

2017 Topical Module: Learning with Technology

Profile of Participating Institutions and Respondents and All Bachelor's-Granting U.S. Institutions and Students

Topical modules are short sets of questions on a topic related to current issues in higher education and student engagement that may be appended to the core survey. The **Learning with Technology** module examines the role of technology in student learning, focusing on student use of technology and perceptions of institutional support. In 2017, 29 U.S. institutions elected to append these items to the core survey. Of these, 26 belonged to one of the eight Carnegie classifications shown in the table below.^a

The institutions and respondents participating in a given module are only a subset of all NSSE participating institutions and respondents. The table below displays the characteristics for module participants alongside NSSE 2017 participants as well as all bachelor's-granting U.S. institutions and students (all limited to the eight indicated Carnegie Classification categories).

	Institutions			Students		
	Learning w/ Tech Module (%)	NSSE 2017 (%)	U.S. ^b (%)	Learning w/ Tech Module (%)	NSSE 2017 (%)	U.S. ^b (%)
Carnegie Basic Classification^c						
R1: Doctoral Universities - Highest research activity	4	5	7	25	18	26
R2: Doctoral Universities - Higher research activity	4	6	6	9	13	14
R3: Doctoral Universities - Moderate research activity	8	7	7	6	9	11
M1: Master's Colleges and Universities - Larger programs	27	29	24	32	32	28
M2: Master's Colleges and Universities - Medium programs	15	13	13	9	8	7
M3: Master's Colleges and Universities - Smaller programs	12	8	9	5	5	3
Baccalaureate Colleges: Arts & Sciences Focus	19	16	15	11	8	4
Baccalaureate Colleges: Diverse Fields	12	15	19	4	7	5
Control						
Public	42	44	35	66	67	66
Private	58	56	65	34	33	34
Undergraduate enrollment						
Fewer than 1,000	8	15	21	1	3	2
1,000 – 2,499	38	32	33	17	14	10
2,500 – 4,999	27	18	17	18	14	11
5,000 – 9,999	15	19	14	19	21	19
10,000 – 19,999	8	9	9	18	18	24
20,000 or more	4	7	6	25	30	34

a. All numbers are unweighted and based on U.S. postsecondary institutions that award bachelor's degrees and belong to one of the eight Carnegie Classification categories in the table. Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

b. U.S. percentages are based on the 2015 IPEDS Institutional Characteristics file.

c. For information on the Carnegie Foundation's Basic Classification, see carnegieclassifications.iu.edu

NSSE 2017 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Frequencies by Class and Sex

Learning with Technology

First-Year Students

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Response options	Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
1. During the current school year, how much has your use of technology contributed to the following:														
a. Your understanding of course materials and ideas	TEC01a	Very little	63	2	38	2	101	2	77	1	62	2	139	2
		Some	519	14	278	14	797	14	547	10	361	11	908	11
		Quite a bit	1,443	40	797	42	2,240	41	1,729	33	1,076	34	2,805	33
		Very much	1,492	44	769	42	2,261	43	2,832	56	1,626	53	4,458	54
		Total	3,517	100	1,882	100	5,399	100	5,185	100	3,125	100	8,310	100
b. Demonstrating your understanding of course content	TEC01b	Very little	67	2	47	2	114	2	97	2	82	3	179	2
		Some	642	18	334	17	976	17	667	12	422	13	1,089	13
		Quite a bit	1,556	44	846	45	2,402	44	1,906	36	1,160	37	3,066	37
		Very much	1,240	37	648	35	1,888	36	2,488	49	1,443	47	3,931	48
		Total	3,505	100	1,875	100	5,380	100	5,158	100	3,107	100	8,265	100
c. Learning, studying, or completing coursework on your own	TEC01c	Very little	42	1	27	1	69	1	44	1	42	1	86	1
		Some	319	9	203	11	522	10	370	7	269	8	639	8
		Quite a bit	1,291	36	748	39	2,039	37	1,509	29	987	31	2,496	30
		Very much	1,869	54	897	49	2,766	52	3,253	64	1,820	59	5,073	61
		Total	3,521	100	1,875	100	5,396	100	5,176	100	3,118	100	8,294	100
d. Learning, studying, or completing coursework with other students	TEC01d	Very little	265	8	152	9	417	8	330	7	227	8	557	7
		Some	775	22	434	23	1,209	22	891	18	602	19	1,493	18
		Quite a bit	1,256	34	697	37	1,953	35	1,682	32	983	31	2,665	31
		Very much	1,225	36	595	32	1,820	34	2,283	44	1,306	42	3,589	43
		Total	3,521	100	1,878	100	5,399	100	5,186	100	3,118	100	8,304	100
e. Distracting you from completing your coursework	TEC01e	Very little	430	13	253	15	683	14	832	17	516	17	1,348	17
		Some	1,403	40	713	38	2,116	39	1,783	35	1,092	35	2,875	35
		Quite a bit	1,026	28	564	29	1,590	29	1,427	27	879	28	2,306	27
		Very much	662	18	344	19	1,006	19	1,139	21	634	20	1,773	21
		Total	3,521	100	1,874	100	5,395	100	5,181	100	3,121	100	8,302	100
2. During the current school year, how much have your courses improved your understanding and use of technology?														
	TEC02	Very little	517	14	263	13	780	14	722	14	444	14	1,166	14
		Some	1,305	37	609	33	1,914	35	1,683	32	847	26	2,530	29
		Quite a bit	1,141	32	625	34	1,766	33	1,598	31	986	32	2,584	31
		Very much	540	17	365	21	905	18	1,147	23	820	28	1,967	25
		Total	3,503	100	1,862	100	5,365	100	5,150	100	3,097	100	8,247	100
3. During the current school year, about how often have you used the following technologies in your courses?														
a. Electronic textbooks	TEC03a	Never	897	26	365	19	1,262	23	1,426	27	634	20	2,060	24
		Sometimes	1,086	31	585	32	1,671	31	1,711	32	952	31	2,663	32
		Often	789	22	486	25	1,275	24	966	19	709	22	1,675	20
		Very often	728	21	431	23	1,159	22	1,072	22	823	27	1,895	24
		I don't know what this is	19	1	11	1	30	1	9	0	7	0	16	0
	Total	3,519	100	1,878	100	5,397	100	5,184	100	3,125	100	8,309	100	
b. Online portfolios or e portfolios	TEC03b	Never	1,529	44	751	40	2,280	42	2,149	41	1,215	39	3,364	40
		Sometimes	769	22	484	26	1,253	24	1,200	23	798	25	1,998	24
		Often	387	11	251	13	638	12	569	11	455	14	1,024	12
		Very often	210	6	145	8	355	7	499	10	323	10	822	10
		I don't know what this is	625	17	246	12	871	15	768	15	332	11	1,100	13
	Total	3,520	100	1,877	100	5,397	100	5,185	100	3,123	100	8,308	100	
c. Blogs	TEC03c	Never	2,272	63	1,099	58	3,371	61	3,111	60	1,781	57	4,892	59
		Sometimes	815	24	492	26	1,307	25	1,406	27	869	28	2,275	27
		Often	273	8	172	9	445	8	370	7	271	9	641	8
		Very often	116	4	89	5	205	4	252	5	164	5	416	5
		I don't know what this is	42	1	25	1	67	1	46	1	32	1	78	1
	Total	3,518	100	1,877	100	5,395	100	5,185	100	3,117	100	8,302	100	

Note: Results weighted by institution-reported sex, enrollment status, and institution size. Counts are not weighted.

NSSE 2017 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Frequencies by Class and Sex

Learning with Technology

First-Year Students

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Response options	First-Year Students				Seniors							
			Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%		
d. Collaborative editing software (Wikis, Google Docs, etc.)	TEC03d	Never	468	13	286	16	754	15	726	15	441	14	1,167	14
		Sometimes	1,077	31	635	33	1,712	32	1,375	27	924	29	2,299	28
		Often	1,021	29	552	29	1,573	29	1,362	26	902	29	2,264	27
		Very often	943	27	385	21	1,328	24	1,700	32	829	27	2,529	30
		I don't know what this is	12	0	15	1	27	1	22	0	18	1	40	1
		Total	3,521	100	1,873	100	5,394	100	5,185	100	3,114	100	8,299	100
e. Multimedia software (drawing, audio or video production, editing, etc.)	TEC03e	Never	2,024	57	833	44	2,857	51	2,383	46	1,181	38	3,564	42
		Sometimes	860	25	537	29	1,397	27	1,510	29	970	31	2,480	30
		Often	369	11	296	16	665	13	677	13	518	16	1,195	15
		Very often	232	7	178	10	410	8	577	11	431	14	1,008	13
		I don't know what this is	27	1	28	2	55	1	35	1	22	1	57	1
		Total	3,512	100	1,872	100	5,384	100	5,182	100	3,122	100	8,304	100
f. Social networking (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)	TEC03f	Never	1,450	41	742	39	2,192	40	1,920	38	1,216	40	3,136	39
		Sometimes	973	27	534	29	1,507	28	1,569	30	862	27	2,431	29
		Often	513	15	318	17	831	16	804	15	553	17	1,357	16
		Very often	581	17	274	15	855	16	873	16	480	15	1,353	16
		I don't know what this is	2	0	8	0	10	0	9	0	10	0	19	0
		Total	3,519	100	1,876	100	5,395	100	5,175	100	3,121	100	8,296	100
g. Mobile computing (handheld devices such as smartphones, tablets, etc.)	TEC03g	Never	468	13	214	11	682	12	654	12	419	14	1,073	13
		Sometimes	1,136	32	626	33	1,762	32	1,570	30	933	30	2,503	30
		Often	884	26	515	27	1,399	26	1,305	25	787	25	2,092	25
		Very often	1,025	30	519	28	1,544	29	1,645	32	972	31	2,617	32
		I don't know what this is	5	0	5	0	10	0	7	0	7	0	14	0
		Total	3,518	100	1,879	100	5,397	100	5,181	100	3,118	100	8,299	100

4. During the current school year, about how often have you used technology to communicate with the following people?

a. Students	TEC04a	Never	54	2	31	2	85	2	73	2	53	2	126	2
		Sometimes	338	11	236	13	574	12	415	9	346	11	761	10
		Often	801	23	488	26	1,289	24	954	19	714	23	1,668	21
		Very often	2,324	64	1,119	59	3,443	62	3,741	71	2,003	64	5,744	68
		Total	3,517	100	1,874	100	5,391	100	5,183	100	3,116	100	8,299	100
b. Academic advisors	TEC04b	Never	282	8	251	13	533	10	417	9	387	13	804	11
		Sometimes	1,115	32	700	37	1,815	34	1,334	27	970	31	2,304	29
		Often	1,165	32	555	31	1,720	32	1,459	27	895	28	2,354	28
		Very often	958	27	370	20	1,328	24	1,970	37	864	28	2,834	33
		Total	3,520	100	1,876	100	5,396	100	5,180	100	3,116	100	8,296	100
c. Faculty	TEC04c	Never	242	7	199	11	441	9	225	5	188	6	413	5
		Sometimes	1,088	31	695	37	1,783	34	1,105	22	886	28	1,991	25
		Often	1,185	33	584	31	1,769	32	1,655	31	1,048	34	2,703	32
		Very often	1,000	28	396	21	1,396	25	2,199	42	995	32	3,194	37
		Total	3,515	100	1,874	100	5,389	100	5,184	100	3,117	100	8,301	100
d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	TEC04d	Never	876	26	507	28	1,383	27	1,819	37	1,019	34	2,838	36
		Sometimes	1,263	35	724	39	1,987	37	1,480	28	1,015	32	2,495	30
		Often	755	21	382	20	1,137	20	862	16	561	18	1,423	17
		Very often	613	17	259	14	872	16	1,009	19	510	16	1,519	18
		Total	3,507	100	1,872	100	5,379	100	5,170	100	3,105	100	8,275	100
e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	TEC04e	Never	823	24	452	24	1,275	24	1,234	25	827	27	2,061	26
		Sometimes	1,387	39	777	41	2,164	40	2,036	39	1,230	39	3,266	39
		Often	728	21	404	22	1,132	21	919	18	550	17	1,469	17
		Very often	574	17	239	13	813	15	976	19	494	16	1,470	17
		Total	3,512	100	1,872	100	5,384	100	5,165	100	3,101	100	8,266	100

Note: Results weighted by institution-reported sex, enrollment status, and institution size. Counts are not weighted.

NSSE 2017 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Frequencies by Class and Sex

Learning with Technology

Item wording or description	Variable name	Response options	First-Year Students						Seniors					
			Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
5. How much does your institution emphasize the following?														
a. Teaching with new, cutting edge technologies	TEC05a	Very little	489	14	235	13	724	13	759	14	451	14	1,210	14
		Some	1,480	42	727	38	2,207	40	2,072	40	1,152	37	3,224	39
		Quite a bit	1,112	32	656	35	1,768	33	1,586	31	1,040	34	2,626	32
		Very much	423	12	254	14	677	13	747	15	459	15	1,206	15
		Total	3,504	100	1,872	100	5,376	100	5,164	100	3,102	100	8,266	100
b. Providing technology to help you learn, study or complete coursework	TEC05b	Very little	258	7	155	9	413	8	517	10	323	10	840	10
		Some	1,078	31	586	30	1,664	31	1,635	32	953	31	2,588	31
		Quite a bit	1,414	40	759	41	2,173	41	1,871	36	1,198	39	3,069	37
		Very much	746	22	360	20	1,106	21	1,125	22	636	20	1,761	22
		Total	3,496	100	1,860	100	5,356	100	5,148	100	3,110	100	8,258	100
c. Teaching you how to use available technologies to learn, study, or complete coursework	TEC05c	Very little	339	9	143	8	482	9	683	13	375	12	1,058	13
		Some	1,155	33	654	34	1,809	33	1,772	34	1,027	32	2,799	33
		Quite a bit	1,332	38	716	39	2,048	39	1,703	33	1,104	36	2,807	34
		Very much	674	20	353	20	1,027	20	994	20	599	20	1,593	20
		Total	3,500	100	1,866	100	5,366	100	5,152	100	3,105	100	8,257	100
d. Providing support services to assist you with your use of technology	TEC05d	Very little	364	11	169	9	533	10	749	15	415	14	1,164	14
		Some	1,173	34	658	35	1,831	34	1,840	35	1,105	35	2,945	35
		Quite a bit	1,289	36	695	37	1,984	36	1,665	32	1,057	34	2,722	33
		Very much	681	20	345	19	1,026	19	918	18	537	17	1,455	18
		Total	3,507	100	1,867	100	5,374	100	5,172	100	3,114	100	8,286	100

Note: Results weighted by institution-reported sex, enrollment status, and institution size. Counts are not weighted.

NSSE 2017 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Means and Standard Deviations by Class and Sex

Learning with Technology

Item wording or description	Variable name	First-Year Students						Seniors					
		Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total	
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
1. During the current school year, how much has your use of technology contributed to the following:													
a. Your understanding of course materials and ideas	TEC01a	3.26	.76	3.24	.76	3.25	.76	3.43	.73	3.38	.76	3.40	.74
b. Demonstrating your understanding of course content	TEC01b	3.16	.77	3.13	.78	3.15	.77	3.33	.76	3.29	.79	3.31	.78
c. Learning, studying, or completing coursework on your own	TEC01c	3.43	.71	3.36	.73	3.39	.72	3.55	.66	3.48	.71	3.51	.69
d. Learning, studying, or completing coursework with other students	TEC01d	2.97	.95	2.91	.94	2.94	.95	3.13	.93	3.08	.96	3.10	.94
e. Distracting you from completing your coursework	TEC01e	2.52	.94	2.52	.96	2.52	.95	2.52	1.01	2.51	1.00	2.51	1.01
2. During the current school year, how much have your courses improved your understanding and use of technology?													
	TEC02	2.51	.93	2.62	.95	2.56	.94	2.63	.99	2.72	1.02	2.68	1.00
3. During the current school year, about how often have you used the following technologies in your courses?													
a. Electronic textbooks	TEC03a	2.39	1.09	2.53	1.05	2.45	1.07	2.36	1.10	2.56	1.09	2.45	1.10
b. Online portfolios or e portfolios	TEC03b	1.76	.95	1.87	.98	1.81	.97	1.87	1.03	1.95	1.03	1.91	1.03
c. Blogs	TEC03c	1.51	.79	1.61	.86	1.56	.82	1.56	.83	1.62	.86	1.59	.84
d. Collaborative editing software (Wikis, Google Docs, etc.)	TEC03d	2.69	1.01	2.55	.99	2.63	1.00	2.76	1.06	2.68	1.02	2.73	1.04
e. Multimedia software (drawing, audio or video production, editing, etc.)	TEC03e	1.68	.93	1.92	1.00	1.79	.97	1.90	1.02	2.06	1.05	1.97	1.04
f. Social networking (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)	TEC03f	2.07	1.11	2.08	1.07	2.07	1.09	2.10	1.09	2.08	1.08	2.09	1.08
g. Mobile computing (handheld devices such as smartphones, tablets, etc.)	TEC03g	2.72	1.03	2.73	.99	2.73	1.01	2.78	1.03	2.75	1.05	2.76	1.04
4. During the current school year, about how often have you used technology to communicate with the following people?													
a. Students	TEC04a	3.50	.77	3.41	.79	3.46	.78	3.59	.72	3.49	.77	3.54	.74
b. Academic advisors	TEC04b	2.79	.94	2.58	.95	2.69	.95	2.93	.99	2.71	1.01	2.83	1.01
c. Faculty	TEC04c	2.82	.93	2.62	.93	2.73	.94	3.10	.91	2.91	.92	3.01	.92
d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	TEC04d	2.30	1.04	2.20	.99	2.25	1.02	2.17	1.12	2.16	1.07	2.17	1.10
e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	TEC04e	2.30	1.01	2.23	.96	2.27	.99	2.30	1.04	2.22	1.02	2.26	1.03
5. How much does your institution emphasize the following?													
a. Teaching with new, cutting edge technologies	TEC05a	2.42	.87	2.50	.88	2.46	.88	2.46	.91	2.49	.91	2.47	.91
b. Providing technology to help you learn, study or complete coursework	TEC05b	2.76	.87	2.71	.88	2.74	.88	2.71	.93	2.69	.91	2.70	.92
c. Teaching you how to use available technologies to learn, study, or complete coursework	TEC05c	2.68	.90	2.71	.87	2.69	.88	2.59	.95	2.63	.93	2.61	.94
d. Providing support services to assist you with your use of technology	TEC05d	2.65	.92	2.66	.88	2.65	.90	2.54	.95	2.55	.93	2.54	.94

Notes: Results weighted by sex, enrollment status, and institution size. See codebook for variable ranges. Categorical items are not listed.