

VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Programme: CertHE Skills for the Workplace

Module: Digital Skills and Research Methods

Module code: BMSW4003

Lecture: **Betty Burke**

Onofrio Brescia ID: 2019147

Table of Contents

Summary.....	3
Objectives.....	4
Research Methods.....	5
Survey Questions	6
Findings.....	7
Conclusion.....	11
Reference.....	12

Summary

This research is intended to find out what student think about the Virtual learning environment, in this case Moodle. An e-learning framework is a web-based application that offers all of the resources used to manage all facets of a course through a single, intuitive, and reliable interface. Business companies, in addition to educational institutions, are using e-learning technology and programs to provide cost-effective online instruction to their staff. Despite the fact that educational and/or corporate institutions spend a significant amount of money and time on e-learning programs, when a new e-learning environment is introduced, the participants must produce feedback in order to adjust it and make improvement.

The aim of this research is to understand if there are issues using Moodle, if student is finding it useful or not. What they think about it and what can be improved to help them studying better. Moodle helps teachers to mix traditional classroom with various web-based technologies in a single application. (Kampa, R.K. 2017) As a result, it is important to explore the users' viewpoint during the implementation of The Virtual Learning Environment and to assess its effectiveness.

Is indeed important for the research to be accurate, detailed and liable. To produce this research is utilise a quantitative research which means numerical analysis of data collected through a survey.

The research was deemed a success because it met and exceeded the research goals, and a number of different observations, revelations, and recommendations were produced. These may allow the university to make improvements and modifications to Moodle that would result in a higher level of attendance from university students, effectively resolving the problems that are currently present.

Objectives

The objective of this research is to make recommendations as to how Moodle can be improved using a sub-objective to ensure it conduct an effective research.

1. Understand how easy is to access to all the information using Moodle.
2. Understand what type of tools are they using and if they are efficient.
3. Understand what they think about the layout
4. Understand how many times a week they using Moodle.
5. Understand which feature are utilise and which are not in order to improve their study.
6. To determine the overall opinion of it.

Research Methods

Quantitative Stage:

Choose an online survey as the appropriate method of the research procedure because it effectively enables us to obtain and analyse highly relevant, applicable, quantitative and measurable results. Quantitative analysis entails estimation which is predicated on the assumption that the phenomenon under investigation can be measured. Its aim is to look for patterns and relationships in data and to double-check the measurements made. (Watson Nursing Standard 2014)

The survey is easy to access and to complete as it's been made on Google form and distributed to the students via Team app, but unfortunately completed just from a 6 people. If we had more time and more resource, and also due to the pandemic, we would obtain more information and result.

Students:

We aim to gather information from six student 2 female and 4 male as not everybody who was sent the survey the first participate, it took a while to get answers. The survey was then sent out again, this time telling students to complete it if they had not already done so.

The questionnaire contains 14 different questions, designed to explore people's views on Moodle. The survey is done by the use of various types of questions, some ask participants to score and measure their decision on a Likert scale (from 1 to 10), while others ask for multiple choice responses. Likert scales and multiple-choice answers were used because they allow for accurate quantification of the outcomes and, as a result, the creation of a useful and indicative study.

Survey question:

1. Have you ever used Moodle? Yes, or no?
2. How likely are you to recommend using Moodle? likely, very like, unlikely.
3. What features do you use?
4. Library, Service desk, Student's Hall, possibility of reviewing lesson anytime
5. Rank in terms of usefulness which features do you like.
6. Have you ever used Service Desk?
7. How do you like about the layout? Easy, not easy,
8. How easy is to access Moodle from 1 to 10? 1 to 10
9. How many times a week do you use it? 1 to 7
10. that easy to access to all the information? Yes or no
11. Would you recommend Moodle? 1 to 10
12. How would you rate Moodle from 1 to 10?
13. How easy is it to use Moodle?
14. Why?

Findings:

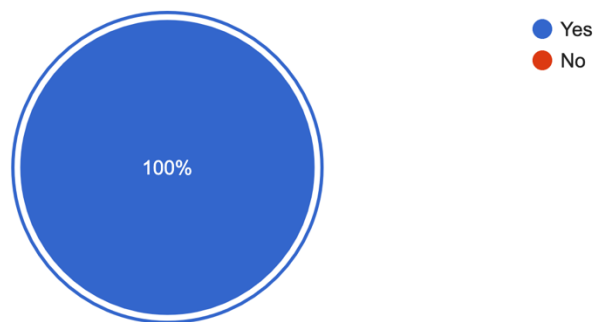
According to the result of the research we understood that all the 6 (100%) student who participate to the survey says that they are using Moodle. About 70% said that they would recommend the use of it. 66.7% of them is using the library 16.7% is using the Service Desk and 16.7% is using the Student Hall. 50% of the student said that they like the layout and is easy to use. About how easy is accessing Moodle from 1 to 10, 1 student said 5, 3 students said 8, 1 student said 9, and the last student said 10. Also 50% of them is using Moodle about 3 times a week, 33,3% is using Moodle 3 times a week and 16.7% is using Moodle 6 times a week. Everybody said that is easy to access to all the information and tools. Overall, they think that Moodle is a good platform but there are many things that can be improved. As Moodle is not very easy to understand, there are lots of unnecessary information regarding other courses, and that gives Moodle a confusing look, and makes the user lose time looking for what he actually needs.

Objective 1

Students, according to quantitative analysis, says that it easy to access to all the information on Moodle, as shown on the pie-chart below.

9. Is that easy to access to all the information?

6 risposte

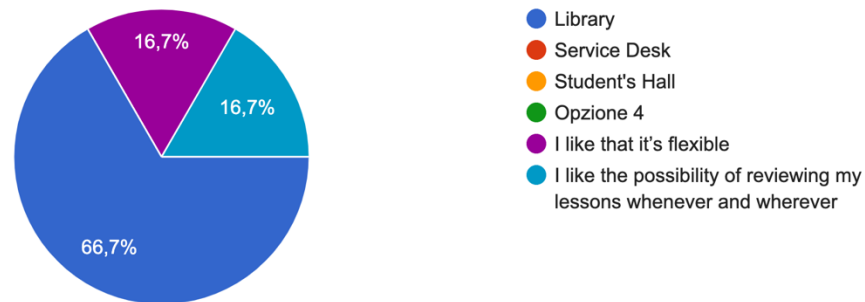


Objective 2/5

Further analysis shows that the tools are they using more is the Library – as in a discussion face to face with the respondents interviewed said that is a great tool that helps improve your study through the reading of books article and journals. They really appreciate the ability to go back and revisit the lessons at any time.

3. What features do you use ?

6 risposte



Objective 3

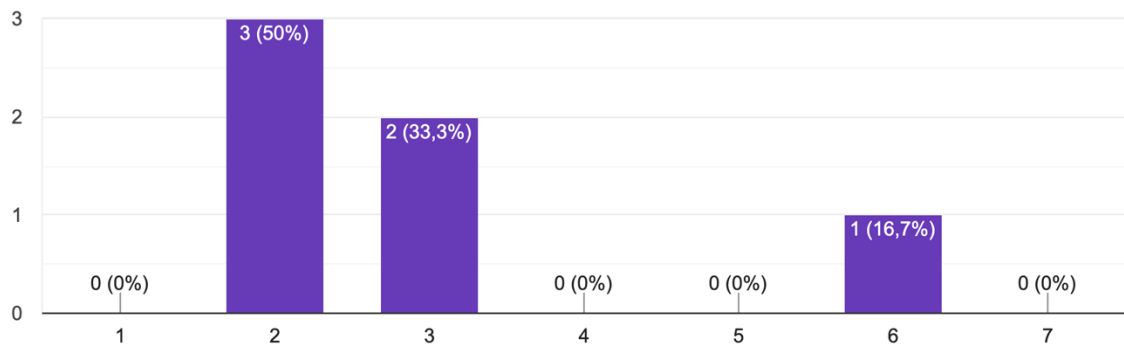
Abut the layout they all said that it looks quite old and it can be improved a lot as there are a lot of information not needed and you can easily get lost, especially inside the module section that can be more organised in order to access easily to the lessons slide.

Objective 4

The bar chart below reveals that that just one student is using Moodle portal 6 times a week, then two students said 3 times a week, and the rest of three said 2 times a week. According to the bar chart 50% of them is unlikely to use Moodle so often.

8. How many time a week do you use it?

6 risposte



Objective 6

The overall opinion is that Moodle is a great portal as it helps student a lot while away from the campus. But it certainly can't be replaced from a face-to-face course in a class.

Conclusion

Based on the quantitative analysis, from the data we collected it's clear that Moodle is useful for all the student involved in the project but there are many things that can be improved, starting from the layout, as it looks quite old and basic, most of them said that is quite easy to access but sometime also easy to get lost. According to the findings of this study, the majority of students are experienced internet users who are unafraid of experimenting with emerging technology. We find out that the Service Desk is important an important tool, as it helps you to reach the university team that helps you with any kind of problem or concern you have. The results show that as far as the Moodle its obviously not perfect. As I stated before there are lots of unnecessary information regarding other courses, and that gives Moodle a confusing look, and makes the user lose time looking for what he actually needs. Lack of confidence in the system and the Internet seems to affect students and make them lose motivation. The results of the survey also indicated students' low frequency in using the system. The system structure of the implemented Moodle system needs to be more structured, and Internet access must be more reliable. In the eLearning climate, the library plays a larger role, especially in facilitating students' access to electronic resources. According to the results, respondents had favourable attitudes toward library incorporation in Moodle.

Since Moodle is an open-source software, it is possible to add new features. Moodle's real design and deployment will have an effect on students' expectations of its effectiveness and ease of use. Since the primary goals of Moodle implementations differ in each situation, this is another variable that will need to be discussed in future work.

Reference

Kampa, R.K. (2017), "Bridging the gap: integrating the library into Moodle learning management system a study"

Watson, Roger. Nursing Standard (2014); London Vol. 29, Fasc. 31, (Apr 1, 2015)

J. Massy (2005). "The eLearning industry and market in Europe".