# Youhere.org: Factsheet

Why Youhere?

Youhere is a cloud-based, classroom attendance service, supercharged for the mobile-phone era. It was designed by a teacher for teachers, in order to take classroom attendance, but has many other attendance uses too. Why? After 20 years in the classroom, we simply could not find a good way of taking class attendance. Roll calling and sign-in sheets are messy, laborious and self-defeating. Thus the birth of Youhere, which draws from the ubiquity of phones and their location abilities to automate attendance.

Using Youhere

In use, group leaders (teachers, coaches, etc.) make an account at Youhere.org then set a geofence around a particular location on a map. The "geofence" is a circle that surrounds a location where participants should be, at a particular time. This can be a classroom, practice field, office, building, etc.

Afterwards, participants install a free app on their phones (iOS or Android). When inside of the geofence at the appropriate time, they tap "check-in" on the app to check themselves in. They must be within the geofence during the needed time frame in order to check-in successfully. Attendance logs are automatically compiled for the group leader's use.

Using Youhere eliminates roll calling and sign-in sheets entirely. Imagine walking into your class and simply announcing "Check-in with your phone please," to take care of your attendance.
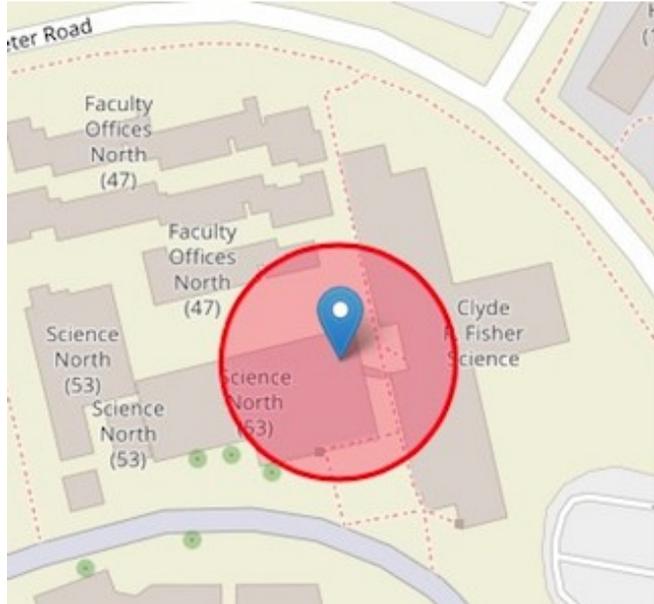
If you have a large class, participants that are difficult to track, or work in an unusual location, give Youhere a try. You'll love it.
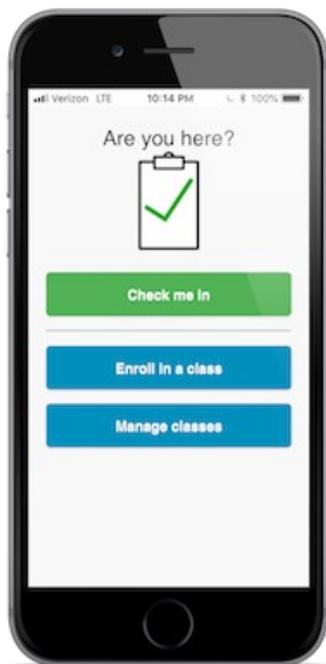
The App

The app used by the participants to check-in is simple: it only "runs" when a they tap on its "Check me in" button. If they are within the geofence during the needed time frame, a "yes" will be securely transmitted to the group leader's account on the Youhere.org server. If not, nothing is transmitted. This is all the app does.

Student/Participant Privacy

We are very sensitive to privacy issues. Our app is not a person-tracker. It does not stay active on a phone "tracking" a person's location. We never ask for email addresses of people using the app. If a person taps "Check me in" when outside of the geofence, nothing is recorded. The app is free, and does not contain any ads, spyware, or "in-app" purchases. All communication with the Youhere.org server is encrypted using https/ssl (the same used to encrypt credit card transactions on the web, etc.). See the "privacy" page at Youhere.org for more. Only you have access to your attendance data. We do not contract with third parties.

Worried? Other restrictions (FERPA, etc.)? Have your participants use pseudo-names for maximum online anonymity.