

# ECAR National Study of Undergraduate Students and Technology, 2012

Survey Questionnaire

February 2012

This is a text version of an online survey. The online survey varies in format based on branching or "skipping" logic programmed into the survey. The content of the survey does not substantially deviate from what is published in this document.

#### **Message to Participants**

Welcome to the 2012 ECAR student technology survey. This survey should take you no more than 15 minutes to complete, and your responses are anonymous. We ask questions about your experiences with, and attitudes toward, technology and your academic experiences. Your responses will help people on your campus and beyond understand how to use technology more effectively to benefit students. There are no right or wrong answers; we'd just like you to answer as honestly as you can. Participation in the survey is completely voluntary, and at any point you can choose to exit the survey.

You must be at least 18 years old and a full-time or part-time undergraduate student to complete this survey. Click the "Next" button below if you agree to participate.

#### **Section 1: About You**

- **1. What is your age? We may only survey students 18 years and older.** Required. Dropdown list including Under 18, 18 through 80 in one-year increments, and Over 80. Respondents under 18 must exit the survey.
- 2. Which of the following best describes your class standing during the most recent academic year? Required.
- () Freshman in college (or equivalent) Go to Q3
- () Sophomore in college (or equivalent) Go to Q3
- ( ) Junior in college (or equivalent) Go to Q3
- () Senior in college (or equivalent) Go to Q3
- () Other (e.g., graduate student, working, post-graduate, etc.) Go to end to exit survey
- **3. What college or university do you attend?** Required. Dropdown list of colleges/universities that qualify to participate in the study
- 4. If you would like to be entered into a drawing to receive a \$50 or \$100 Amazon.com gift certificate, please provide your e-mail address here. The drawing will be held by June 30, 2012, and e-mail addresses will be permanently deleted from our database no later than July 31, 2012. Your e-mail address will be kept confidential and will only be used for the purpose of this drawing.

### **Section 2: Device Use and Ownership**

5. Regardless of whether or not you own it, which of the following types of devices have you used in the past year? Required.

| asca in the past year. |           | 1            |                                  |                               |
|------------------------|-----------|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                        |           |              | Use for academic purposes only 2 | Use for other purposes only 3 |
| a. Laptop              | Go to Q11 | Go to Q6a-c  | Go to Q6a-c                      | Go to Q6a-c                   |
| b. Tablet              | Go to Q11 | Go to Q7a-c  | Go to Q7a-c                      | Go to Q7a-c                   |
| c. Smartphone          | Go to Q11 | Go to Q8a-c  | Go to Q8a-c                      | Go to Q8a-c                   |
| d. Dedicated e-reader  | Go to Q11 | Go to Q9a-c  | Go to Q9a-c                      | Go to Q9a-c                   |
| e. Desktop computer    | Go to Q11 | Go to Q10a-c | Go to Q10a-c                     | Go to Q10a-c                  |

| e. Desktop computer   | Go to Q11                  | Go to Q10a-c      | Go to Q10a-c | Go to Q10a- |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 6a. You indicated that you Do you own the <u>laptop</u> you own the you own t |                            | sk only if 5a>0}: |              |             |
| 6b. What type of operatione <i>laptop</i> , please select () Windows () Macintosh () Linux () Other () Don't know   | • • • •                    |                   | -            |             |
| 6c. How important is the () Not at all important () Not very important () Moderately important () Very important () Extremely important   | e <u>laptop</u> you use to | your academic s   | uccess?      |             |
| 7a. You indicated that you Do you own the <u>tablet</u> you () No () Yes  |                            | k only if 5b>0}:  |              |             |
| 7b. What type of operatione tablet, please selection () iOS (iPad) () Windows OS () Android OS () BlackBerry OS () webOS () Other OS  |                            |                   |              |             |

() Don't know

| 7c. How important is the <u>tablet</u> you use to your academic success?   |
|--|
| ( ) Not at all important   |
| ( ) Not very important   |
| () Moderately important  |
| ( ) Very important   |
| ( ) Extremely important  |
| ( ) Extremely important  |
| 8a. You indicated that you use a <u>smartphone</u> {ask only if 5c>0}:  Do you own the <u>smartphone</u> you use?  |
| () No  |
| () Yes   |
| 8b. What type of smartphone do you use? If you use more than one smartphone, please select the one that you use most often for school-related work.  ( ) iPhone ( ) Android phone ( ) Windows phone ( ) BlackBerry phone ( ) Other smartphone ( ) Don't know |
| 8c. How important is the <i>smartphone</i> you use to your academic success?   |
| () Not at all important  |
| ( ) Not very important   |
| () Moderately important  |
|  |
| ( ) Very important   |
| ( ) Extremely important  |
| 9a. You indicated that you use a dedicated <u>e-reader</u> {ask only if 5d>0}:  Do you own the <u>e-reader</u> you use?  ( ) No ( ) Yes  |
| 9b. What type of $\underline{e\text{-reader}}$ do you use? If you use more than one $\underline{e\text{-reader}}$ , please select the one that you use most often for school-related work.   |
| () Kindle  |
| ( ) Nook   |
| () Sony Reader   |
| () Other dedicated e-reader  |
| ( ) Don't know   |
| 9c. How important is the <u>e-reader</u> you use to your academic success?   |
|  |
| ( ) Not at all important   |
| ( ) Not very important   |
| () Moderately important  |
| ( ) Very important   |
| ( ) Extremely important  |

| 10a. You indicated that you use a <u>desktop computer</u> {ask only if 5e>0}:  Do you own the <u>desktop computer</u> you use?  ( ) No ( ) Yes  |
|---|
| 10b. What type of operating system (OS) does the <u>desktop computer</u> you use have? If you use more than one <u>desktop computer</u> , please select the OS that you use most often for school-related work.  ( ) Windows ( ) Macintosh ( ) Linux ( ) Other ( ) Don't know |
| 10c. How important is the desktop computer you use to your academic success?  ( ) Not at all important ( ) Not very important ( ) Moderately important ( ) Very important ( ) Extremely important   |

11. How important is it to your academic success for you do the following actions using a <u>handheld mobile device</u> (e.g., smartphone or tablet)? {ask only if 5b>0 or 5c>0}

|  | Haven't done<br>this in the past<br>year<br>0 | Not at all important | Not very important 2 | Moderately important 3 | Very<br>important<br>4 | Extremely important 5 |
|--|---|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Access library resources  |   |                      |                      |                        |                        |                       |
| b. Check grades  |   |                      |                      |                        |                        |                       |
| c. Register for courses  |   |                      |                      |                        |                        |                       |
| d. Access financial aid information  |   |                      |                      |                        |                        |                       |
| e. Make textbook purchases through your college/university bookstore                                 |   |                      |                      |                        |                        |                       |
| f. Order transcripts   |   |                      |                      |                        |                        |                       |
| g. Access course website or syllabi  |   |                      |                      |                        |                        |                       |
| h. Access course or learning management system (e.g., Moodle, Blackboard, Sakai, Desire2Learn, etc.) |   |                      |                      |                        |                        |                       |

12. In addition to the devices you already told us about, tell us how important the following devices are to your academic success.

| devises are to your addednie edecod  | Haven't used this device in the past year | Not at all important | Not very important 2 | Moderately important | Very<br>important<br>4 | Extremely important |
|--|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| a. Netbook   | 0   |                      |                      | 3                    | 4                      | 3                   |
| b. Printer   |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| c. Portable data storage device (e.g., USB thumb drive, portable hard drive)     |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| d. Dedicated digital camera or digital video camera (not part of another device) |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| e. MP3 player/music device (other than iPod touch)                               |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| f. Handheld mobile device that is not a phone (e.g., iPod touch)                 |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| g. Television  |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| h. Internet device that attaches to a television (e.g., Roku, Apple TV, Boxee)   |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| i. DVD, BlueRay, or other movie player   |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| j. Webcam  |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |
| k. Scanner   |   |                      |                      |                      |                        |                     |

#### Section 3: Technology and the College Experience

13. Thinking about your experience within the past year, <u>rate your institution</u> on how well it is meeting your needs with regard to being able to do the following <u>via a handheld mobile</u> <u>device</u>:

|   | Service not<br>offered for<br>mobile device<br>9 | Haven't used service in the past year 0 | Poor<br>1 | Fair<br>2 | Neutral<br>3 | Good<br>4 | Excellent<br>5 |
|---|--|---|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| a. Providing access to library resources  |  |   |           |           |              |           |                |
| b. Checking grades  |  |   |           |           |              |           |                |
| c. Registering for courses  |  |   |           |           |              |           |                |
| d. Accessing financial aid information e. Making textbook purchases through your college/university bookstore |  |   |           |           |              |           |                |
| f. Ordering transcripts   |  |   |           |           |              |           |                |
| g. Accessing course websites or syllabi   |  |   |           |           |              |           |                |
| h. Using course or learning management<br>systems (e.g., Moodle, Blackboard, Sakai,<br>Desire2Learn, etc.)    |  |   |           |           |              |           |                |

## 14. Thinking about your college experience within the past year, <u>how many of your instructors</u>:

|  | None<br>0 | Some<br>1 | Most<br>2 | All<br>3 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| aeffectively use technology to impact your academic success?                   |           |           |           |          |
| bprovide you with adequate training for the technology used in courses?        |           |           |           |          |
| chave adequate technical skills for carrying out course instruction?           |           |           |           |          |
| duse "the right kind(s)" of technology?  |           |           |           |          |
| ehave used technology to aid your understanding of course materials and ideas? |           |           |           |          |

15. How important are the following to you?\* Required {beginning of new branch}.

|  | Not at all important | Not very important 2 | Moderately important 3 | Very important 4 | Extremely important 5 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| a. That your instructors use new, cutting-edge technologies  | Go to 17             | Go to 17             | Go to 17               | Go to<br>16a,b,c | Go to<br>16a,b,c      |
| b. That more or better technology is available to learn, study, or complete coursework                             | Go to 17             | Go to 17             | Go to 17               | Go to<br>17      | Go to 17              |
| c. That you were better trained or skilled at using available technologies to learn, study, or complete coursework | Go to 17             | Go to 17             | Go to 17               | Go to<br>17      | Go to 17              |

| 16. You indicated that it is important that your instructors use "cutting-edge" technologies. |
|---|
| {ask only if 15a≥4} Give us up to three examples of cutting-edge technologies you want your   |
| instructors to use:   |
|   |

| 16a. Cutting-edge technology | 1: |
|------------------------------|----|
| 16b. Cutting-edge technology | 2: |
| 16c. Cutting-edge technology | 3: |

# 17. How important are the following <u>forms of communication</u> to achieving your academic success?

|   | Did not use in<br>the past year<br>0 | Not at all important | Not very important 2 | Moderately important 3 | Very important 4 | Extremely important 5 |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| a. E-mail   |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| b. Text messaging   |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| c. Instant messaging/online chatting  |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| d. Twitter  |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| e. Facebook   |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| f. LinkedIn   |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| g. Other social networking sites  |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| h. Social studying sites (Cramster,<br>CourseHero, GradeGuru, etc.)                     |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| i. Phone-like communication over the Internet (Skype, G-Chat, etc.)                     |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| j. Phone conversation   |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| k. Face-to-face interaction   |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |
| I. Course or learning management system (Blackboard, Moodle, Sakai, Desire2Learn, etc.) |                                      |                      |                      |                        |                  |                       |

18. Different instructors use different technologies. Generally speaking, which <u>forms of</u> communication do you wish your instructors used less...or more?

|   | Don't know<br>0 | Less<br>1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | More<br>5 |
|---|-----------------|-----------|---|---|---|-----------|
| a. E-mail   | -               |           |   |   |   |           |
| b. Text messaging   |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| c. Instant messaging/online chatting  |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| d. Twitter  |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| e. Facebook   |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| f. LinkedIn   |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| g. Other social networking sites  |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| h. Social studying sites (Cramster, CourseHero, GradeGuru, etc.)                              |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| i. Phone-like communication over the Internet (Skype, G-Chat, etc.)                           |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| j. Phone conversation   |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| k. Face-to-face interaction   |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| I. Course or learning management system (e.g., Blackboard, Moodle, Sakai, Desire2Learn, etc.) |                 |           |   |   |   |           |

19. How important are the following resources/tools to achieving your academic success?

| 19. now important are the following        | ig <u>resources/</u> | toois to ac | nieving you | racademic  | Success : |           |
|--|----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|  | Did not use in       | Not at all  | Not very    | Moderately | Very      | Extremely |
|  | the past year        | important   | important   | important  | important | important |
|  | 0                    | 1           | 2           | 3          | 4         | 5         |
| a. Academic institution's library website  |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| b. Course or learning management system    |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| (Blackboard, Moodle, Sakai, Desire2Learn,  |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| etc.)                                      |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| c. Web-based citation/bibliography tools   |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| (EndNote, CiteULike, OttoBib, etc.)        |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| d. College/university website              |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| e. E-portfolios                            |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| f. E-books or e-textbooks                  |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| g. Locally installed word processor,       |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| spreadsheets, and presentation software    |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| (Word, Excel, PowerPoint etc.)             |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| h. Web-based word processor, spreadsheets, |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| presentation software (Google Documents,   |                      |             |             |            |           |           |
| NumSum, Prezi, etc.)                       |                      |             |             |            |           |           |

20. Different instructors use different technologies. Generally speaking, which <u>resources/tools</u> do you wish your instructors used less...or more?

|   | Don't know<br>0 | Less<br>1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | More<br>5 |
|---|-----------------|-----------|---|---|---|-----------|
| a. Course or learning management system (Blackboard, Moodle, Sakai, Desire2Learn, etc.)                     |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| b. E-portfolios   |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| c. E-books or e-textbooks   |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| d. Freely available course content beyond your campus (OpenCourseWare, Khan Academy, etc.)                  |                 |           |   |   |   |           |
| e. Locally installed word processor, spreadsheets, and presentation software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint etc.) |                 |           |   |   |   |           |

| f. Web-based word processor, spreadsheets, presentation software Google Documents, NumSum, Prezi, etc.)                |                |             |         |              |
|--|----------------|-------------|---------|--------------|
| g. Wikis (Wikipedia, course wiki, etc.)  |                |             |         |              |
| h. Blogs   |                |             |         |              |
| i. Recommend an article or information online by tagging/bookmarking/"liking" (Delicious, Digg, Newsvine, Twine, etc.) |                |             |         |              |
| j. Online forums or bulletin boards  |                |             |         |              |
| k. Podcasts and webcasts   |                |             |         |              |
| I. Web-based music   |                |             |         |              |
| m. Web-based videos  |                |             |         |              |
| n. Video-sharing websites (YouTube, etc.)  |                |             |         |              |
| o. Photo-sharing websites (Flickr, Snapfish, Picasa, etc.  |                |             |         |              |
| p. Online multi-user computer games  |                |             |         |              |
| q. Simulations or educational games  |                |             |         |              |
|  | u.             | 1           | l .     |              |
| Section 4: Learning Environments   |                |             |         |              |
| 21. In what type of learning environment do you tend to learn  | most?          |             |         |              |
| () Courses with no online components   |                |             |         |              |
| ( ) Courses with some online components  |                |             |         |              |
| ( ) Courses that are completely online   |                |             |         |              |
| ( ) Courses man and compressity comme  |                |             |         |              |
| 22. In the past year, have you taken a completely online cour  | se at the inst | itution the | at aske | d            |
| you to participate in this survey?   |                |             |         |              |
| ( ) No   |                |             |         |              |
| () Yes   |                |             |         |              |
| 23. Are you currently taking courses at more than one institu  | tion (either o | nline, in-p | erson,  | or           |
| a combination online and in-person)?   |                |             |         |              |
| ( ) No   |                |             |         |              |
| () Yes   |                |             |         |              |
| 24. In the past year, how many of your courses have been "b  | lended" cour   | ses (with   | some    |              |
| online components and some face-to-face components)?   |                |             |         |              |
| () None  |                |             |         |              |
| () A few   |                |             |         |              |
| () About half  |                |             |         |              |
| () Nearly all  |                |             |         |              |
| () All   |                |             |         |              |
|  |                |             |         |              |
| 25. When it comes to your success as an undergraduate, who   | at is the one  | website o   | online  | <del>)</del> |
|  |                |             |         |              |

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resource you couldn't live without?

26. How much do you agree with the following statements about social networking in conjunction with your learning?

|   | Strongly<br>disagree<br>1 | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree<br>nor disagree | Agree | Strongly<br>agree<br>5 |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------|------------------------|
| a. I like to keep my academic life and my social life separate.   |                           |                   | <u> </u>                      |       | <u> </u>               |
| b. I am comfortable using Facebook or other social networking sites to communicate with other students about coursework.          |                           |                   |                               |       |                        |
| c. It's important to have an online forum to communicate and interact with other students about coursework outside the classroom. |                           |                   |                               |       |                        |
| d. I am comfortable connecting on social networks with professors whom I'm currently taking classes from.                         |                           |                   |                               |       |                        |
| e. I am comfortable connecting on social networks with professors whom I am no longer taking classes from.                        |                           |                   |                               |       |                        |

### 27. What is your opinion about the following statements?

|   | Strongly<br>disagree<br>1 | Somewhat disagree 2 | Neither agree<br>nor disagree<br>3 | Agree<br>4 | Strongly<br>agree<br>5 |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------|------------------------|
| a. I get more actively involved in courses that use technology.   |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| b. By the time I graduate, the technology I have used in my courses will have adequately prepared me for the workplace.                     |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| c. My institution's technology services are always available when I need them for my coursework.  |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| d. I skip classes when materials from course lectures are available online.   |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| e. When I entered college, I was adequately prepared to use technology needed in my courses.  |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| f. Technology makes me feel more connected to what's going on at the college/university.  |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| g. Technology better prepares me for future educational plans (i.e., transferring to another degree program, getting into graduate school). |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| h. Technology makes me feel connected to other students.  |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| i. Technology makes me feel connected to professors.  |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| j. Technology elevates the level of teaching.   |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |
| k. Technology helps me achieve my academic outcomes.  |                           |                     |                                    |            |                        |

| 28. Tell us ONE thing that <i>your instructors</i> can do with technology to better facilitate or |
|---|
| support your academic success   |
|   |
|   |
| 29. Tell us ONE thing that <i>your institution</i> can do with technology to better facilitate or |
| support your academic success.  |

#### **Section 5: Demographic and Informational Questions**

| 30. May we share your open-ended, written responses with your institution? If you click "Yes," your written responses will be included in a file with all other written responses from the survey participants at your institution. Written response will be separated from the rest of the survey responses to help preserve individual participants' anonymity. If you have included information in your written responses that could identify you, we suggest clicking "No." Required () No () Yes |
|---|
| 31. Are you?  |
| () Male<br>() Female  |
| 32. What is your ultimate academic goal, regardless of your current class standing?  () Earn a vocational/occupational certificate  () Earn an associate's degree  () Earn a bachelor's degree  () Earn a master's degree  () Earn a doctoral degree  () Earn another professional degree (MD, DDS, JD, Ed.D, etc.)  () Other   |
| 33. What is your current major or intended major?   |
| () Biological/life sciences, including agriculture and health sciences  |
| ( ) Business, management, marketing ( ) Education, including physical education   |
| ( ) Engineering, including computer science   |
| ( ) Liberal arts and sciences/general studies and humanities  |
| ( ) Physical sciences, including math   |
| <ul><li>( ) Social sciences, including history and psychology</li><li>( ) Fine arts</li></ul>   |
| () Other  |
| ( ) Undecided   |
| 34. Are you currently a full-time or part-time student? Part-time is fewer than 12 credit hours per   |
| quarter/semester.   |
| () Part-time  |
| () Full-time  |

| <b>35. What is your ethnic background?</b> Select all that apply. |
|---|
| [] White  |
| [] Black/African American   |
| [] Hispanic   |
| [] American Indian or Alaskan native                              |
| [] Asian/Pacific Islander   |
| [] Other  |
| [] Prefer not to answer   |
|   |
| 36. Do you live?  |
| () On campus  |
| () Off campus   |
|   |

Thank you for responding to our questions. Click FINISH to submit your survey.