Students' Perceptions in Online Courses with the CoI Framework

Minkyung Lee; Roy Clariana

ABSTRACT

This study investigate how the elements of CoI framework are correlated as a construct and see if the CoI predict the overall course satisfaction using modified CoI survey (Arbaugh et al, 2008). We found 3 components in the CoI having some mixed outcomes on CP and SP. We also found TP and CP predict about 80 percept of the course satisfaction while TP alone can explain the construct about 65 percent of it.

BACKGROUND

The idea of online learning community is now pervasive and frequently reviewed; Community of Inquiry (Garrison et al, 2000), digital habitats (Wenger et al., 2010). The community can result from shared knowledge among learners and a sense of community often increases the flow of information, commitment to group goals, cooperation among members (Rovai, 2001).

Community of Inquiry: The effective learning takes place within a community and the interaction of three to facilitate learning.

Teaching presence - the foundation to create an online CoI with SP and CP

Cognitive presence - the ability to construct meaning through sustained communication, most difficult to build in online courses

Social presence - to communicate within community and develop interpersonal relationships. It **predicts CP (Akyol 2009)** and contributes to CP significantly and positively (Garrison et al, 2010; Shea & Bidjerano 2009).

COMMUNITY OF INQUIRY
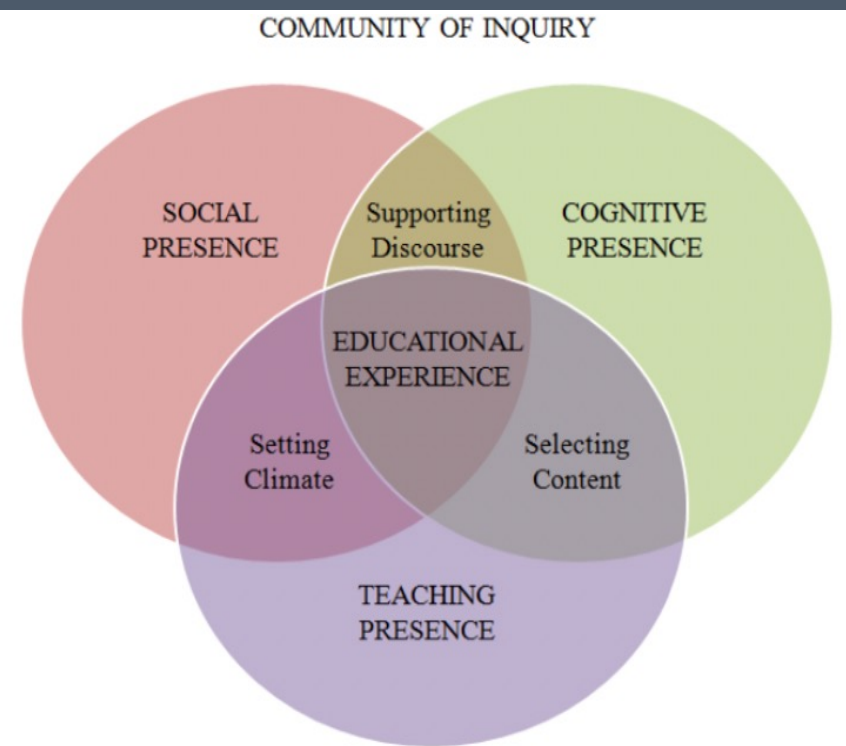
RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. How are the elements of the CoI framework correlated?
2. Can the CoI predict the course satisfaction?

METHOD

Participants
136 undergraduates in four communication courses in a business program excluded 28

Instrument
Modified Qualtrics survey (Arbaugh et al., 2008) with the 0-10 Likert scale to understand the perceptions in three presences, course satisfaction, general perceptions and a sense of belonging in online learning community, perceptions of using sociograms

Analysis
Explorative Factor Analysis to verify the framework of scales constructed to evaluate aspects related to three presences
Stepwise method in multi-regression to see if the CoI construct can predict the course satisfaction

RESULTS

Pattern Matrix[a]

	Component		
	1	2	3
CP5	0.961		
CP3	0.922		
CP4	0.892		
CP6	0.891		
CP7	0.89		
SP1	0.884		
CP1	0.872		
CP2	0.796		
SP3	0.736		
SP2	0.689		
TP3		0.972	
TP2		0.95	
TP1		0.836	
TP4		0.814	
SP6			0.94
SP5			0.917
SP7			0.9
SP4			0.744

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.
Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.
a. Rotation converged in 5 iterations.

Scree Plot
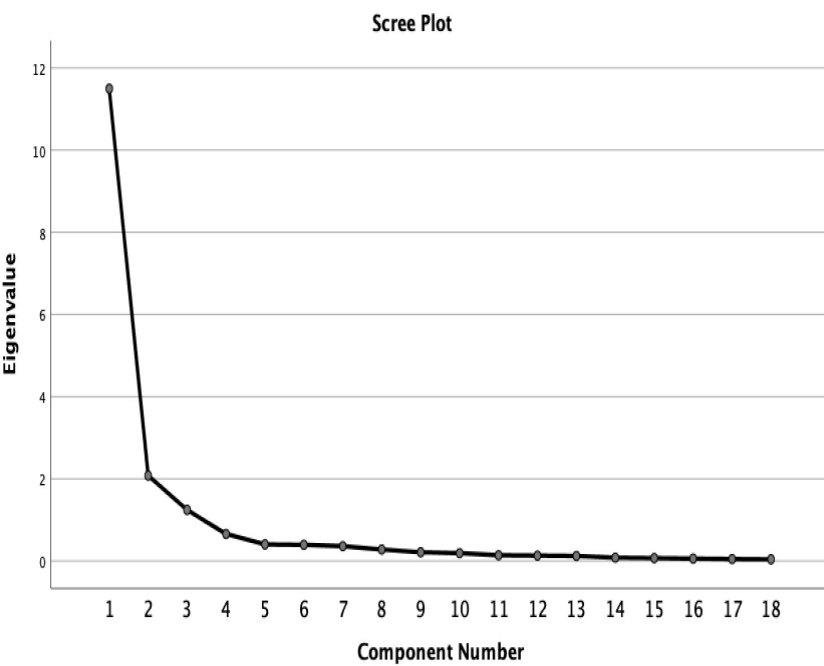
- 3 components in the construct having mixed outcomes on CP and SP.

- TP and CP predict about 80 percept of the course satisfaction while TP alone can explain the construct about 65 percent of the course and discussion satisfaction.

Regression Model Summary[c]

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.807[a]	0.651	0.648	1.15307	0.651	184.916	1	99	0
2	.890[b]	0.792	0.788	0.89561	0.14	66.099	1	98	0

a. Predictors: (Constant), TPMean
b. Predictors: (Constant), TPMean, CPMean
c. Dependent Variable: SatisfactionM

FUTURE RESEARCH

There are some limitation in the research such as multicollinearity and small sample. For the future research, we will modify the survey items and conduct Structural Equation Modeling with more data.