

Report

Impact Of Virtual Learning Environment (VLE/MOODLE) On the learning experience of the students at the University of Trinity Saint David (LONDON Campus).

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Introduction

What is the Virtual Learning Environment?

The virtual learning environment is a location that is totally dedicated to students and teachers.

It is an online learning gadget where students may access various information and gain knowledge, or just revise content posted by their professors.

It is a very complex world, especially for someone who is not very interested in technology, but it is the most comprehensive learning experience. Here you may discover movies, information, virtual books, or slides provided directly by the teacher or other students; it can be quite useful, and it was heavily used during the pandemic scenario when the only method to learn was online.

The correct VLE, rather than being an anti-social environment that substitutes real life, complements the social space of a classroom. It makes discussion threads, polls, and surveys possible.

It enables students to submit assignments without needing to locate their lecturers. It serves as a central location for an endless amount of materials in the form of papers, workbooks, and Power Point presentations.

- **Firefly website (online article) *What is a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)*: <https://www.fireflylearning.com/what-is-a-virtual-learning-environment-vle>**

Aim and objectives

Now that I've defined what a VLE is, I'd want to discuss my goals for this report.

I created this report to correctly comprehend (with my participation) the true rate of satisfaction throughout the University of Trinity Saint David's London campus when

utilizing our VLE, MOODLE. I'd want to grasp and comprehend how different individuals (of all ages and mentalities) see the real online learning experience, as well as what may be incorporated, adjusted, and what functions well without compromising the VLE's strength.

Literature review

I discovered an intriguing website that discusses the same issue that I would like to evaluate. VLE is a fascinating yet controversial issue; everyone talks about it, everyone has an opinion about it, and there are those who like it and others who hate it.

The website in question is this: http://www.scielo.org.co/scielo.php?pid=S0123-34322017000300479&script=sci_arttext&lng=en Created by Leonardo Herrera Mosquera in 2017 (*Impact of Implementing a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) in the EFL Classroom*)

This student from Columbia University is doing a personal study to determine the influence of VLE in English as a foreign language (EFL) classes. Questionnaires, class observation notes, short surveys, and teacher narratives were utilised as research instruments to acquire information about students' views and attitudes regarding the use of this technology in class, as well as the current circumstances for such implementation.

He discusses how different languages and ages might effect the quality of VLE usage on his school. As observed, younger individuals are more inclined to utilize VLEs rather than conventional learning techniques, whereas elderly people are more likely to use traditional learning methods.

Research methodology

This research incorporates several qualitative data pieces, although I usually look for quantitative data in the form of raw numbers and percentages.

The qualitative data is generally used to collect information for understanding how everyone felt after using the VLE. The research process includes developing questions and methods, data collection in the participant's environment, data analysis inductively building from particulars to general themes, and the researcher providing interpretations of the data's significance. To provide meaning to the questions or hypotheses mentioned above, descriptive statistics and qualitative research tools will be used.

Survey

I plan to utilize brief questionnaires to collect information. Survey research is described as the process of doing research through sending questionnaires to survey respondents. The survey data is then statistically evaluated to obtain significant study results. Credible survey research may provide these firms with access to a big data bank. Survey research is used by media groups, other businesses, and even governments to gather reliable data.

Survey research methods:

- Online/Email: *One of the most common survey research methodologies today is online survey research. The cost of doing online survey research is quite low, and the results obtained are highly accurate.*

- Phone: *Telephone survey research (CATI) can be effective for gathering data from a larger segment of the target population. There is a probability that the money involved in phone surveys will be larger than in other mediums, as will the time necessary.*
- Face-to-face: *In circumstances where there is a complex problem to tackle, researchers conduct face-to-face in-depth interviews. This approach has the highest response rate, but it is also the most expensive.*

I will use the face-to-face method because it allows me to collect the information I need without having to cover Emails or phone numbers while also allowing me to see people's facial expressions and ensure that they are not lying about their age or feelings about the VLE based on their body and face language.

Participants

At least 20 students were requested to participate in my survey, with the majority of them being questioned during and after sessions. Our campus is a mixed one, with around 60% of the students being female and 40% being male. As you can see from the information provided, this will have little impact on my research.

This study was conducted specifically to obtain information on the age and varied perspectives of VLE based on age and future objectives.

Ethical Considerations

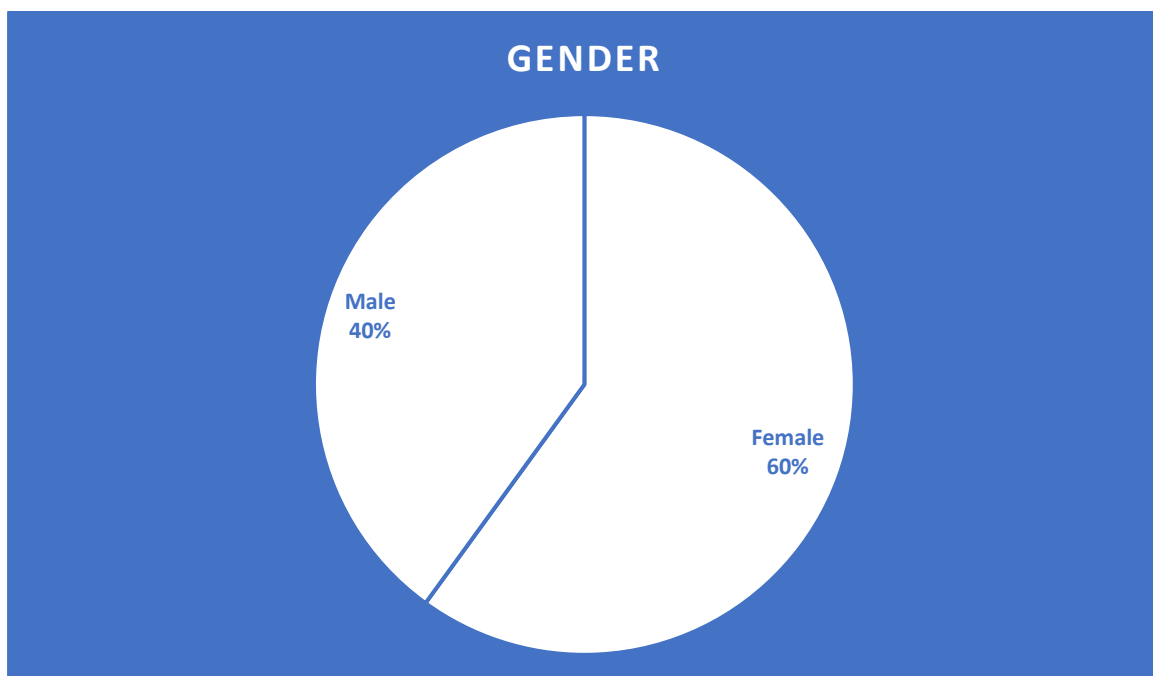
Students gave their consent to participate in the study and were informed of all the details of the process. It was clear to both the teachers and the students that no personal information would be revealed nor any kind of harm caused to any of the participants. I have informed everyone that this research will not have any impact on their study methods, and that it will not even be shared with the teachers because it may influence their opinion on teaching with VLE.

Also This research will be true and without fabrication of the replies in order to make everything real and without attempting to manipulate the answers of others. This is the most accurate, although it might be difficult to provide accurate responses, especially under pressure.

Findings and Analysis

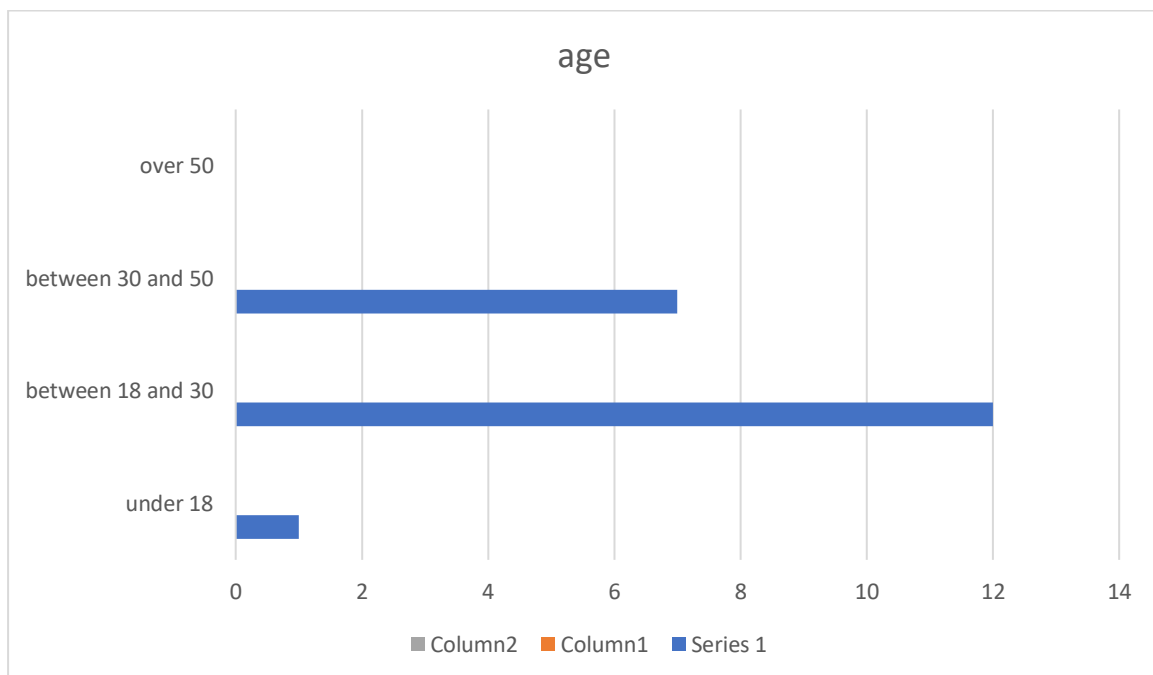
Q1. *The first question will be regarding gender; this will not have a large impact on the overall research, but it will demonstrate the genuine difference and stability of the different genders on our campus.*

- Wat is your gender?
Male or Female



Q2. The second question will be one of the most essential since it will inquire about the students' ages, and it will run concurrently with the question about how students feel about VLE to highlight the relationship between age and facility, as well as how individuals see MOODLE as they become older.

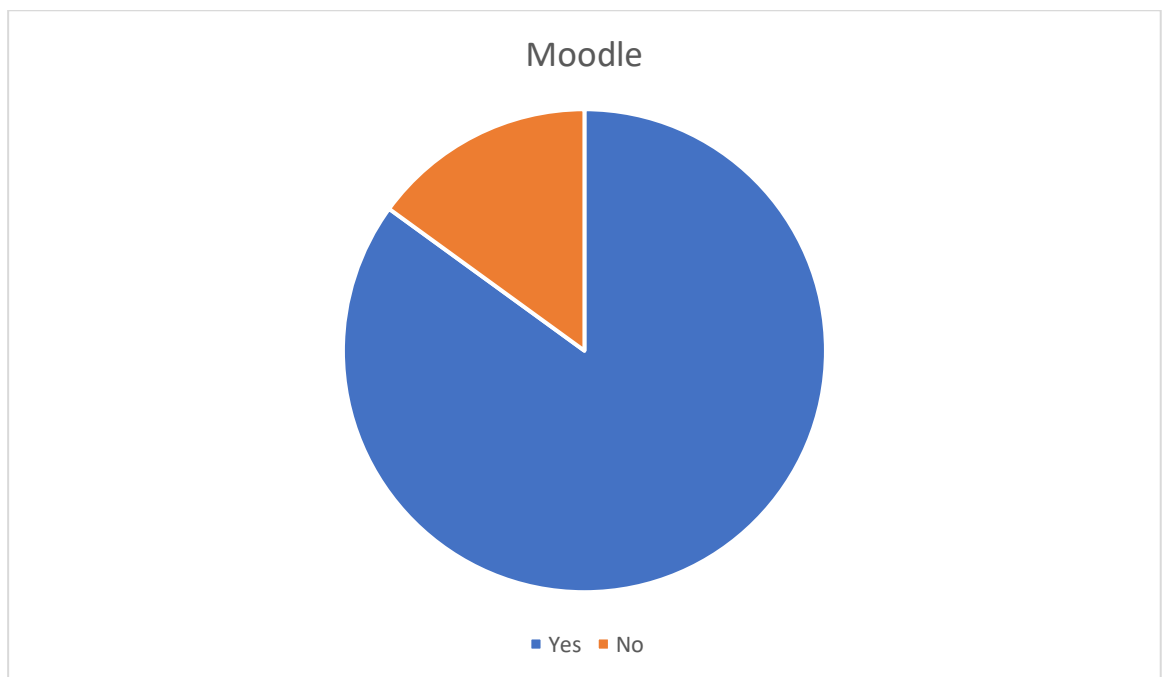
- What is your age?
 - Under 18
 - Between 18 and 30
 - Between 30 and 50
 - Over 50



Q3. The third question will be regarding whether they have heard of Moodle. This question will be useful to check if they have ever used Moodle or any other sort of VLE in order to understand the nature of their learning style.

- Have you ever used Moodle?

Yes or No



What we can see from this pie chart is that most of the students used Moodle, especially the younger ones. I attempted to build a combination of the last two questions to see whether there is a relationship between age and Moodle usage, and the oldest individuals are the ones who are not using Moodle.

Age	Nr.	Usage of Moodle
Under 18	1	Yes

18-30	12	12 said Yes
30-50	7	4 said yes, 3 No
Over 50	0	-

Q4. Within this question, I asked them how frequently they used Moodle; surprise, the results were very troubling since, while the majority of the students were using Moodle, the majority of them were using it very infrequently, indicating that the method to utilizing Moodle is flawed (maybe the university is not putting the necessary amount of importance in usage of Moodle)

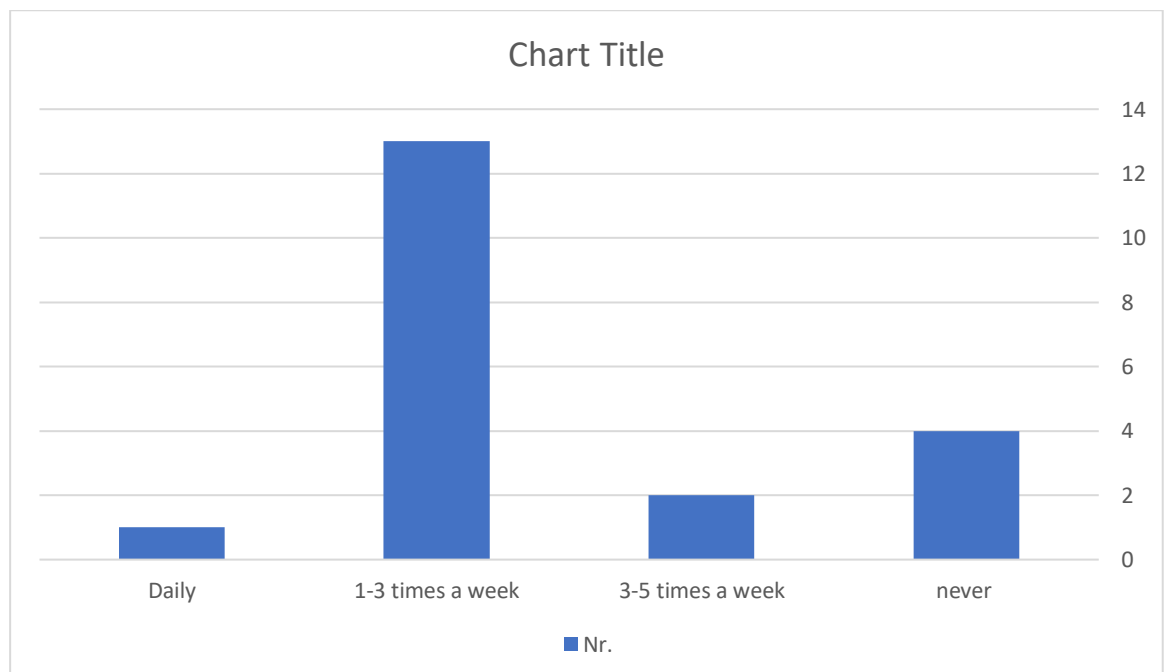
- How often do you use Moodle?

Daily

1-3 times a week

3-5 times a week

Never



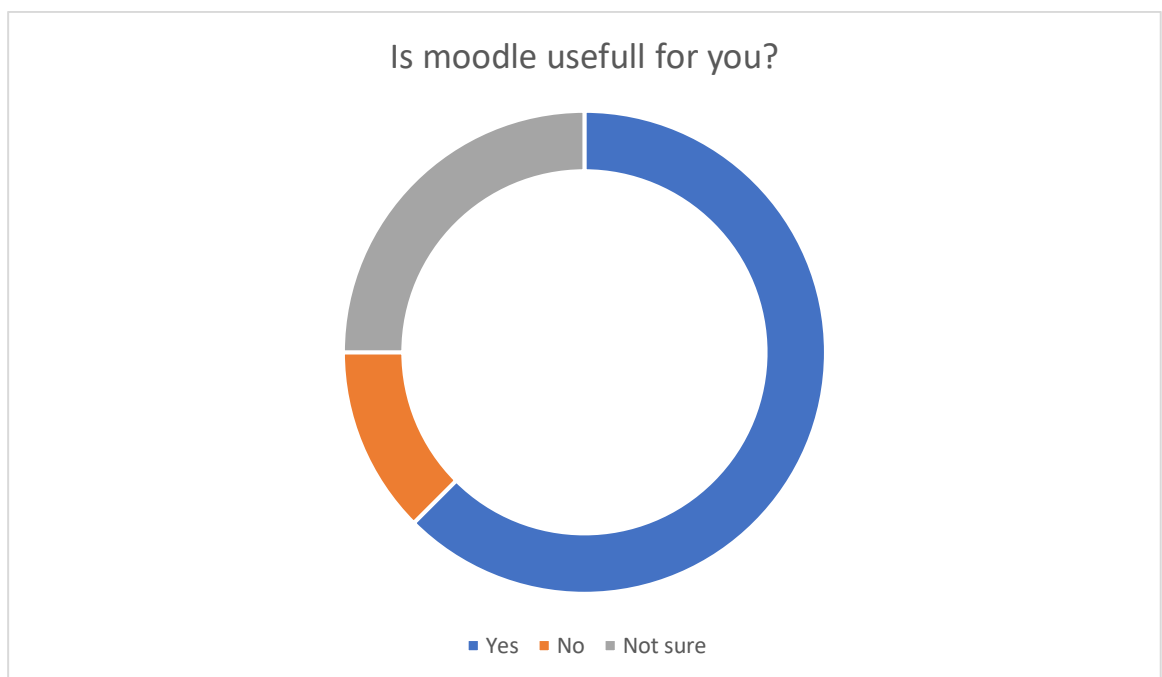
Q5. In this question, I will ask the students whether they find Moodle significant and if they find it beneficial in any manner, because as we can see, Moodle isn't used very often, even though the students find it very useful.

- Do you find Moodle useful for you?

Yes

Not sure

No



We can see that students find Moodle and the use of VLE extremely beneficial, even if they don't use it very often. I believe this is due to the overall school and the amount of material found on Moodle that doesn't keep the students active.

Limitations of the study

The number of students who responded to the questions was relatively low; the students who were engaged and responded without hesitation were insufficient for obtaining a highly particular and impactful survey.

Most of the people who responded to the questions did so without really thinking about them because they were busy or because time was particularly short at the time because I could only do it during or after sessions.

Basically, time and a lack of attention when answering questions were the two most significant constraints I had during this study.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the study I conducted revealed that there are some limitations when students were using Moodle, particularly for time spent on VLE because the survey results show that the majority of students find Moodle and, in particular, VLE very useful, but the actual time spent using these platforms isn't that high. This may indicate certain problems in learning and receiving information.

I believe that lecturers should place more emphasis on students talking about Moodle and showing them where and how to find information on the site. Perhaps the information acquired is insufficient, and we should learn more about how to get started in this online learning environment, especially for the elderly, because using technology can be challenging for them, especially at first.

References

- Firefly Website (*What is a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)?*):
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- Scielo website created by Leonardo Herrera Mosquera in 2017 (*Impact of Implementing a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) in the EFL Classroom*):
http://www.scielo.org.co/scielo.php?pid=S0123-34322017000300479&script=sci_arttext&tlng=en
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