



Institutional Learning Outcomes: Digital Literacy – Spring 2016

Institutional Research and Planning
Palomar College

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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
Demographics of Participants	2
Basic Computer – Module 1	4
World Wide Web – Module 2.....	6
MS Word – Module 5	8
Summary	10

Introduction

The purpose of this study was to assess the level of digital literacy in Palomar College students. Digital literacy is a general education/institutional learning outcome for the college. It was assessed using Northstar, an online digital literacy assessment instrument. Study participants were to complete three modules: Module 1 – Basic Computer, Module 2 – World Wide Web, and Module 5 – Microsoft Word.

On-campus credit classes were randomly selected for participation, and all students in the recruited classes were asked to participate. The assessment results from the Northstar assessment were matched to the census enrollment file at Palomar College. A total of 485 students enrolled at census completed at least one of the modules.

The demographics section provides a demographic profile of those who participated in the digital literacy assessment as well as those who did not. The results sections for each module summarize (1) the average percent of points the students got correct in the module, and (2) the percent of students who passed the assessment by getting 85% correct. These statistics are also broken down by demographic categories.

Demographics of Participants

Table 1. Gender of Students Who Took Digital Literacy Assessment in Spring, 2015-16

Gender	Took Digital Literacy Assessment					
	No		Yes		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	11,323	48.5%	255	52.6%	11,578	48.6%
Male	11,842	50.8%	227	46.8%	12,069	50.7%
Unknown	163	0.7%	3	0.6%	166	0.7%
Total	23,328	100.0%	485	100.0%	23,813	100.0%

Table 2. Ethnicity of Students Who Took Digital Literacy Assessment in Spring, 2015-16

Ethnicity	Took Digital Literacy Assessment					
	No		Yes		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	709	3.0%	12	2.5%	721	3.0%
Asian	1,123	4.8%	43	8.9%	1,166	4.9%
Filipino	607	2.6%	14	2.9%	621	2.6%
Hispanic	10,065	43.1%	204	42.1%	10,269	43.1%
Multi Ethnic	1,018	4.4%	22	4.5%	1,040	4.4%
Native American	151	0.6%	3	0.6%	154	0.6%
Pacific Islander	114	0.5%	2	0.4%	116	0.5%
White	8,780	37.6%	169	34.8%	8,949	37.6%
Unknown	761	3.3%	16	3.3%	777	3.3%
Total	23,328	100.0%	485	100.0%	23,813	100.0%

Table 3. Age of Students Who Took Digital Literacy Assessment in Spring, 2015-16

Age Group	Took Digital Literacy Assessment					
	No		Yes		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
17 & Under	726	3.1%	8	1.6%	734	3.1%
18-20	7,783	33.4%	212	43.7%	7,995	33.6%
21-24	6,201	26.6%	146	30.1%	6,347	26.7%
25-29	3,105	13.3%	55	11.3%	3,160	13.3%
30-34	1,531	6.6%	33	6.8%	1,564	6.6%
35 & Older	3,978	17.1%	31	6.4%	4,009	16.8%
Unknown	4	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	0.0%
Total	23,328	100.0%	485	100.0%	23,813	100.0%

Table 4. Attendance Time of Students Who Took Digital Literacy Assessment in Spring, 2015-16

Attendance Time	Took Digital Literacy Assessment					
	No		Yes		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Day	13,794	59.1%	304	62.7%	14,098	59.2%
Eve	4,108	17.6%	40	8.2%	4,148	17.4%
D/E	5,425	23.3%	141	29.1%	5,566	23.4%
Unknown	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%
Total	23,328	100.0%	485	100.0%	23,813	100.0%

Table 5. Load of Students Who Took Digital Literacy Assessment in Spring, 2015-16

Load	Took Digital Literacy Assessment					
	No		Yes		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Light: Less Than 6 Units	8,286	35.5%	52	10.7%	8,338	35.0%
Medium: 6 to Less Than 12 Units	8,202	35.2%	170	35.1%	8,372	35.2%
Full: 12 or More Units	6,840	29.3%	263	54.2%	7,103	29.8%
Total	23,328	100.0%	485	100.0%	23,813	100.0%

Basic Computer – Module 1

Table 6. Overall Performance of Students Who Took Module 1: Basic Computer in Spring, 2015-16

Number	M1 Score	M1 Possible Score	Average Percent	% Passed Module 1
483	16,001	18,000	88.9%	76.4%

Table 7. Performance of Students Who Took Module 1: Basic Computer by Gender in Spring, 2015-16

Gender	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 1
Female	255	86.8%	67.5%
Male	225	91.2%	86.2%
Unknown	3	88.0%	100.0%
Total	483	88.9%	76.4%

Table 8. Performance of Students Who Took Module 1: Basic Computer by Ethnicity in Spring, 2015-16

Ethnicity	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 1
African American	12	85.9%	66.7%
Asian	41	85.5%	58.5%
Filipino	14	90.0%	71.4%
Hispanic	204	88.3%	73.5%
Multi Ethnic	22	89.5%	86.4%
Native American	3	89.8%	100.0%
Pacific Islander	2	90.1%	50.0%
White	169	90.6%	84.6%
Unknown	16	87.1%	68.8%
Total	483	88.9%	76.4%

Table 9. Performance of Students Who Took Module 1: Basic Computer by Age in Spring, 2015-16

Age	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 1
17 & Under	8	85.1%	75.0%
18-20	212	88.2%	73.1%
21-24	145	90.1%	83.4%
25-29	54	89.3%	75.9%
30-34	33	89.6%	75.8%
35 & Older	31	87.6%	67.7%
Total	483	88.9%	76.4%

Table 10. Performance of Students Who Took Module 1: Basic Computer by Attendance Time in Spring, 2015-16

Attendance Time	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 1
Day	303	88.9%	76.9%
Eve	40	85.9%	67.5%
D/E	140	89.7%	77.9%
Total	483	88.9%	76.4%

Table 11. Performance of Students Who Took Module 1: Basic Computer by Load in Spring, 2015-16

Load	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 1
Light: Less Than 6 Units	52	87.5%	71.2%
Medium: 6 to Less Than 12 Units	169	89.3%	76.9%
Full: 12 or More Units	262	88.9%	77.1%
Total	483	88.9%	76.4%

World Wide Web – Module 2

Table 12. Overall Performance of Students Who Took Module 2: World Wide Web in Spring, 2015-16

Number	M2 Score	M2 Possible Score	Average Percent	% Passed Module 2
480	15,848	18,000	88.0%	73.5%

Table 13. Performance of Students Who Took Module 2: World Wide Web by Gender in Spring, 2015-16

Gender	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 2
Female	251	87.5%	70.1%
Male	226	88.7%	77.4%
Unknown	3	86.4%	66.7%
Total	480	88.0%	73.5%

Table 14. Performance of Students Who Took Module 2: World Wide Web by Ethnicity in Spring, 2015-16

Ethnicity	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 2
African American	12	81.4%	41.7%
Asian	43	80.6%	51.2%
Filipino	14	93.1%	100.0%
Hispanic	200	87.9%	70.0%
Multi Ethnic	22	89.1%	72.7%
Native American	3	89.8%	66.7%
Pacific Islander	2	91.7%	100.0%
White	168	89.9%	83.3%
Unknown	16	88.5%	75.0%
Total	480	88.0%	73.5%

Table 15. Performance of Students Who Took Module 2: World Wide Web by Age in Spring, 2015-16

Age	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 2
17 & Under	8	89.8%	75.0%
18-20	211	87.0%	66.8%
21-24	145	88.9%	78.6%
25-29	55	88.0%	76.4%
30-34	32	89.5%	81.3%
35 & Older	29	89.4%	82.8%
Total	480	88.0%	73.5%

Table 16. Performance of Students Who Took Module 2: World Wide Web by Attendance Time in Spring, 2015-16

Attendance Time	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 2
Day	301	87.4%	71.1%
Eve	38	89.4%	84.2%
D/E	141	89.2%	75.9%
Total	480	88.0%	73.5%

Table 17. Performance of Students Who Took Module 2: World Wide Web by Load in Spring, 2015-16

Load	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 2
Light: Less Than 6 Units	50	88.7%	82.0%
Medium: 6 to Less Than 12 Units	168	88.3%	72.0%
Full: 12 or More Units	262	87.7%	72.9%
Total	480	88.0%	73.5%

MS Word – Module 5

Table 18. Overall Performance of Students Who Took Module 5: Microsoft Word in Spring, 2015-16

Number	M5 Score	M5 Possible Score	Average Percent	% Passed Module 2
476	13,107	16,000	81.9%	51.3%

Table 19. Performance of Students Who Took Module 5: Microsoft Word by Gender in Spring, 2015-16

Gender	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 5
Female	251	82.2%	55.0%
Male	222	81.6%	46.8%
Unknown	3	81.8%	66.7%
Total	476	81.9%	51.3%

Table 20. Performance of Students Who Took Module 5: Microsoft Word by Ethnicity in Spring, 2015-16

Ethnicity	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 5
African American	12	76.5%	25.0%
Asian	43	75.2%	23.3%
Filipino	14	86.6%	57.1%
Hispanic	200	81.5%	49.0%
Multi Ethnic	22	85.1%	63.6%
Native American	3	83.2%	66.7%
Pacific Islander	2	82.6%	0.0%
White	164	83.5%	61.0%
Unknown	16	83.4%	56.3%
Total	476	81.9%	51.3%

Table 21. Performance of Students Who Took Module 5: Microsoft Word by Age in Spring, 2015-16

Age	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 5
17 & Under	8	80.4%	25.0%
18-20	208	81.6%	50.5%
21-24	145	83.6%	55.2%
25-29	54	80.7%	46.3%
30-34	32	83.6%	53.1%
35 & Older	29	76.8%	51.7%
Total	476	81.9%	51.3%

Table 22. Performance of Students Who Took Module 5: Microsoft Word by Attendance Time in Spring, 2015-16

Attendance Time	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 5
Day	298	81.1%	47.7%
Eve	38	82.6%	63.2%
D/E	140	83.5%	55.7%
Total	476	81.9%	51.3%

Table 23. Performance of Students Who Took Module 5: Microsoft Word by Load in Spring, 2015-16

Load	Number	Average Percentage	% Passed Module 5
Light: Less Than 6 Units	50	81.4%	56.0%
Medium: 6 to Less Than 12 Units	165	81.3%	48.5%
Full: 12 or More Units	261	82.4%	52.1%
Total	476	81.9%	51.3%

Summary

- Study participants tended to be younger than the overall student population and more likely to be full-time students.
- The overall average percent correct was:
 - 88.9% on the Basic Computer module
 - 88.0%.on the World Wide Web module
 - 81.9% on the MS Word module
- There was little variation in the average percent correct by the demographic characteristics examined, though for all three modules the Asian students had a slightly lower percent correct than did white students.