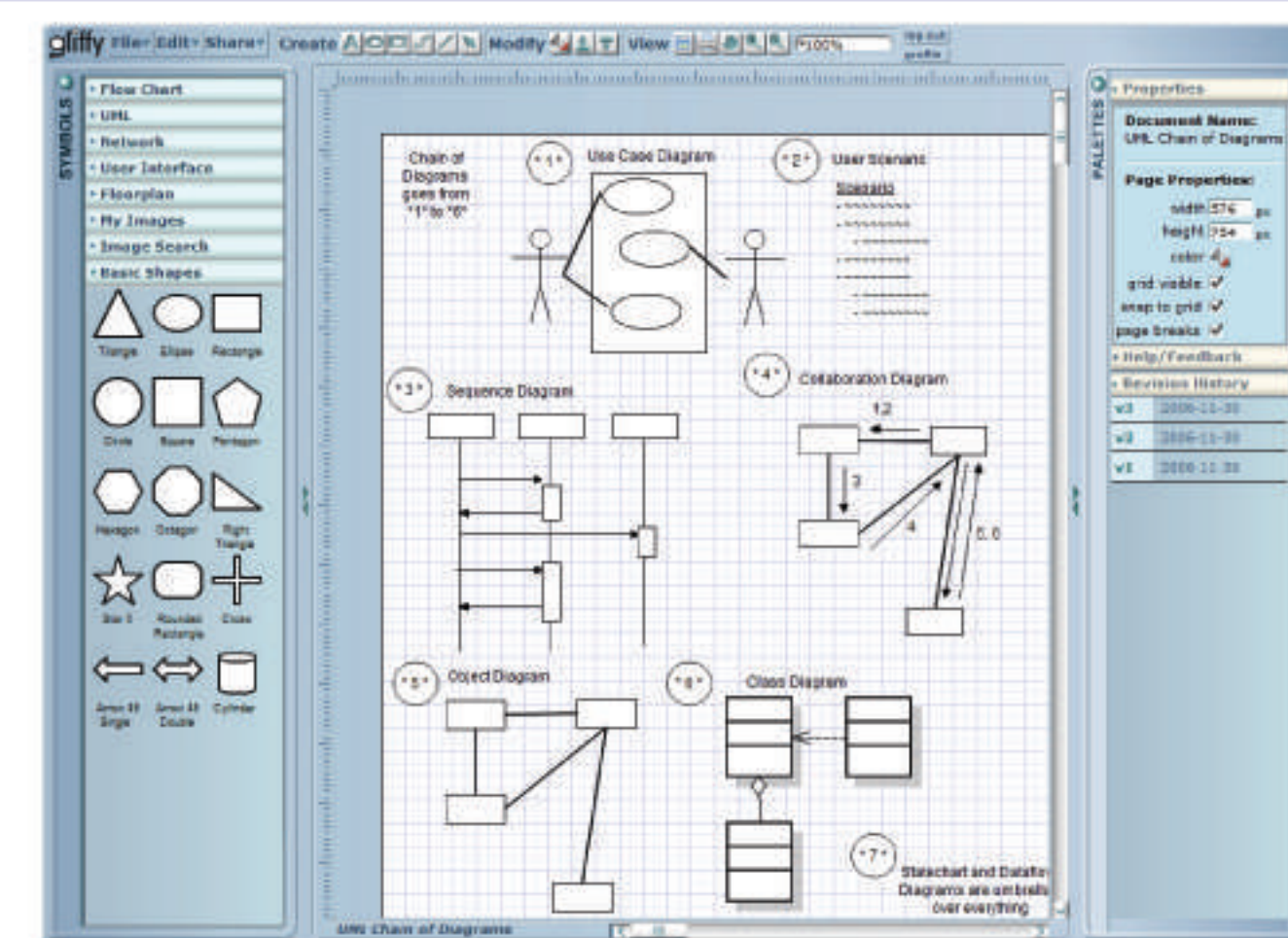


Motivations for the study

- A desire to use collaboration as a method to strengthen student note taking
- An interest in discovering what students perceive as “good” notes
- A hope that the observation of student notes can lead to an increase in the effectiveness of lecture material

Gliffy

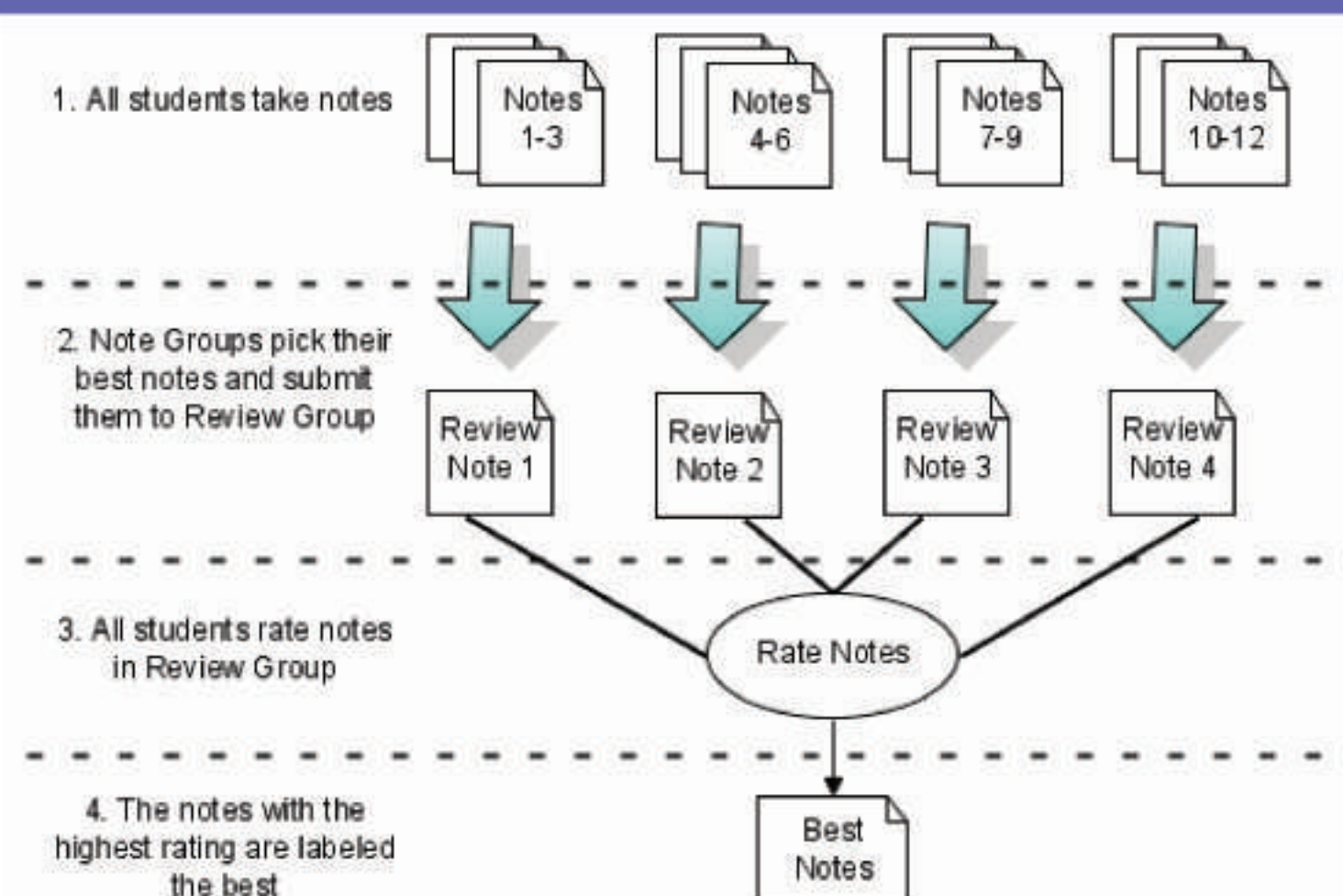
<http://www.gliffy.com>



The Tools

- Powerful, online note-taking utilities that are:
 - Based on Web 2.0 technologies
 - Hosted remotely on third-party servers
 - Usable with minimal hardware/software requirements

Student Workflow



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Feedback Survey

Statements	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable
The mynoteIT tool was useful.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
The mynoteIT tool was easy to use.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
I would recommend mynoteIT to others.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
I would use mynoteIT in the future.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
The Glify tool was useful.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
The Glify tool was easy to use.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
I would recommend Glify to others.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
I would use Glify in the future.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
Wireless internet access was readily available.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
Internet access was necessary for the tools to be effective.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
Enough time was given in class to effectively use the tools.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
Overall, the tools made me more confident with the material.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
Overall, the tools were effective.....	5	4	3	2	1	N
Questions						
Hours						
How many hours did you use mynoteIT per week outside class?	0	<1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4+
How many hours did you use mynoteIT per week inside class?	0	<1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4+
How many hours did you use Glify per week outside class?	0	<1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4+
How many hours did you use Glify per week inside class?	0	<1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4+
How many hours per week do you use social networking sites such as mySpace, Facebook, etc...?	0	<1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4+
How many hours per week did you look at your notes online?	0	<1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4+

Results

- The contribution of the tools to a student's confidence was affected by his/her social type:

	Leader	Poster	Lurker
Overall, the tools made me more confident with the material	2.333333	3.6	4

Survey Results

Statements	Average Score
The mynoteIT tool was useful.....	3.6
The mynoteIT tool was easy to use.....	3.1
I would recommend mynoteIT to others.....	3.5
I would use mynoteIT in the future.....	3.1
The Glify tool was useful.....	4.5
The Glify tool was easy to use.....	4.2
I would recommend Glify to others.....	4.1
I would use Glify in the future.....	3.8
Wireless internet access was readily available.....	4.0
Internet access was necessary for the tools to be effective.....	4.7
Enough time was given in class to effectively use the tools.....	3.6
Overall, the tools made me more confident with the material.....	3.4
Overall, the tools were effective.....	3.4
Questions	
Average Hours	
How many hours did you use mynoteIT per week outside class?	<1
How many hours did you use mynoteIT per week inside class?	1-2
How many hours did you use Glify per week outside class?	<1
How many hours did you use Glify per week inside class?	<1
How many hours per week do you use social networking sites such as mySpace, Facebook, etc...?	1-2
How many hours per week did you look at your notes online?	<1

Results

- Student notes can provide feedback on the effectiveness of the lecture:
 - Incomplete notes at critical points in lecture indicated that students were falling behind
 - Notes that mirrored lecture content suggested that students were not including original content in their notes
 - Incorrect student solutions to classroom examples revealed whether or not students understood the material

Results

- Students separated into several different social types^[1]:
 - Leaders: students that actively participated and posted large amounts of notes (9 – 11 sets)
 - Posters: students that participated sporadically and posted small amounts of notes (2 – 5 sets)
 - Lurkers: students that read other's notes and posted little or no notes at all themselves (0 – 1 set)

[1] Turner, T. and Fisher, K., "The Impact of Social Types within Information Communities: Findings from Technical Newsgroups", Proceedings of the 39th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences, 2006.

Results

- A student's overall course grade, which is highly affected by his/her team skills, is possibly correlated to social type. Whereas, exam and homework grades, which are not affected by these skills, is not correlated.

