Open All Hours - Do students really want to access on-line learning 24/7?

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Presentation Content

- Project background and aims
- The nature of the research
- How students use the on-line learning environment resources
- The impact on their learning
- Student opinions from the focus groups
- Conclusions and comments

Project background

- StudyNet – the University of Hertfordshire's MLE

- Access to student learning materials since 2001 via personal portal

- 20,000 FTE students

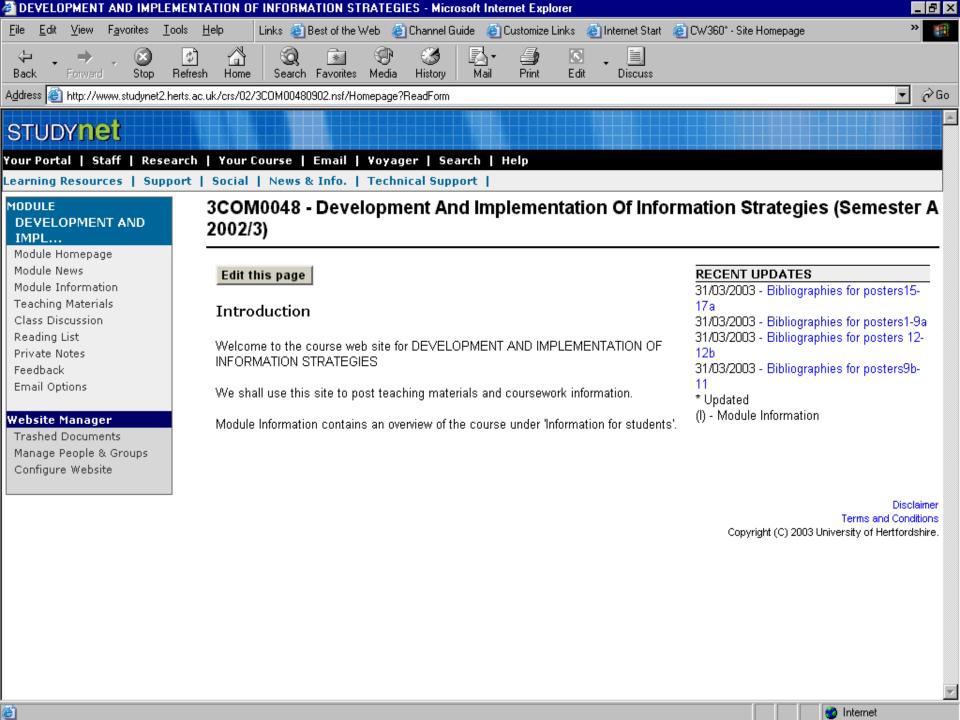- 3.62 Million 'hits' in 2003-04 academic year by staff and students

Project aims

- To measure the impact on the student learning experience, if any, of the introduction of StudyNet.

- Student views on the accessibility of StudyNet and the ongoing support provided for them as users.

- A UH student perspective on the ways UH staff use online learning to complement the traditional face-to-face delivery of material.

- The identification of emergent good practice from the students' perspective that can be shared beyond an immediate faculty or department

- Identification of any additional features that students would like to see

- Impact of an MLE on student choice of HE institution

The nature of the research

- Questionnaire-based study
- Participants
  - First and Final year undergraduates studying across UH, a survey of 1000 learners (over 10% of u/gs in this group)
- Questionnaire was completed at the end of a lecture
  - 51 multiple choice style questions
  - Data collected and summarised
- Follow-up sessions included 7 focus groups across the year and faculty range

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DEVELOPMENT AND
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Private Notes
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Website Manager

Trashed Documents
Manage People & Groups
Configure Website

3COM0048 - Development And Implementation Of Information Strategies (Semester A 2002/3)

Edit this page

Introduction

Welcome to the course web site for DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INFORMATION STRATEGIES

We shall use this site to post teaching materials and coursework information.

Module Information contains an overview of the course under 'Information for students'.

RECENT UPDATES

31/03/2003 - Bibliographies for posters15-17a
31/03/2003 - Bibliographies for posters1-9a
31/03/2003 - Bibliographies for posters 12-12b
31/03/2003 - Bibliographies for posters9b-11
* Updated
(I) - Module Information

Student views on the available resources

Q.		A. Extremely useful	B. Quite useful	C. Not very useful	D. Useless	E. Not used at all	Summary A+B
29	Teaching materials	52%	36%	7%	3%	2%	88%
28	Module information	31%	51%	12%	3%	3%	82%
35	Email	44%	35%	10%	4%	7%	79%
27	Module news	23%	53%	14%	4%	6%	76%
32	Electronic resources eg Access to library system	18%	44%	16%	6%	16%	62%
30	Class discussion	14%	34%	24%	11%	17%	48%

The impact on students' learning

Q.		A, Strongly agree	B. Agree	C. No change	D. Disagree	E. Strongly Disagree	Summary A+B
45	More independent	13%	41%	32%	8%	6%	54%
42	Changed the way I learn	11%	40%	36%	6%	7%	51%
44	Learn at my own pace	12%	40%	35%	8%	5%	52%
43	Improved the way I learn	13%	38%	35%	8%	6%	51%
46	Manage my time more effectively	10%	35%	40%	10%	5%	45%
41	Improved my IT skills	10%	30%	44%	6%	10%	40%
47	Improved my group skills	5%	24%	49%	14%	8%	29%

What students thought of the MLE

- 73% have internet access from their term time accommodation
- 96% used StudyNet at least once a week
- Students' own rating of the MLE overall was high

Q.		A. Excellent	B. Very good	C. Okay	D. Poor	E. Very poor	Summary A+B
48	Rating of StudyNet	20%	42%	30%	6%	2%	62%

Summary of student opinions from the focus groups - How they used the features

Students used StudyNet primarily to:

- Print out lecture notes,
- Access general class materials,
- e-mail
- Communicate with lecturers, pick up news,

They also accessed:

- Past exam papers,
- The library system - Voyager (and all the specialised links within Voyager).
- Students Union: items for sale, social events.

What they prized:

- Convenience
- Access from anywhere

Student opinions from the focus groups

The systems are quite easy to use, but some lecturers are more organised and better at putting up things than others

I think it is just the way the lecturers don't use it to the best of its ability, not putting lecture notes up in time, they don't use class discussions which I think is the best thing on it…

this [last] summer I went to Camp America and I could access it from there. And that was brilliant…

'It is useful the way you can access everything from a central point – from one portal' (Focus group 1, first year students).

Conclusions and comments

- StudyNet is widely used by students
- They prize its convenience
- They value its accessibility
- Use by lecturing staff could be more consistent
- It is used primarily as an information tool
- It influenced some students' choice of HEI.

See for yourself -

- Access the guest area of StudyNet at www.studynet2.herts.ac.uk/open_index.html