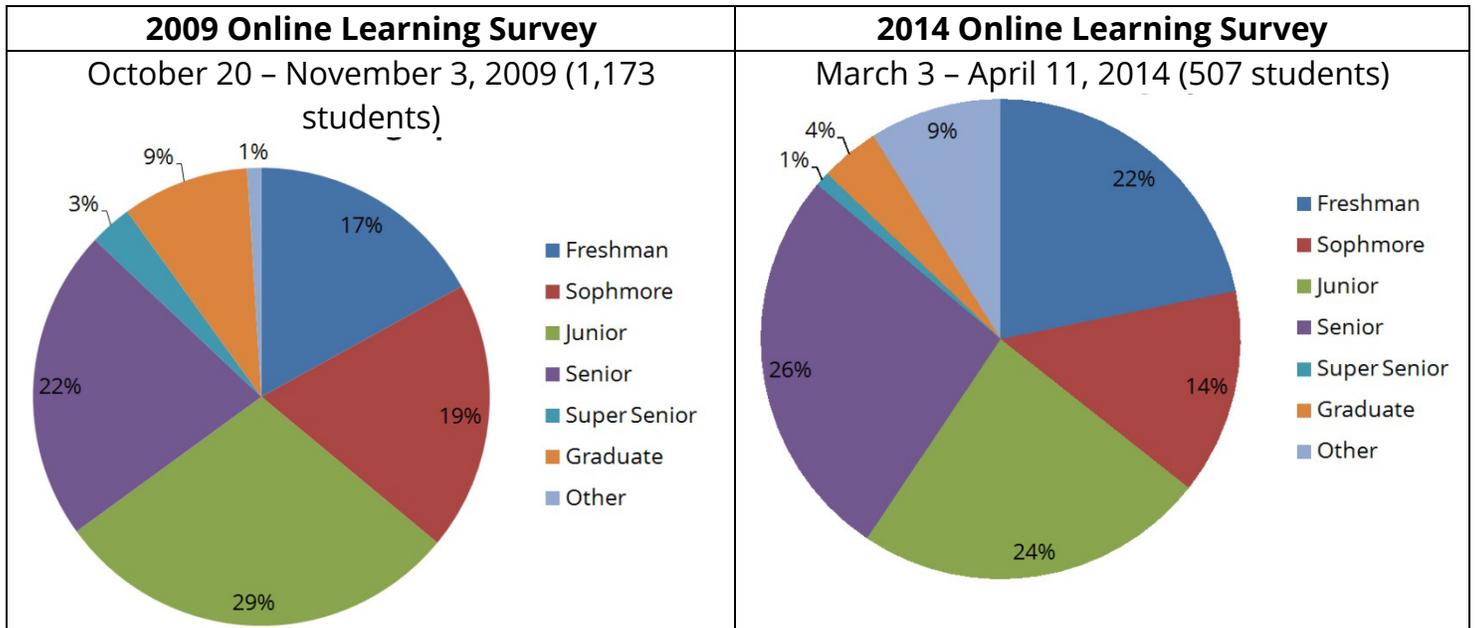
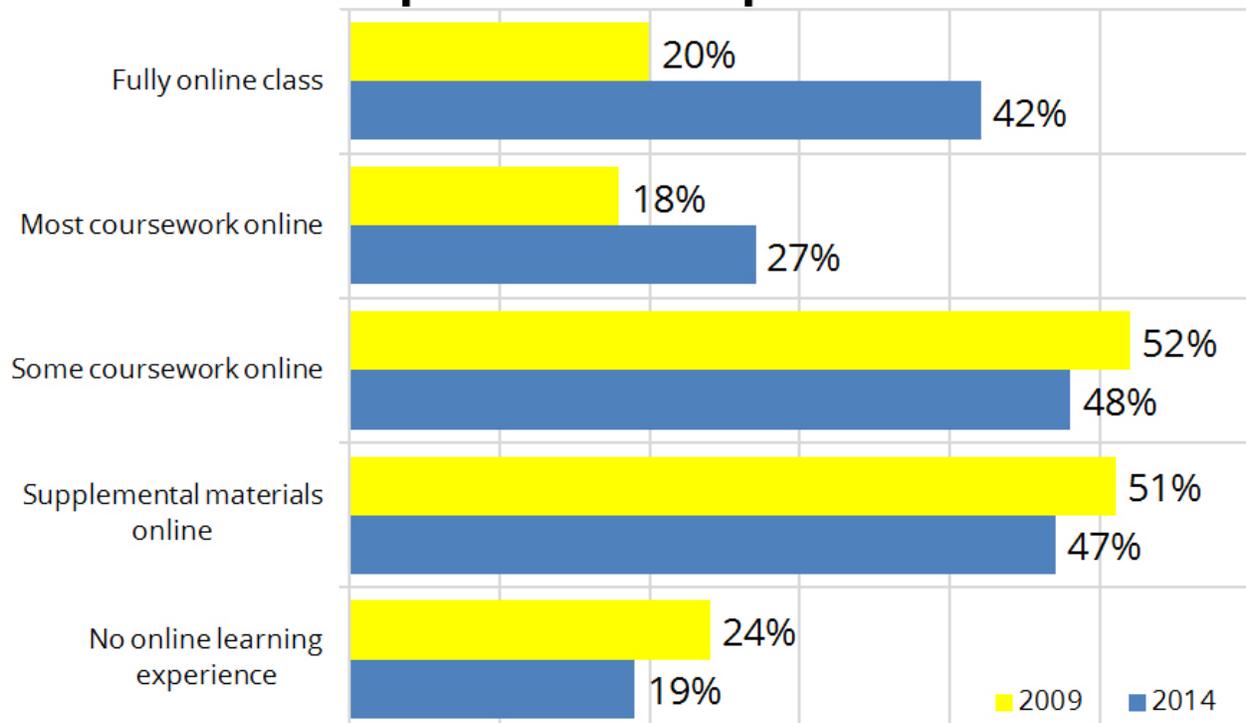


Online Learning - Student Perception Survey

To gauge student perception and experience in online education, the Office of Information Technology conducted an 'Online Learning' survey on the Electronic Educational Environment (EEE). Results from the 2014 data collection are compared with those of 2009.

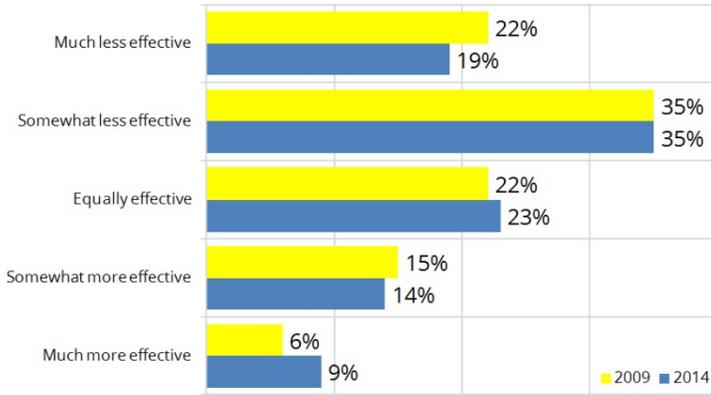


Respondents' Experience

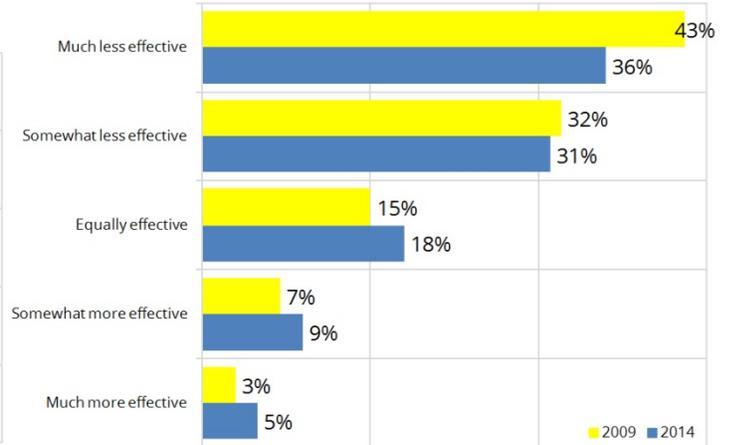


Respondents rated **experienced or perceived** effectiveness of online compared to in-class learning in five categories:

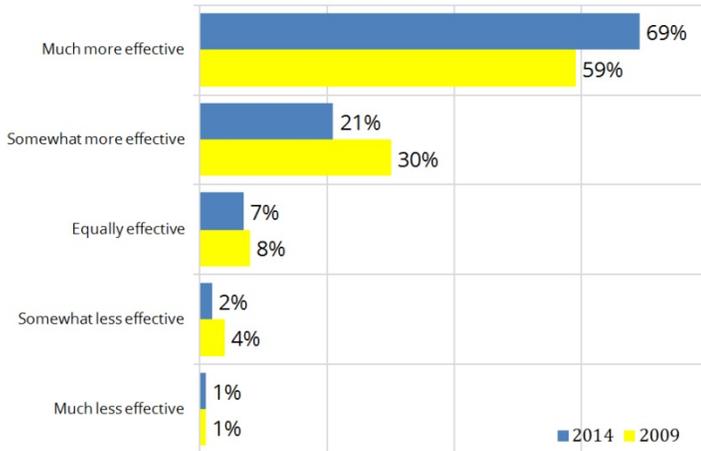
Contributing to effective communication



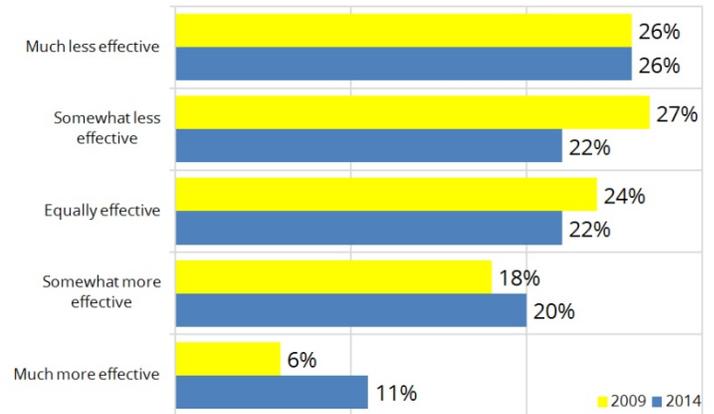
Increasing sense of community



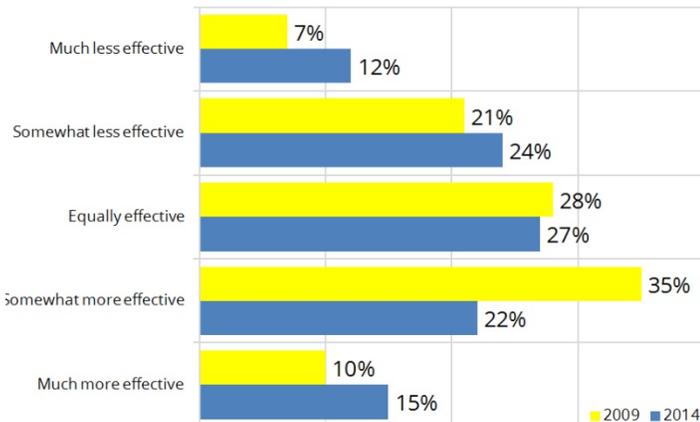
Offering convenience



Promoting participation, interaction

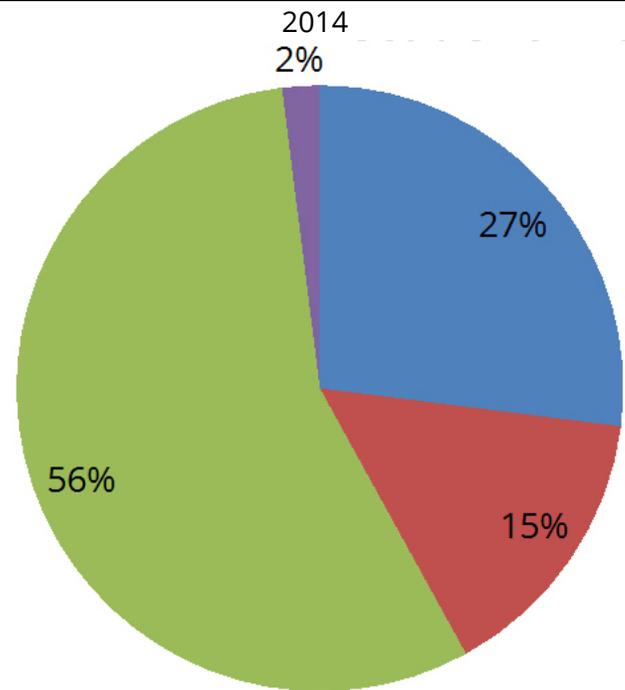
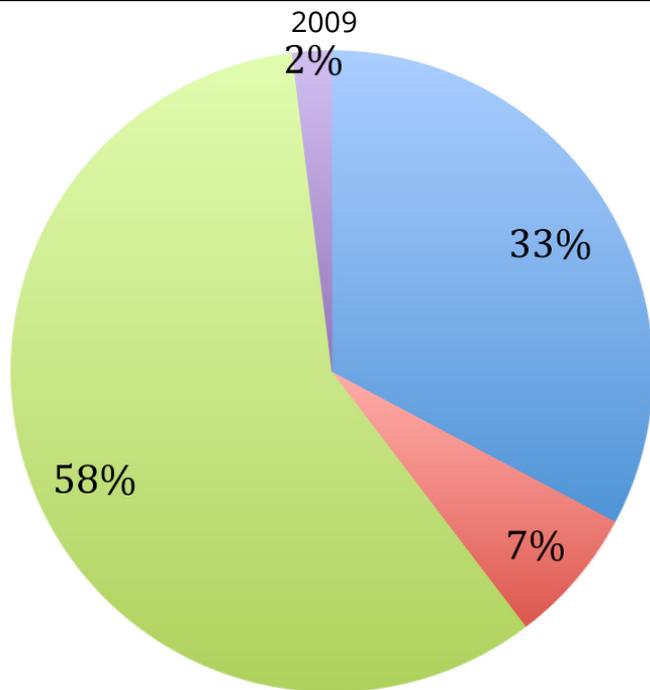


Meeting individual learning needs



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



Benefits identified by participants

- Convenience³
- Cost-savings (travel, materials)³
- Less likely to material due to illness³
- Easier for shy students to participate³
- Flexibility (time, learning)²
- Class availability²
- Increased participation²
- Learning at own-pace¹
- Structuring own schedule (easier for adult, non-traditional students)¹
- Fewer distractions¹
- Instant feedback¹

Drawbacks identified by participants

- Difficult to ask / get answers to questions³
- Technical issues³
- Less social interaction²
- Requires internet access²
- Increased distractions²
- Harder to be motivated²
- Less hands-on experience¹
- Harder to pay attention / stay on task¹
- Harder to retain information¹
- Lack of technical resources / proficiency¹
- Cannot write / hi-lite online reading¹
- Academic dishonesty¹

1. Identified in the 2009 survey
2. Identified in the 2014 survey
3. Identified in both the 2009 and 2014 survey

Excerpts from student comments

Benefits identified by participants

"Students who are too shy... can use online materials to get the help they need."

"Learning at your own pace at a time convenient for you."

"Works great for people who work."

"When I teach courses online... more students participate..."

"Easily accessible..."

"Learning becomes very accessible."

"Learning online allows a pressure free environment"

"...don't have to buy any 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 I need to spend more time on."

"Flexibility... especially for non-traditional students. Online learning... allows students to take courses 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 identified by participants

"Instructor feedback is generally... slow."

"Low accountability to learning..."

"...do not have the opportunity to meet peers and make the relationships..."

"...technological problems that could adversely affect you..."

"...no instant feedback between professors/TAs and students."

"It makes it easier to procrastinate."

"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 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 setup study groups and use peers as resources."

Online Learning Survey

On-line learning is becoming very popular and we are interested in hearing about either your experiences with it or your opinions about it, **even if you've never taken an online course**. (Note – Online learning describes a course with components of the lecture, discussions, and assignment feedback delivered online.)

Your responses to the following questions will be appreciated.

1. What do you think is or might be the **greatest benefit** of online learning?
2. What do you think is or might be the **greatest drawback**?
3. How would you describe your own experiences with online learning?
Note – Some EEE tools are used as examples, but there are many other tools that could be used for online learning.

Please check all that apply:

- I have **never taken a course that had any kind of coursework online**. (Skip to question #4.)
- I have taken a class with **a few online materials**, where coursework (lectures, discussions, assignment submission and feedback) still occurred in-person.
Example: A class that meets regularly for lectures/discussion, and also has some online resources, such as an EEE class website, email sent to the class, and/or some files or readings posted online.
- I have taken a class with **some coursework that occurred online**, where the majority of coursework was still completed in-person.
Example: A class that meets regularly for lecture/discussion, and also has some coursework completed online, such as assignments turned in to an EEE DropBox or MessageBoard, and/or discussion supplemented using EEE MessageBoard or Chat.
- I have taken a class with a **majority of the coursework online**, where some coursework was still completed in-person.
Example: A class that meets in-person occasionally, while most of the coursework is completed online, such as lectures delivered excessively online through podcasts, teleconferencing, or online slide-shows, and/or discussion sections held online in real-time chat rooms.
- I have taken a class with **all coursework online**.
Example: A class that includes no in-person meetings, where all lectures are delivered and all coursework completed online only.
- Other (please describe below)

4. Please rank the effectiveness (**or what you think the effectiveness might be if you have not taken an online course**) of online learning compared to meeting regularly in a classroom setting.

	Online is or might be much more effective	Online is or might be somewhat more effective	Online is or might be equally effective	Online is or might be somewhat less effective	Online is or might be much less effective
...offering convenience					
...meeting individual learning needs					
...contributing to effective communication in the class					
...increasing your sense of community with the instructor and fellow students					
...promoting greater student participation and interaction					

5. What class format do you or would you 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 (Please describe below)

6. Is there anything else you would like to add about online learning?

7. Please indicate your class standing.

- I am a freshman
- I am a sophomore
- I am a junior
- I am a senior
- I am a 5-year senior
- Other (please explain below)