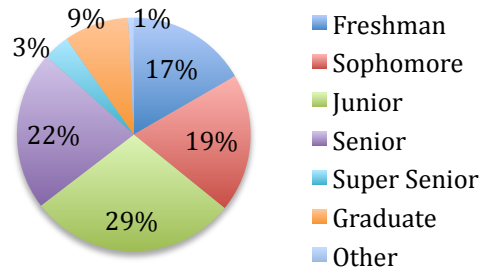


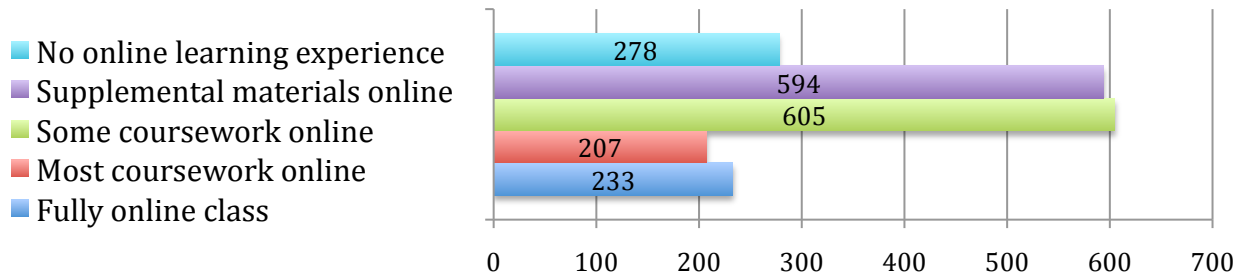
Online Learning - Student perception survey

Teaching, Learning & Technology Center / Office of Information Technology

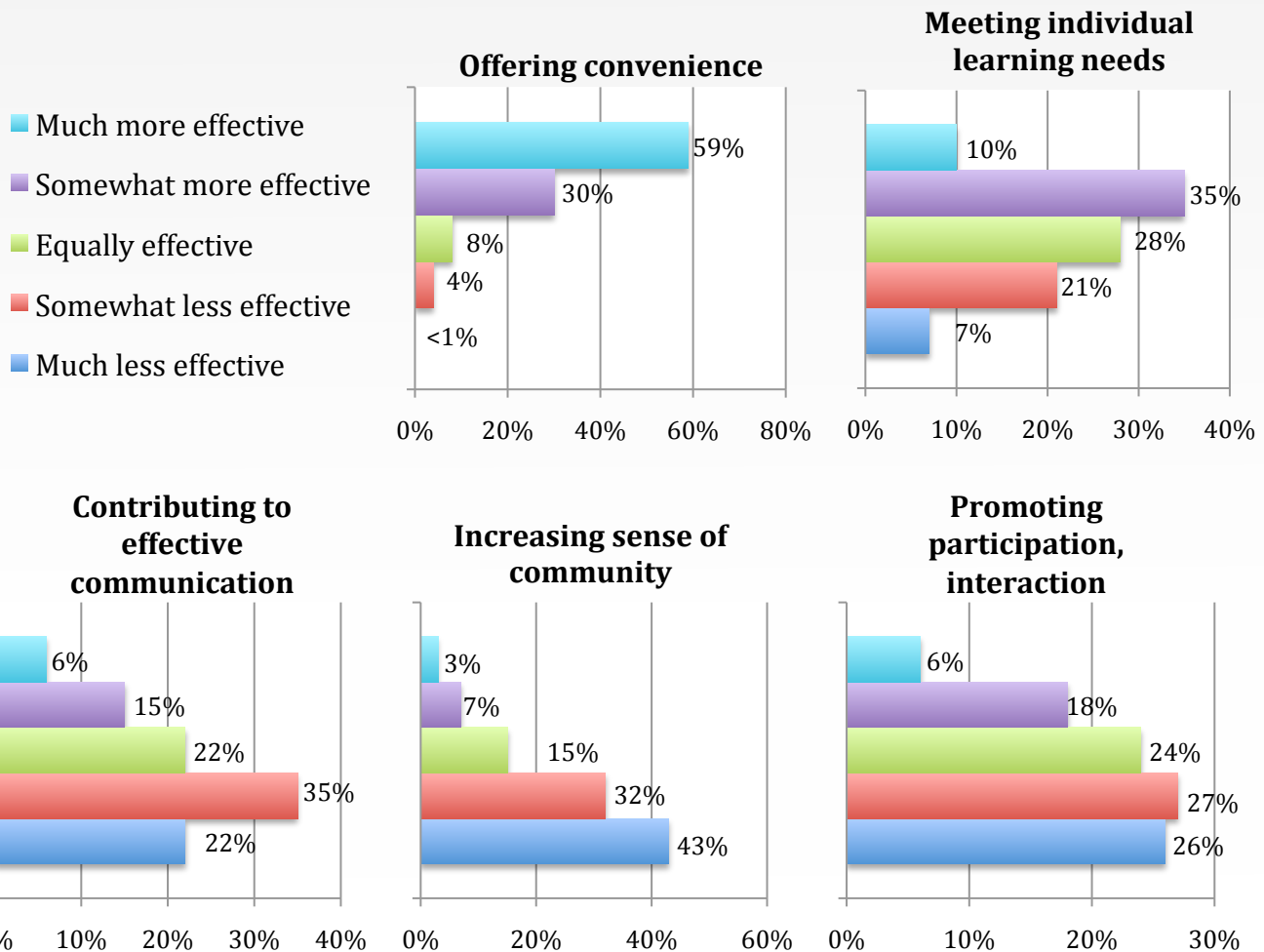
To date, **1,173 students have responded** to an on-going survey opened October 20, 2009 on the Electronic Educational Environment (EEE - <https://eee.uci.edu>).



Only **15% of those surveyed had never experienced any form of online learning**, ranging from supplemental online materials, to fully online classes.



Respondents rated **experienced or perceived** effectiveness of online compared to in-class learning in five categories:



Benefits identified by participants

- Convenience
- Learning at own-pace
- Structuring own schedule (easier for adult, non-traditional students)
- Cost-savings (travel, materials)
- Easier for shy students to participate
- Less likely to miss material due to illness
- Fewer distractions
- Instant feedback

Comment excerpts

"Learning online allows a pressure free environment."

"...don't have to buy more books"

"...convenient... allows you to spend time thinking about what you want to say and contribute before posting it ..."

"...being able to work on my own really helps me focus my time on understanding the parts that I need to spend more time on."

"Flexibility... especially for non-traditional students. Online learning... allows students to take course they are interested in, but otherwise would not fit into their schedulers."

"People won't "miss" anything due to illness or absence. Ease of access, no need to travel to campus, find parking etc."

"...In the class I took, there was even higher participation through discussions which was helpful for people who are shy..."

Drawbacks

- Less in-person interaction
- Less hands-on experience
- Difficult to ask/get answers to questions
- Harder to pay attention/stay on task
- Harder to retain information
- Technical issues
- Lack of technical resources/proficiency
- Cannot write/hi-line online reading
- Academic dishonesty

Comment excerpts

"Poor time management skills may lead to procrastination"

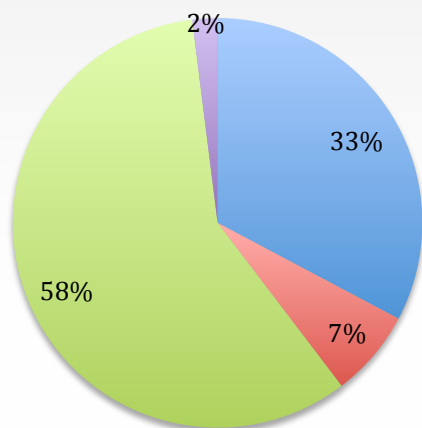
"...less guidance and assistance learning the material... students who are confused and have questions may fall even further behind."

"...Casual work spaces may encourage students to waste time... the lack of visually apparent peers or instructors may produce a sense of detachment... lack of the availability to physically meet with a professor eliminates many forms of communication such as body language, tone interpretation... it may be much harder to learn course material."

"Distractions online, not taking the class seriously, reliance on the internet that may crash, disadvantage for those who are unfamiliar with technology"

"...it would be harder to set up study groups and use peers as resources."

Overall, students prefer or believe they would prefer:



- Meeting regularly in a classroom setting, rather than completing coursework online
- Completing coursework online, rather than meeting regularly in a classroom setting
- A combination of meeting in a classroom setting and completing coursework online
- Other