NF MASTER – INDEx Student Survey

Let's see where we are so we can build our future together

Welcome to the Irish National Digital Experience Survey (INDEx Survey) administered by [institution]. This survey is part of a national survey of students and staff who teach that is being carried out in conjunction with the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

Please tell us about your experiences of digital learning and what makes a difference to you. We want to understand your needs and experiences so we can work together towards enhancing your learning, teaching and digital experiences. The survey will take **5-10 minutes** to complete (approx. 28 short questions). The survey is not designed to collect personal information; please do not enter personal details in any fields.

All the questions are optional, but it would be very helpful if you could answer as many as you can. **Your answers are only submitted when you click FINISH on the last page**. Thank you.

Is this survey for me?

Please complete this survey if you are:

 - Enrolled on a taught programme of study, undergraduate or postgraduate

 - Aged 18 or over

By "digital technology," we mean hardware, software, apps, online tools and websites.

By providing information in this survey you agree that the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education will process the data as described in our [standard privacy notice](#)*. It will be used for the purpose of analysing responses overall to inform our research and development and for any technical support needed. It is not for marketing purposes. We will use anonymised aggregated data for analysis, public reports and presentations. This information will also be used by [institution] and processed according to this [institutional privacy policy].*

1. **Please tick this box to acknowledge that you are a student at [institution].** ☐
Required

☐ I confirm that I am over 18 and am a student at [institution]

Please note that in the following survey questions, 'institution' refers to [institution]

The aims, design, research methodology, data management and protection of the INDEx Survey have been approved by the National Forum Research Ethics Board.

You and your digital technology

2. **How many years have you studied at this institution?**

○ Less than 1 year

○ 1 to 2 years

○ 2 to 3 years

○ More than 3 years

3. **What level is the course you're studying?**

○ Access, preparatory or foundation course for higher education

○ Undergraduate (i.e. NFQ Level 6, 7 or 8)

○ Postgraduate taught (i.e. NFQ Level 9 or 10)

4. **Are you studying full or part-time?**

○ Full-time

○ Part-time

4.a. **What is your mode of studying?**

○ On-campus

○ Online

○ Blended (integration of classroom face-to-face learning experiences with online learning experiences)

4.b. **Are you a mature student?** (you are considered to be a mature student if you are at least 23 years of age on January 1 of the year you enter your course)

○ Yes

○ No

4.c. **Are you an international student?** (you are considered to be an international student if you are not an Irish citizen but you are lawfully in the State primarily to receive education and training)

○ Yes

○ No

5. **In what area is your programme of study?** (NOTE: If you study in more than one of the areas listed, please choose the one you spend most teaching hours in on a weekly basis)

○ Education

○ Arts, Humanities and Languages

○ Social and Behavioural Sciences

○ Business, Administration and Law

○ Natural Sciences (e.g. Biology, Chemistry, Physics) and Mathematics

○ Computing, Information and Communication Technologies

○ Engineering, Manufacturing, Architecture and Construction

○ Agriculture, Fisheries and Veterinary

○ Health (e.g. Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy and Sports in Health)

○ Service (e.g. Travel, Tourism, Sports, Leisure, Community, Culinary Arts, Beauty, Occupational, Transport)

○ Other

5.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

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[                                                    ]
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6. How old are you?

○ 17 and under
○ 18
○ 19 to 21
○ 22 to 24
○ 25 to 29
○ 30 plus

7. What gender do you identify as?

○ Male
○ Female
○ Other

You and your digital technology

8. **Do you use any assistive technologies to meet your learning needs?** (e.g. screen readers, voice recognition, switches)

○ Yes, vital to meet my learning needs

○ Yes, optional choice

○ No

You and your digital technology

9. **If YES, has your institution provided you with any support with assistive technologies?**

○ Yes

○ No

10. **Please give an example of any assistive technologies, apps or adaptations that you've found useful:**

You and your digital technology

11. **Which of these personally-owned devices do you use to support your learning?** *Tick all that apply*

☐ Desktop computer

☐ Laptop computer

☐ Tablet/iPad

☐ Smartphone

☐ Printer

☐ None of the above

12. **In your own learning time, how often do you use digital tools or apps to ...**

	Weekly or more	Monthly or less	Never
Manage links or references	○	○	○
Organise your study time	○	○	○
Make notes or recordings	○	○	○
Look for additional resources not recommended by your lecturer	○	○	○
Access lecture notes or recorded lectures	○	○	○

12.a. **Please give an example of a digital tool or app you find really useful for learning:**

[   ]

13. **Which of these do you have access to at your institution whenever you need them?** *Tick all that apply*

☐ Reliable WiFi

☐ Online course materials

☐ e-books and e-journals

☐ File storage and back-up

☐ Recorded lectures

☐ Internet-based skills training

☐ None of the above

14. **How much do you agree with the following statements?**

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
This institution supports me to use my own digital devices	○	○	○
I can access institution health and wellbeing services online	○	○	○
I can participate in student union / club / society activities online	○	○	○
This institution helps me stay safe online	○	○	○
This institution protects my data privacy	○	○	○

Digital at your institution

15. **Who supports you most to use digital technology in your learning?**

○ Other students

○ Lecturers on my course

○ Other support staff

○ Friends and family

○ Online videos and resources

16. **Overall, how would you rate the quality of this institution's digital provision (software, hardware, learning environment)?**

○ Best imaginable

○ Excellent

○ Good

○ Average

○ Poor

○ Awful

○ Worst imaginable

Digital on your course

17. **As part of your course, how often do you do the following digital activities?**

	Weekly or more	Monthly or less	Never
Find information online	○	○	○
Work online with others	○	○	○
Use an educational game or simulation for learning	○	○	○
Use a polling device or online quiz to give answers in class	○	○	○
Create a digital record / portfolio of your learning	○	○	○
Produce work in digital formats other than Word/PowerPoint	○	○	○

17.a. **Please give an example of a digital activity you have found really useful on your course:**

Digital on your course

The questions below are about the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment).

A VLE is an online area where you can access course information and resources and engage with tasks. Blackboard, Moodle, Brightspace and Canvas are common platforms, but your VLE may have a name that is unique to your institution.

If you don't think you have a VLE (Virtual Learning Environment), just leave question 18 below and go straight to question 19 on the next page.

18. **How much do you agree with the following statements?**

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
I can easily find things on the VLE	○	○	○
I rely on it to do my coursework	○	○	○
I regularly access it on a mobile device	○	○	○
I would like it to be used more by my tutors/instructors	○	○	○

19. **How much do you agree with the following statements?**

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Online assessments are delivered and managed well	○	○	○
Teaching spaces are well designed for the technologies we use	○	○	○
The software used on my course is industry standard and up-to-date	○	○	○
I am told how my personal data is stored and used	○	○	○

20. **... and how much do you agree that ...**

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Before I started my course I was told what digital skills I would need	○	○	○
I have regular opportunities to review and update my digital skills	○	○	○
Digital skills are important in my chosen career	○	○	○
My course prepares me for the digital workplace	○	○	○
Learners are given the chance to be involved in decisions about digital services	○	○	○

21. **Overall, how would you rate the quality of digital teaching and learning on your course?**

○ Best imaginable

○ Excellent

○ Good

○ Average

○ Poor

○ Awful

○ Worst imaginable

22. **What one thing should the institution do - or do better - to improve your experience of digital teaching and learning?**

Attitude to digital learning

23. **Which of these would be most useful to you as a learner? More ...**

- ◯ ... interactive polls/quizzes in class
- ◯ ... time working online with other students
- ◯ ... practice questions available online
- ◯ ... references and readings
- ◯ ... course-related videos

24. **When digital technologies are used on my course ...**

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
I understand things better	◯	◯	◯
I enjoy learning more	◯	◯	◯
I am more independent in my learning	◯	◯	◯
I can fit learning into my life more easily	◯	◯	◯

25. **Which best describes your preferences as a learner?**

- ◯ I prefer to learn on my own
- ◯ I like a mix of individual and group work
- ◯ I prefer to learn in a group

Attitude to digital learning

26. **Which of these would be most useful to you?**

○ More computers in computer rooms

○ More laptops and tablets available in class

○ More laptops and tablets available on long-term loan

27. **In class, would you prefer students to be allowed to use their own mobile devices:**

○ At any time

○ Only to carry out class activities

○ None of the time

28. **How much would you like digital technologies to be used on your course?**

○ More than they are now

○ The same as they are now

○ Less than they are now

And finally ...

29. **How much do you agree with the following statements about your online course?**

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Option 1	○	○	○
Option 2	○	○	○
Option 3	○	○	○
Option 4	○	○	○

30. **What curriculum area are you studying in?**

○ Option 1

○ Option 2

○ Option 3

○ Option 4

31. **I consent to my responses being included in the** Irish National Digital Experience Survey (INDEx Survey) ☐ *Required*

☐ Yes (click here to agree)

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Irish National Digital Experience Survey (INDEx Survey). Your views will help us to improve your digital learning experience.