

2008 Student Survey on Learning and Scholarly Technology

The questions on this survey ask about how and when you use technology to support your learning. We have designed a survey that will allow you to describe multiple aspects of your educational experience at the University of Washington.

Your participation in this survey is voluntary and confidential. No identifying information will be linked to your responses. You are free to skip any question. The survey should take about 15 minutes to complete.

Thank you in advance for your thoughts.

Section I: About You

Question 1.

Which best describes your status as a student at the University of Washington?

- Freshman
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Masters student
- Doctoral student
- Other:

Question 2.

Which of the following broad areas best describes your major course of study (declared or undeclared)?

- Architecture & Urban Planning
- Arts & Sciences–Arts
- Arts & Sciences–Humanities
- Arts & Sciences–Natural Sciences
- Arts & Sciences–Social Sciences
- Business
- Dentistry
- Education
- Engineering
- Forest Resources
- Information School
- Law
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Ocean & Fishery Sciences
- Pharmacy
- Public Affairs
- Public Health & Community Medicine
- Social Work
- Undecided
- Other:

Question 3.

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

Question 4.

What is your age?

- Under 20

20-25
26-30
31-35
36-40
41 or
over

Question 5.

Which best describes your current residence?

University housing/residence hall
Off campus with parents/guardian
Off-campus other (e.g., alone, with friends,
etc.)

Question 6.

On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate your current technological expertise?

For the purposes of this survey, we're primarily concerned with your computer and Web-based experience. We've defined three points on the scale as follows. These tasks represent some of the things a person at each level might do.

Beginner: Able to use a mouse and keyboard, create a simple document, send and receive email, and/or access Web pages.

Intermediate: Able to format documents using styles or templates, use spreadsheets for custom calculations and charts, and/or use graphics/Web publishing programs.

Expert: Able to use macros in programs to speed tasks, configure operating system features, create a program using a programming language, and/or develop a database.

Beginner
(1)

(2)

Intermediate
(3)

(4)

Expert
(5)

Section II: Contexts & Goals

In this section, we are interested in what goals you have in different educational contexts, both formal and informal, and what technologies (if any) you use to address those goals.

Question 7.

The following list describes a variety of contexts in which teaching and learning often occur. Please choose one context in which you have participated as a learner from Summer 2007 to Winter 2008, formally or informally. You will be asked to choose a second context later in the survey.

- Seminar/small discussion-based class (< 25 students)
- Large discussion-based class (25+ students)
- Small lecture (< 100 students)
- Large lecture (100+ students)
- Online course
- Lab (course-based)
- Computer lab
- Studio
- Ensemble/rehearsal
- Small group instruction (e.g. CLUE)
- Field experience
- Internship/practicum/clinic
- Research team/lab
- Online learning community
- Workshop/training
- Tutoring (e.g. Writing Center)
- Meeting with faculty mentor
- Office hours/independent study
- Library Help Desk
- Informal conversation, in person or online
- Other:

Question 8.

Choose one learning goal below that was important to you in this context (question 7).

- Access and review course material
- Develop thinking and problem solving skills
- Understand content knowledge
- Actively participate and share my thinking

- Get real world experience
- Synthesize experiences in and outside of the classroom
- Cultivate community and connection
- Practice or expand my skill set
- Develop research skills

Other:

Question 9.

In this question we are asking you to consider both the context and the goal you selected above. In the first column, please indicate ALL technologies you used in this context (Question 7). In the second column please indicate ONLY those technologies you used to help achieve your selected goal (Question 8).

Note: If you used a course management system (e.g. Blackboard, Moodle), please indicate the individual components you used.

	Context	Goal
Course or project Web page		
Word-processing software		
File-sharing software		
Web-based file storage		
Library e-reserves		
Research databases and indexes (e.g. ERIC, PubMed)		
Digital image collections		
Presentation software (e.g. PowerPoint, Keynote)		
Audience response system ("clickers")		
Email		
Online discussion boards		
Online chat or instant messaging (e.g. AOL, MSN)		
Text messaging via mobile phone		
Online social networks (e.g. Facebook, del.icio.us)		
Blogs or Web-based journals (e.g. Blogger, Live Journal)		
Collaborative Web-editing software (e.g. Wiki)		
Online portfolios		
Online surveys or quizzes		
Online homework collection		
Online simulations/ educational games		
Visualization technologies (e.g. interactive graphics, virtual reality)		
Videoconferencing		
Streaming video		

Audio or video podcasting

RSS readers (e.g.
RSSReader, NetNewsWire)

None of these

Question 10.

Was this context (question 7) part of your major course of study?

Yes

No

Question 11.

Are there any other technologies that you have used in this context?

Question 12.

Which of the following, if any, describe the Web tools you used in this context? Select all that apply.

Catalyst tools (e.g. WebQ, GoPost, Collect It, Portfolio)

Course management system (e.g. Blackboard, Moodle,
WebCT)

Department-created tools or department-specific solutions

Other:

Question 13.

Please choose a second context in which you have participated as a learner from Summer 2007 to Winter 2008, formally or informally. If possible, choose a context that differs substantially from your first selection (question 7).

Seminar/small discussion-based class (< 25 students)

Large discussion-based class (25+ students)

Small lecture (< 100 students)

Large lecture (100+ students)

Online course

Lab (course-based)

Computer lab

Studio

Ensemble/rehearsal

Small group instruction (e.g. CLUE)

Field experience

Internship/practicum/clinic

Research team/lab

Online learning community

Workshop/training

Tutoring (e.g. Writing Center)

Meeting with faculty mentor

Office hours/independent study

Library Help Desk

Informal conversation, in person or online

Other:

Question 14.

Choose one learning goal below that was important to you in this context (question 11).

Access and review course material

Develop thinking and problem solving skills

Understand content knowledge

Actively participate and share my thinking

Get real world experience

Synthesize experiences in and outside of the classroom

Cultivate community and connection

Practice or expand my skill set

Develop research skills

Other:

Question 15.

In this question we are asking you to consider both the context and the goal you selected above. In the first column, please indicate ALL technologies you used in this context (Question 13). In the second column please indicate ONLY those technologies you used to help achieve your selected goal (Question 14).

Note: If you used a course management system (e.g. Blackboard, Moodle), please indicate the individual components you used.

	Context	Goal
Course or project Web page		
Word-processing software		
File-sharing software		
Web-based file storage		
Library e-reserves		
Research databases and indexes (e.g. ERIC, PubMed)		
Digital image collections		
Presentation software (e.g. PowerPoint, Keynote)		
Audience response system ("clickers")		
Email		
Online discussion boards		
Online chat or instant messaging (e.g. AOL, MSN)		
Text messaging via mobile phone		
Online social networks (e.g. Facebook, del.icio.us)		
Blogs or Web-based journals (e.g. Blogger, Live Journal)		
Collaborative Web-editing software (e.g. Wiki)		
Online portfolios		
Online surveys or quizzes		
Online homework collection		
Online simulations/ educational games		
Visualization technologies (e.g. interactive graphics, virtual reality)		
Videoconferencing		
Streaming video		
Audio or video podcasting		
RSS readers (e.g. RSSReader, NetNewsWire)		
None of these		

Question 16.

Was this context (question 13) part of your major course of study?

Yes

No

Question 17.

Are there any other technologies that you have used in this context?

Question 18.

Which of the following, if any, describe the Web tools you used in this context? Select all that apply.

Catalyst tools (e.g. WebQ, GoPost, Collect It, Portfolio)

Course management system (e.g. Blackboard, Moodle, WebCT)

Department-created tools or department-specific solutions

Other:

Section III: Supports & Obstacles

In this section, we are interested in understanding both what helps and what hinders your use of learning technologies.

Question 19.

Think of times when you needed to learn to do something new with a technology. Rate how helpful you found the following sources of support:

	Never used this resource	Not helpful (1)	Moderately helpful (2)	Very helpful (3)
Self (trial-and-error)				
UW online help or tutorial				
non-UW online help or tutorial				
Teaching assistant				
Departmental technical support				
Computer lab assistants				
Instructor/Professor				
Classmates				
Friends				
Family				
Catalyst workshop				
Catalyst help (email or phone)				
Library workshops and trainings				
Library help desk				
Learning Commons help desk consultants				

Question 20.

If and when you used or planned to use technology to support your learning, to what extent (if at all) did the following present an obstacle to you?

	Not an obstacle	Minor obstacle	Major obstacle
Lack of adequate training on technology required for coursework			
Lack of knowledge about where to go to learn the technology			
Lack of time to learn how to use the technology			
Lack of timely support with technical problems			
Lack of personal motivation			
Concern about a technological problem affecting my grade			
Inability of my instructor to use technology well			
Lack of ability to access software or equipment (e. g. videocamera, laptop) when I need it			
Lack of ability to access online tools for class from my home or dorm room			
Incompatibilities between my computing environment (Mac, PC or Linux) and the tools I need			
Poorly functioning or inadequate technology in my learning environment			

Question 21.

Please respond to the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5.

Strongly agree
(1)

Agree
(2)

No opinion
(3)

Disagree
(4)

Strongly disagree
(5)

In general, my instructors' use of educational technologies enhances my learning.

Faculty should use more technologies that encourage interaction in class.

Too much technology in the classroom gets in the way of my learning.

I have considered dropping or not enrolling in a course because of the technology that it required.

Overall, the learning technologies available at UW are adequate for my needs.

Section IV: Future

In this section, we are interested in knowing where you think the UW should put its resources in the next three years regarding learning and scholarly technologies.

Question 22.

Below is a list of changes that could enhance the use of learning and scholarly technologies at the UW. Considering your own learning goals, what priority would you assign each item below?

	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority
Agreement on common set of educational software for use in 1st & 2nd year courses			
Reliable wireless access			
Reliable and consistent technology/software in all classrooms			
More computer labs with collaborative spaces			
Tools for file sharing with classmates			
Departmental training on specialized software			
More digital equipment available for student use			
Up-to-date computers and programs in computer labs			
More interactive online courses			
Greater opportunities for audio podcasting			
Greater opportunities for video podcasting			
Greater opportunities for visualization technologies (e.g. interactive graphics, virtual reality)			

Question 23.

In your opinion, where should the UW put its resources in the next three years to best support student learning? Please be as explicit as possible in your response.

Question 24.

Is there anything more you would like to tell us about learning and technology at the UW?