What do we know about apps?

- App - the 2010 Word of the Year
- Apps for information, entertainment, health, education, daily tasks, travel, shopping and investing among others
- Today 500,000 plus apps are available across a variety of digital platforms:
  - Apps for lifestyle
  - Apps for commerce
  - Apps for teaching
  - Apps for a Winning Pedagogy in 2014

What should we know about apps?

- Economic educators have a choice of a wide variety of useful and free apps
- Bringing apps into the classroom will capture and sustain student interest
- Today, tech savvy students possess some form of app capable platform
- As the digitization of teaching resources becomes increasingly available, instructors can adapt by making course pedagogy more mobile through incorporating Bring Your Own Device into the course design
- The number of available apps can be overwhelming
- We identify 50 best apps with user rankings on 5-point qualitative scale from Awful (1) to Excellent (5)

Apps for a Winning Pedagogy

**Data Apps**
- Numbers (4.59)
- US Economy (3.73)
- WDI DataFinder (4.71)
- Economy for iPad (4.64)
- PGI Data Explorer (4.32)
- America's Economy (3.8)
- IMF News and Data (4.13)
- FRED Economic Data (4.15)
- Economic Watchdog (4.27)
- World Bank Africa DataFinder (4.64)

**Informative Apps**
- Economist
- BBC News
- RSA Vision
- Economy (4.10)
- EconWise (4.35)
- Economic Dictionary (4.08)
- World Bank InfoFinder (4.24)
- World Development Report (4.43)
- NPR: Planet Money Podcasts (4.0)
- Thousands of Economics Articles (4.42)

**Learning Apps**
- Bloomberg (4.50)
- MarketDash (4.00)
- Economics AP (4.69)
- Khan Academy (4.96)
- VSB Economics (4.34)
- Oxford Economics (4.45)
- Economic Growth (4.29)
- Economics Spotlight (4.52)
- Economics Classroom (4.27)
- MIT OpenCourseWare Lecture Hall
- Investment Guide + by Forbes (4.5)

**Assessment Apps**
- Economics Quiz (4.55)
- Economics by WAGmob (3.63)
- ConceptIQ: Micro-economics (4.44)
- Economics Study Aid and Quiz (4.33)

**Engagement Apps**
- eClicker (4.0)
- Poll Runner (4.77)
- Response Ware (4.33)
- Socrative Teacher (4.22)

**Apps to impress**
- Libertarian Quotes (4.00)

**Teacher Tools Apps**
- Smarty Student (4.80)
- Educreations Interactive Whiteboard (4.42)

**Student Tools Apps**
- BookShelf
- Currency Converter (4.27)
- Zillow Mortgage Calculator (4.41)
- myHomework Student Planner (4.44)
- BA II Plus Financial Calculator (4.74)

**Game Apps**
- Lemonade Stand (4.45)
- GoVenture Entrepreneur (4.12)

**Our Website**
- http://econapps.lakishasimmons.com/

Why should we use apps?

- Strategic selection of an app engages students physically, emotionally, and intellectually
- Apps provide a hands-on study of economics that can intrigue and satisfy both students and instructors
- When students have fun engaging economic apps, their learning and retention increases

Challenges

- Finding interesting apps can be time consuming and overwhelming
- Creating in-class activities using apps takes additional preparation time
- Entertaining apps may not suitably align with course objectives
- Apps may not connect to students’ daily lives
- Opportunity cost for instructor preparation and classroom delivery time
- Not every student has an available digital platform

Advice

- Select apps that relate to the content of a particular class
- Test in-class activities before delivery