

## Students and Information Technology in Higher Education: 2008 Survey Questionnaire

**1. How old are you?** *We may only survey students 18 years or older. Required.*  
(Drop down menu including under 18 and 18 through 99. Respondents under 18 must exit the survey.)

**2. To enter the drawing for gift certificates, please enter your e-mail address.**  
*Optional.* \_\_\_\_\_

**3. How old is your personal desktop computer?**

- |                                                       |                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't own a desktop computer | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 years old           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year old         | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 years old           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year old                   | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 4 years old |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 years old                  |                                                |

**4. How old is your personal laptop computer?**

- |                                                      |                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't own a laptop computer | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 years old           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year old        | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 years old           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year old                  | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 4 years old |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 years old                 |                                                |

**5. Approximately how many hours each week do you spend actively doing Internet activities for school, work, or recreation?**

(Drop down menu including Less than 1, 1 to 168 (1 hour increments).)

**6. How often do you do the following (for school, work, or recreation)?**

	Never	Once per year	Once per quarter or semester	Monthly	Weekly	Several times per week	Daily
a. Instant message							
b. Text message							
c. Use the Internet from a cell phone or PDA							
d. Download web-based music or videos							
e. Use the college/university library website							
f. Spreadsheets (Excel, etc.)							
g. Presentation software (PowerPoint, etc.)							
h. Graphics software (Photoshop, Flash, etc.)							
i. Audio-creation software (Audible, GarageBand, etc.)							
j. Video-creation software (Director, iMovie, etc.)							
k. Social networking websites (Facebook, MySpace, Bebo, LinkedIn, etc.)							
l. Online multiuser computer games ( <i>World of Warcraft, Everquest, Poker, etc.</i> )							
m. Online virtual worlds (Second Life, etc.)							
n. Podcasts							
o. Webcasts							
p. Social bookmark/tagging (del.icio.us, etc.)							

**7. During the academic year, how do you most frequently access the Internet?**

- Dial-up service
- High-speed (wired or wireless)

**8. Do you own a cell phone that is capable of accessing the Internet (whether you use that capability or not)?**

- No, and don't plan to purchase one in next 12 months
- No, but plan to purchase one in next 12 months
- Yes
- Don't know

**9. How often do you contribute content to the following (for school, work, or recreation)?**

	Never	Once per year	Once per quarter or semester	Monthly	Weekly	Several times per week	Daily
a. Wikis (Wikipedia, course wiki, etc.)							
b. Blogs							
c. Photo or video websites (Flickr, YouTube, etc.)							

**10. What is your skill level for the following?**

	Not at all skilled	Not very skilled	Fairly skilled	Very skilled	Expert
a. Using the college/university library website					
b. Spreadsheets (Excel, etc.)					
c. Presentation software (PowerPoint, etc.)					
d. Graphics software (Photoshop, Flash, etc.)					
e. Computer maintenance (software updates, security, etc.)					
f. Using the Internet to effectively and efficiently search for information					
g. Evaluating the reliability and credibility of online sources of information					
h. Understanding the ethical/legal issues surrounding the access and use of digital information					

**11. Which best describes your preference?**

- I prefer taking courses that use *no* information technology.
- I prefer taking courses that use *limited* information technology.
- I prefer taking courses that use a *moderate level* of information technology.
- I prefer taking courses that use information technology *extensively*.
- I prefer taking courses that use information technology *exclusively*.

**12. Are you using the following for any of your courses this quarter/semester? Check all that apply.**

- a. Spreadsheets (Excel, etc.)
- b. Presentation software (PowerPoint, etc.)
- c. Graphics software (Photoshop, Flash, etc.)
- d. Audio-creation software (Audible, GarageBand, etc.)
- e. Video-creation software (Director, iMovie, etc.)
- f. Programming languages (C++, Java, etc.)

- g. Webcasts
- h. Podcasts
- i. E-portfolios
- j. Discipline-specific technologies (Mathematica, AutoCAD, STELLA, etc.)
- k. Instant messaging
- l. Social networking websites (Facebook, MySpace, Bebo, LinkedIn, etc.)
- m. Wikis
- n. Blogs
- o. Online virtual worlds (Second Life, etc.)
- p. College or university library website

**13. How many of your courses this quarter/semester are entirely online?**

- None
- Some
- All

**14. It would benefit students if my institution required students to take at least one entirely online course.**

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Don't know

**15. How many of your instructors:**

	Almost none	Some	About half	Most	Almost all	Don't know
a. Use information technology (IT) effectively in courses						
b. Provide students with adequate training for the IT the instructor uses in his or her course						
c. Understand the IT skill levels of their students						

**16. What is your opinion about the following statements?**

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
a. I get more actively involved in courses that use IT.					
b. The use of IT in my courses improves my learning.					
c. IT makes doing my course activities more convenient.					
d. By the time I graduate, the IT I have used in my courses will have adequately prepared me for the workplace.					
e. My institution's IT services are always available when I need them for my coursework.					
f. I skip classes when materials from course lectures are available online.					

**17. Have you ever taken a course that used a course management system (CMS)?** A CMS provides tools such as online syllabi, sample exams, and gradebook (e.g., WebCT, Blackboard, Desire2Learn, Sakai, or a campus-specific system). *Required.*

- No. *Proceed to 21.*
- Yes. *Proceed to 18.*
- Don't know. *Proceed to 21.*

**18. How often do you use course management systems?**

- Never
- Once a year
- Once a quarter/semester
- Monthly
- Weekly
- Several times per week
- Daily

**19. What is your skill level using course management systems?**

- Not at all skilled
- Not very skilled
- Fairly skilled
- Very skilled
- Expert

**20. Describe your overall experience using course management systems.**

- Very negative
- Negative
- Neutral
- Positive
- Very positive

**21. Which of the following best describes you?**

- I am skeptical of new technologies and use them only when I have to.
- I am usually one of the last people I know to use new technologies.
- I usually use new technologies when most people I know do.
- I like new technologies and use them before most people I know.
- I love new technologies and am among the first to experiment with and use them.

**22. I like to learn through:**

	No	Yes	Don't know
a. Text-based conversations over e-mail, IM, and text messaging			
b. Programs I can control, such as video games, simulations, etc.			
c. Contributing to websites, blogs, wikis, etc.			
d. Running Internet searches			
e. Creating or listening to podcasts or webcasts			

**23. Do you use any social networking websites (Facebook, MySpace, Bebo, LinkedIn, etc.)?** *Required.*

- No. *Proceed to 34, then to 35.*
- Yes. *Proceed to 24–33, skip 34, go to 35.*
- Don't know. *Proceed to 35.*

**24. Approximately how many hours per week do you use social networking websites?**

*(Drop down menu including Less than 1, 1 to 50 (in increments of 1), More than 50.)*

**25. Which of the following social networking websites do you use?** *Check all that apply.*

- a. Bebo
- b. Facebook
- c. Friendster
- d. LinkedIn
- e. MySpace
- f. Sconex

- g. Windows Live Spaces
- h. Yahoo! 360

- i. Other

**26. How do you use social networking websites? Check all that apply.**

- a. Stay in touch with friends
- b. Make new friends I have never met in person
- c. Find out more about people (I may or may not have met)
- d. Find someone to date
- e. As a forum to express my opinions and views
- f. Share photos, music, videos, or other work
- g. For professional activities (job networking, etc.)
- h. Communicate with classmates about course-related topics
- i. Communicate with instructors about course-related topics
- j. Participate in special interest groups
- k. Plan or invite people to events
- l. Respond to site advertisements
- m. Other

**27. How many profiles do you currently have at social networking websites?**

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6–10
- 11–20
- 21–30
- More than 30

**28. How often do you change your profiles?**

- Never
- Once a year
- Once a quarter/semester
- Monthly
- Weekly
- Several times per week
- Daily

**29. How many friends do you currently have at all the social networking websites you use?**

- None
- 1–25
- 26–50
- 51–75
- 76–100
- 101–200
- 201–300
- More than 300

**30. How many groups do you actively participate in at all the social networking websites you use?**

- None
- 1–5
- 6–10
- 11–20
- 21–30
- 31–40
- 41–50
- More than 50

**31. What information about yourself do you reveal on social networking websites? Check all that apply.**

- a. First name
- b. Last name
- c. E-mail address or IM screen name
- d. Address or home phone number
- e. Full date of birth
- f. Cell phone number
- g. Photos
- h. Class information/schedule
- i. Work place
- j. Spring break/holiday plans



**39. Do you reside on campus or off campus?**

- On campus
- Off campus

**40. What are you majoring in? Check all that apply.**

- a. Social sciences
- b. Humanities
- c. Fine arts
- d. Life/biological sciences, including agriculture and health sciences
- e. Physical sciences, including math
- f. Education, including physical education
- g. Engineering
- h. Business
- i. Other
- j. Undecided

**41. Which institution are you attending?** *Required. Before proceeding, please confirm that the name of your institution appears. <Drop-down list of institutions.>*

**42. Is there anything you would like to tell us about your experience with IT in or out of courses, or about your experience with social networking websites?** \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you! You have reached the end of the survey. Visit the [ECAR website](#) to see our research and learn more about the EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research. If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail [ecar@educause.edu](mailto:ecar@educause.edu).

— END SURVEY —