Student Expectations for Quality in Online Courses

Office of Online Education | IU Center for Evaluation, Policy, and Research

A pilot survey of undergraduates in fully online programs and the first step in a planned, multi-year study of online students. Survey results collected over time will be used to inform best practices in online teaching. The full report is available at https://teachingonline.iu.edu/doc/CEPR%20REPORT.pdf.



Respondent Demographics

Respondents from 6 campuses and 22 programs of study

70% Female

61% Employed full time

65% 18–34 years old

Took online courses at another college/university previously

Top Reasons for Taking an Online Course





Career advancement

58%Convenience/flexibility

34% Educational advancement

Top Factors for Course Satisfaction



57%Applicable or practical content



42%Quality of instructors

Communication with IU Online Faculty

Satisfaction with communication with IU Online instructors:

68%

Very satisfied

28%

Somewhat satisfied



Reasons for satisfaction:

58% Timeliness

20% Frequency and ease

17% Quality of response

Overall Student Impressions



95%Would recommend their
IU Online program to a peer



94% Consider their expectations for quality were met