

## Survey Questionnaire

Please put an 'x' against your response. Individual responses will be kept completely confidential

1. Did you receive more information than what you expected through virtual learning environment?

Yes No

2. Do you feel that you take more responsibility while taking part in virtual learning environment?

Yes No

3. Do you think that virtual learning environment allows for sufficient peer interaction?

Yes No

4. Do you think that virtual learning environment allows for sufficient student-tutor interaction?

Yes No

5. Do you think that virtual learning environment allows for sufficient content interaction?

Yes No

6. Do you think that virtual learning environment allows for sufficient task interaction?

Yes No

7. Do you feel sufficient social presence within a virtual learning environment?

Yes No

8. Do you feel any cultural bias when you interact through virtual discussion boards?

Yes No

9. Please choose from the following cognitive levels that you think virtual assessments are suitable for?

- Knowledge
- Comprehension
- Application
- Analysis
- Synthesis

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:39

**Comment:** We should choose a title for our survey e.g. 'Exploring attitudes to Virtual Learning Environments'.

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:41

**Comment:** We need to include some introductory, explanatory text for participants as we're not present to offer clarification. We definitely need to define what a VLE is.

James Lamb 14/2/12 20:07

**Comment:** In order for these responses here to be meaningful, do we first need to know what participants expected?

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:48

**Comment:** We need to offer an 'Unsure' or similar response to avoid forcing participants into expressing an opinion where they might not have one. Same applies to other response options.

James Lamb 14/2/12 20:08

**Comment:** Perhaps this confuses VLE with the much broader virtual learning.

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:52

**Comment:** Does this question exclude the professionals in the sample?

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:51

**Comment:** I'm not sure I know what this means. Perhaps we should offer a definition?

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:50

**Comment:** I don't know what this term means. Is it the same as 'content interaction'? We need to offer a definition if we plan to intend.

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:47

**Comment:** What is social presence? Will a typical undergraduate or professional know what it means? If not, we need to offer a description.

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:44

**Comment:** What does cultural bias mean. We need to define terminology.

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:46

**Comment:** I think this question would be lost on many participants who don't come from an education/psychological or similar field. I don't think the average undergraduate could confidently distinguish between analysis and synthesis, for instance.

f. Evaluation

10. Do you think virtual assessments have the potential to assess various cognitive levels?

Yes No

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:47

**Comment:** As per previous question, I think this question would be lost of many participants.

11. Please choose your ethnic origin from the following.

Asian or Asian British-Bangladeshi

Asian or Asian British-Indian

Asian or Asian British-Pakistani

Chinese

Other Asian background

Mixed-Asian and White

Mixed-Black African and White

Mixed-Black Caribbean and White

Other-Mixed Background

Black or Black British-African

Black or Black British-Caribbean

Other Black Background

White-British

White-Irish

Other White Background

Other Ethnic Background

Do not wish to answer

12. Nationality

Please specify

Do not wish to answer

13. Sex

Male

Female

James Lamb 14/2/12 19:43

**Comment:** I'm not sure why this question is here. If the research topic is about comparing students with professionals, this question is maybe superfluous and needlessly extends the time to complete the questionnaire.

#### 14. Age

18-25      25 and above      Do not wish to answer

#### **Some other general comments/suggestions from James, mostly taken from Robson (2011) Chapter 10.**

It's really important that questions are aligned to the perceived knowledge level of participants, hence my comments above about the cognitive skills questions. I'm unfamiliar with some of the terminology therefore it stands to reason that the intended audience would be the same?

We should ask which VLE the participant uses as presumably this could have a bearing on responses. For instance WebCT, Blackboard, Joomla, Moodle etc.

As per discussion on the course forum, it would interesting to know which parts of the VLE they use and value e.g. notice board, blogging etc. Maybe a case for an open ended question at the pilot stage.

If the questionnaire is about comparing student attitudes with those of professionals/workers, we need to ask the participants about their educational/employment status. Should we also ask about academic discipline/nature of job in order to explore any relationships there?

I think it's really important that we ask how participants use a VLE. In the pilot we could include this as an open-ended questionnaire, the responses from which could be used to suggest some closed options in the final questionnaire.

I think a question about the regularity of use of VLE's will also provide us with some interesting data. It might also allow us to look for a correlation between overall attitude to VLEs and the frequency of use.

It would be really interesting (in the pilot at least) to include open-ended question asking participants what they feel are the strengths/weaknesses of VLEs. Again, the responses could be valuable in providing closed questions for the final questionnaire.

Perhaps we should mix up the question style so that we're not simply asking 'Yes/No' questions. Perhaps for variety we could include a sliding scale question, perhaps relating to the perceived value of VLEs.

In order to achieve a high response rate, we should only include questions that are directly relevant to our research topic.

We need to conclude the questionnaire by thanking participants and indicating how their participation will prove valuable etc.

