Distance Learning Readiness
Students, Courses and Faculty

Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA)

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Distance Learning Readiness: Courses, Faculty and students

From March 17 (prior to the CUNY-wide distance learning period which started on March 19), several surveys related to distance learning readiness were administrated. The summary of the results below is accompanied by PDF files with more detailed information.

- Department Chairs were surveyed about distance learning readiness of courses in their departments.

- Chairs of the Social Science, Business & Technology (BAT), and Natural Sciences departments, and point persons for the Liberal Arts majors and College Discovery (CD) responded to a survey about their faculty readiness.

- Faculty from determents where Chairs did not respond to the survey (Education & Language Acquisition (ELA), English, Health Sciences, Humanities, Math Engineering & Computer Science (MEC) and Library) responded individually to the same survey.

- Student were initially surveyed to gauge their readiness in general, but we subsequently added fields that allowed students who required assistance with computers or the internet to provide their names and contact information. To avoid duplications, since students could respond to both versions of the survey, the results only include the initial administration.

Results regarding distance learning readiness for courses

- Overall, the Department Chairs reported that the courses were either ready (81%) or almost ready (9%) for distance education. Only 1% of the courses could not be conducted with distance learning, and for 8% it is challenging, but can be done.

- The BAT, English, ELA and Humanities departments had the highest proportion of courses fully ready for distance learning (over 95%). Not surprisingly, the department with the largest number of courses that cannot be taught online is Health Sciences (9.2%).

- Blackboard is used in 94% of the courses, usually in conjunction with other online resources and platforms, mainly email, Zoom, Word Press (by the English department), virtual simulation software (by Health Sciences), WebEx, Digication, and ePortfolio (note that ePortfolio and Digication were not included in the dropdown menu).

Results regarding distance learning readiness for faculty

- The Chairs provided responses for 88% of the faculty in their departments, while the response rate for the online faculty survey was 32% - covering 52% of the faculty overall. Responses by the Chairs are very similar to those of individual faculty respondents.

- The vast majority of all faculty (97.5%) have desktop computers or laptops; around 40% have tablets or iPads and around 75% have smartphones.

- Almost all faculty (over 93%) have internet access at home which can be used for classwork, and only one faculty member reported having no access to the internet.

- Half of all faculty either had previous experience with teaching distance learning or were familiar with the tools. With 17% of the faculty having previous experience teaching a fully distance learning course (15% as reported by the chairs and 21% of the faculty respondents), and 34% familiar with distance learning tools (36% as reported by the chairs and 32% by the faculty respondents).

- The other faculty members either had limited experience with distance learning teaching tools (29%), or never used them (18%).

- When departments are compared, the departments with the largest proportions of faculty who either taught distance learning courses or were familiar with the tools were Natural Sciences, Liberal Arts, and Humanities.

- The attached PDF file provided the overall responses accompanied by details responses for departments and type of respondents (Chairs or individual faculty).

Results on distance learning readiness for students

The distance learning survey for the students was modified after it was conducted from March 17 – 20 to allow students to include their names and contact information if they require assistance. To avoid double counting (because students could respond more than once), the results only include responses to the initial survey.

- 2,449 students responded to the initial survey – a 17.6% response rate.

- About half of the students (52%) were satisfied with their distance learning courses. Additionally, 11% reported that they do not have courses online. It should be noted, however, that the survey was conducted in the first few days of students distance learning experience.

- Only 14% of the respondents had online classes before.

- Close to 80% of the students reported having desktop computers or laptops, 24% had tablets or iPads and 63% reported having a smartphone.

- The proportion of student who did not have any device (computers or tablets) is 17%, 5% had only tablets or iPads, 59% had only desktop computers or laptops and 19% had both.

- Only 65% of the students reported they can download the software they need for their classes, while 22% reported that their device can work only with some of the software. The other 13% either did not have an appropriate device or did not have any device.

- While 93% of the students had an internet access at home, 16% of them reported that it was too slow for their classwork.

- Finally, the online platform that was used by the vast majority of the students was Blackboard (89%). However, it was used in conjunction with a large number of other online tools including emails (58%), Lumenlearning (21%), Zoom (15%) and Microsoft Office 365 (17%). Many respondents mentioned platforms that were not listed in the survey with Slack, Launchpad, Google Classroom and ePortfolio the most frequently mentioned.

Course readiness for Distance Learning (Completed by the Chairs) - Final

	Social Science		BAT		Natural Sciences		English		MEC		Humanities		Health Sciences		ELA		Liberal Arts		Library		CD		Total*	
Number	**42**		**38**		**30**		**30**		**53**		**133**		**65**		**45**		**3**		**1**		**3**		**443**	
Is the course ready for Distance Learning?																								
Yes, it is.	12	28.6%	37	97.4%	14	46.7%	29	96.7%	38	71.7%	128	96.2%	53	81.5%	43	95.6%	1	33.3%	1	100.0%	3	100.0%	359	81.0%
Almost ready	22	52.4%	1	2.6%	10	33.3%	1	3.3%	6	11.3%			1	1.5%									41	9.3%
Challenging, but will be done	8	19.0%			6	6.0%			9	17.0%	5	3.8%	5	7.7%	2	4.4%	2	66.7%					37	8.4%
Cannot be done													6	9.2%									6	1.4%
Which platform will be used for the course (select if that apply) - Selected Choice Blackboard																								
Blackboard	42	100.0%	38	100.0%	30	100.0%	20	66.7%	51	96.2%	127	95.5%	59	90.8%	43	95.6%	3	100.0%	1	100.0%	3	100.0%	417	94.1%
Email			31	81.6%	30	100.0%	9	30.0%	46	86.8%	1	0.8%	59	90.8%	45	100.0%	2	66.7%			3	100.0%	226	51.0%
Lumenlearning									6	11.3%													6	1.4%
Microsoft Office 365			1	2.6%					17	32.1%			1	1.5%									19	4.3%
Microsoft one drive									4	7.5%													4	0.9%
Myopenmath					6	20.0%			2	3.8%													8	1.8%
WebEx					2	6.7%	3	10.0%	9	17.0%	7	5.3%											21	4.7%
WordPress							6	20.0%															6	1.4%
Zoom			2	4.3%	23	76.7%	8	26.7%	10	18.9%	36	27.1%	42	64.6%	30	66.7%	3	100.0%			3	100.0%	157	35.4%
Other	3	7.1%	9	23.7%			24	80.0%	12	22.6%	54	40.6%	22	33.8%	13	28.9%	3	100.0%					140	31.6%

Other Platforms Listed by Department

Social Sciences

Additional tools/technologies depend on instructor	2
Primarily Blackboard - Individual instructor(s) might use other technologies/tools as well	1

Business & Technology

Cengage MindTap	3
Elsevier	1
Screencastify	1
Wiley+	4

MEC

Multisim	3
Instructors' Discretion	1
AutoCAD	1
AutoCAD and REVIT	1
CNC Motion	1
https://portal.carnegiemathpathways.org/	1
LabVolt and Multisim	1
Multisim and Flowcode8	1
Phet	1
Zoom and Multisim	1

Humanities

Dropbox	9
Discord	6
youtube	5
ePortfolio	3
Skype, Facetime, Google Hangouts	3
Slack	3
Twitch	3
youtube, internet archive	3
Auralia	2
Facebook Live, YouTube,	2
Skype, Facetime, Google Hangouts	1
Cengage Platform	1
Discord, SoundCloud, Twitter, YouTube, Skype, Google Drive	1
Discord, SoundCloud, YouTube, Skype, Google Drive	1
Discord, Twitter, Skype, Google Drive	1
ePortfolio, Dropbox, Integration of Online Resources from Norton in blackboard	1
ePortfolio, Musition, Integration of Norton Online Resources in Blackboard	1
Google classroom	1
Google Docs	1
Google Meet/Twitch/Blackboard Collaborate	1
Integration of McGraw-Hill Connect Online Resources into blackboard	1
Integration of Norton Online Resources in Blackboard	1
YouTube, email	1

English

google docs/classroom	2
Blogger	1
blogger, google docs/classroom	1
dopbox, google docs/classroom/sites, slack, ePortfolio	1
dropbox, google hangouts	1
ePortfolio, google docs/drive	1
ePortfolio, Padlet.com	1
ePortfolio, screencast-o-matic	1
google classroom	1
Google docs	1
google docs/classroom, dropbox	1
Google docs/classroom, dropbox, slack, ePortfolio	1
google docs/classroom, Facebook	1
google docs/classroom, slack	1
google docs/classroom, slack, screencast-o-matic	1
google docs/classroom/hangouts, blogger, ePortfolio, academic commons, you tube	1
google drive	1
Google drive/docs/classroom	1
Manifold	1
Not offering ENA099	1
skype	1
slack, google hangouts	1
This course is cross-listed with Humanities and being taught by a Humanities faculty. Check with him about the platform	1

Liberal Arts

Digication, Slack	1
ePortfolio	1
Slack, Google Drive, Google Hangout, Discord	1

ELA

Digication	13

Health Sciences

Virtual Simulation Software	12
Open source Physical Theapy Videos approved by faculty	5
ePortfolio	2
Connect through textbook software	1
ePortfolio / Clinical Portion will be held once clinical sites reopen	1
Whats app	1

Please explain why it can not be done and what solutions

Health Science

20% of students will complete course on time, the other blocks of students cannot resume until teaching farm reopens	1
for now - As per the guideline from CAPTE, no substitutions maybe used to replace the clinical education requirement set by the program	2
Lecture portion will be done distance learning, lab part has to be in person	1
Lecture portion will be done distance learning, lab part has to be in person with live animals	1
Seminar portion will be held through distance learning. Clinial hours are on hold till sites reopen	1

Faculty Surveys Combining Chairs and Faculty Total

	Total Chairs		Total faculty		TOTAL	
Response rate	279/317	88.0%	202/633	31.9%	481/950	50.6%
Number	279		202		481	
Does the faculty member have:						
Desktop computer or laptop	272	97.5%	197	97.5%	469	97.5%
Tablet or iPad	120	43.0%	82	40.6%	202	42.0%
Smartphone	217	77.8%	152	75.2%	369	76.7%
Does the faculty member have access to the internet at home?						
Yes, and it can be used for the classwork	265	95.3%	188	93.1%	453	94.2%
Yes, but it is too slow for the classwork	10	3.6%	9	4.5%	19	4.0%
No, but I have internet access elsewhere	3	1.1%	4	2.0%	5	1.0%
No access to the internet			1	0.5%	1	0.2%
How ready is this faculty member to teach a fully distance learning course?						
Has previous experience teaching a fully distance learning course	43	15.4%	37	18.3%	80	16.6%
Is familiar with distance learning teaching tools	101	36.2%	64	31.7%	165	34.3%
Has limited experience with distance learning teaching tools	78	28.0%	63	31.2%	141	29.3%
Never used any distance learning teaching tools	55	19.7%	33	16.3%	88	18.3%
Other:	2	0.7%	5	2.5%	7	1.5%

Faculty Surveys Completed by the Department Chairs

	Social Science		BAT		Natural Sciences		Liberal Arts		CD		TOTAL	
Number	**114**		**67**		**71**		**25**		**2**		**279**	
Does the faculty member have:												
Desktop computer or laptop	108	94.7%	67	100.0%	71	100.0%	24	96.0%	2	100.0%	272	97.5%
Tablet or iPad	47	41.2%	28	41.8%	33	46.5%	11	44.0%	1	50.0%	120	46.0%
Smartphone	88	77.2%	44	65.7%	64	90.1%	19	76.0%	2	100.0%	217	83.1%
Does the faculty member have access to the internet at home?												
Yes, and it can be used for the classwork	103	90.4%	64	95.5%	71	100.0%	25	100.0%	2	100.0%	265	95.3%
Yes, but it is too slow for the classwork	8	7.0%	2	3.0%							10	3.6%
No, but I have internet access elsewhere	2	1.8%	1	1.5%							3	1.1%
Please specify			Friend's home									
How ready is this faculty member to teach a fully distance learning course?												
Has previous experience teaching a fully distance	15	13.2%	14	20.9%	10	14.1%	3	12.0%	1	50.0%	43	15.4%
Is familiar with distance learning teaching tools	36	31.6%	21	31.3%	31	43.7%	12	48.0%	1	50.0%	101	36.2%
Has limited experience with distance learning teaching	42	36.8%	11	16.4%	16	22.5%	9	36.0%			78	28.0%
Never used any distance learning teaching tools	19	16.7%	21	31.3%	14	19.7%	1	4.0%			55	19.7%
Other:	2	1.8%									2	0.7%

Faculty Surveys Completed by the Faculty

	ELA		English		Health Sciences		Humanities		MEC		Library		TOTAL	
Number	**34**		**56**		**31**		**39**		**41**		**1**		**202**	
Does the faculty member have:														
Desktop computer or laptop	34	100.0%	56	100.0%	30	96.8%	38	97.4%	38	92.7%	1	100.0%	197	97.5%
Tablet or iPad	13	38.2%	22	39.3%	12	38.7%	17	43.6%	18	43.9%			82	40.6%
Smartphone	24	70.6%	49	87.5%	24	77.4%	28	71.8%	27	65.9%			152	75.2%
Does the faculty member have access to the internet at home?														
Yes, and it can be used for the classwork	34	100.0%	55	98.2%	28	93.3%	34	87.2%	37	90.2%			188	93.5%
Yes, but it is too slow for the classwork			1	1.8%	2	6.7%	3	7.7%	3	7.3%			9	4.5%
No, but I have internet access elsewhere							2	5.1%	1	2.4%	1	100.0%	4	2.0%
No access to the internet														
Other: Please specify							NYC Free Wifi Mobile Hotspot				Go to my fiancé's house			
How ready is this faculty member to teach a fully distance learning course?														
Has previous experience teaching a fully distance	4	11.8%	9	16.1%	4	12.9%	14	35.9%	5	12.2%	1	100.0%	37	18.3%
Is familiar with distance learning teaching tools	11	32.4%	19	33.9%	9	29.0%	8	20.5%	17	41.5%			64	31.7%
Has limited experience with distance learning teaching	13	38.2%	19	33.9%	12	38.7%	10	25.6%	9	22.0%			63	31.2%
Never used any distance learning teaching tools	5	14.7%	8	14.3%	6	19.4%	5	12.8%	9	22.0%			33	16.3%
Other:	1		1	1.8%			2	5.1%	1	2.4%			5	2.5%
	I spent Instr. Week preparing students for using e-mails and did one wr. assignment today		I don't know how you define "distance learning teaching tool"? could that include email, blackboard,				My discipline does not transfer to distance learning, choral ensemble		I have never taught distance learning, but I prepared alone.					

Student Survey about the Transition to Distance Learning (March 17-20)

Response rate		**17.6%**
Number of Respondents	**2449**	
Do you have the following at home (check all that apply):		
Desktop computer or laptop	1899	77.5%
Tablet or iPad	591	24.1%
Smartphone	1541	62.9%
None of the above	86	3.5%
Do you have access to the internet at home:		
Yes, and it can be used for my classwork	1857	75.8%
Yes, but it is too slow for my classwork	400	16.3%
No, but I can use the internet in the local library for my classwork	17	0.7%
No, but I have internet access elsewhere. Please specify	33	1.3%
I don't have access to the internet	101	4.1%
Can you download the software you need for your classes to the device (desktop computer, laptop, tablet) you have?		
Yes	1545	64.8%
Yes, My device can only work with some of the software packages I need	522	21.9%
No	203	8.5%
No, I don't have a device	114	4.8%
Have you ever taken an online class before?		
Yes	344	14.3%
No	2054	85.7%
How satisfied are you with your Distance Learning courses?		
Very satisfied	164	8.0%
Satisfied	903	44.3%
Unsatisfied	680	33.4%
Very unsatisfied	291	14.3%
My courses are not provided online	**243**	**10.7%**
What online platform do your courses use? (check all that apply)		
Blackboard	2184	89.2%
Email	1418	57.9%
lumenlearning	507	20.7%
Microsoft Office 365	420	17.1%
Microsoft one drive	129	5.3%
Moodle	8	0.3%
Myopenmath	45	1.8%
Schoology	15	0.6%
WebEx	39	1.6%
WordPress	53	2.2%
Zoom	373	15.2%
None	25	1.0%
Other	248	10.1%

Other online platforms

Slack	32
Launchpad	24
Google classroom	20
ePortfolio	18
Google Drive	11
Cengage	10
Wiley Plus	10
Discord	6
Connect	5
Google.doc	5
Mc-Graw Hill Connect	4
Piazza	4
Sapling	4
Blogger	3
Dropbox	3
Microsoft Team	3
Skype	3
Remind	3
Google	2
Hangouts	2
Lumen OHM	2
My LaGuardia	2
Pearson mathlab	2
Pearson'master	2
Pearson's	2
Sapling Learning	2
YouTube	2
MindTap	2
skype business	2
Adobe creative suite	1
Adobe connect	1
Aleks	1
Alison	1
Codeblocks	1
checkology	1
Conectados	1
Cuny Commons	1
Drive	1
Esl99.pbworks.com	1
Excel	1
Facebook	1
Gmail	1
Goreact	1
Ilearn	1

Khan academy	1
Macmillan Learning	1
Pro Tools	1
distance learning.	1
Twitter	1
Vhl central	1
Webassign	1
WhatsApp	1