

# INDIANA UNIVERSITY LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PILOTS

## STUDENT EVALUATION HIGHLIGHTS

**Note:** Participation rates in the student survey were considerably lower than the faculty survey as were overall student satisfaction scores. The disparity in satisfaction rates may be attributable to the fact that students were required to participate if their instructor opted in to the pilot. In the open-ended questions, many students expressed frustration with using two learning management systems (i.e., Oncourse and the pilot LMS) in the same semester.

	Canvas SP13 <sup>1</sup>	Blackboard FA13	Desire2Learn FA13
Total courses piloted	35	25	9
Percent of student pilot participants that responded to the survey	18% (129 of 734)	22% (197 of 895)	16% (24 of 154)
Campuses represented	BL, EA, IN, KO, NW, SB	BL, CO, EA, IN, KO, NW, SB, SE	BL, CO, EA, IN, KO
Percent of respondents that found the pilot LMS <i>moderately or very easy to use</i>	68% (30%/38%) <sup>2</sup>	55% (40%/15%)	74% (43%/31%)
Percent of respondents that <i>preferred the pilot LMS over Oncourse</i>	20% (7 of 35) <sup>3</sup>	9% (17 of 183)	26% (6 of 23)
Percent of respondents that <i>preferred Oncourse over the pilot LMS</i>	69% (24 of 35) <sup>2</sup>	75% (138 of 183)	57% (13 of 23)
Percent of pilot LMS tools and capabilities respondents found <i>moderately or very useful</i>	40% (6 of 15)	5% (1 of 18)	33% (6 of 18)
Tools and capabilities respondents found <i>most useful</i> <sup>4</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grades (3.51)<sup>5</sup></li> <li>• Assignments (3.32)</li> <li>• Syllabus (3.15)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My Grades (3.04)</li> <li>• Content Areas (2.84)</li> <li>• Announcements (2.79)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grades (3.44)</li> <li>• Content (3.24)</li> <li>• User Progress (3.21)</li> </ul>
Tools and capabilities respondents found <i>least useful</i> <sup>3</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcomes (2.78)</li> <li>• Calendar (2.68)</li> <li>• Collaborations (2.64)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calendar (2.18)</li> <li>• Blogs and Wikis (2.13)</li> <li>• Groups (2.10)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rubrics (2.77)</li> <li>• Classlist (2.67)</li> <li>• Discussion (2.50)</li> </ul>

Percent of student respondents that ***agreed or strongly agreed*** with the following statements:

	Canvas SP13	Blackboard FA13	Desire2Learn FA13
The pilot LMS helps me to learn the course materials/content.	56% (43%/13%)	31% (24%/7%)	44% (35%/9%)
The pilot LMS helps me to study for exams/tests.	34% (24%/10%)	25% (18%/7%)	30% (13%/17%)
The pilot LMS helps me to complete course assignments.	69% (41%/28%)	49% (29%/20%)	44% (22%/22%)
The pilot LMS helps me to take quizzes/exams.	47% (29%/18%)	37% (21%/16%)	43% (17%/26%)
The pilot LMS helps me to make efficient use of my time in the course.	57% (33%/24%)	33% (18%/15%)	30% (13%/17%)
The pilot LMS helps me to be in control of my own learning in the course.	56% (32%/24%)	31% (21%/10%)	26% (13%/13%)
The pilot LMS helps me to communicate with my professor.	73% (41%/32%)	27% (19%/8%)	44% (22%/22%)
The pilot LMS expands access to learning materials/resources available to me (e.g., print, audio, video, etc.).	58% (38%/20%)	40% (26%/14%)	30% (13%/17%)
The pilot LMS was beneficial to my overall learning in the course.	51% (31%/20%)	34% (22%/12%)	35% (26%/9%)

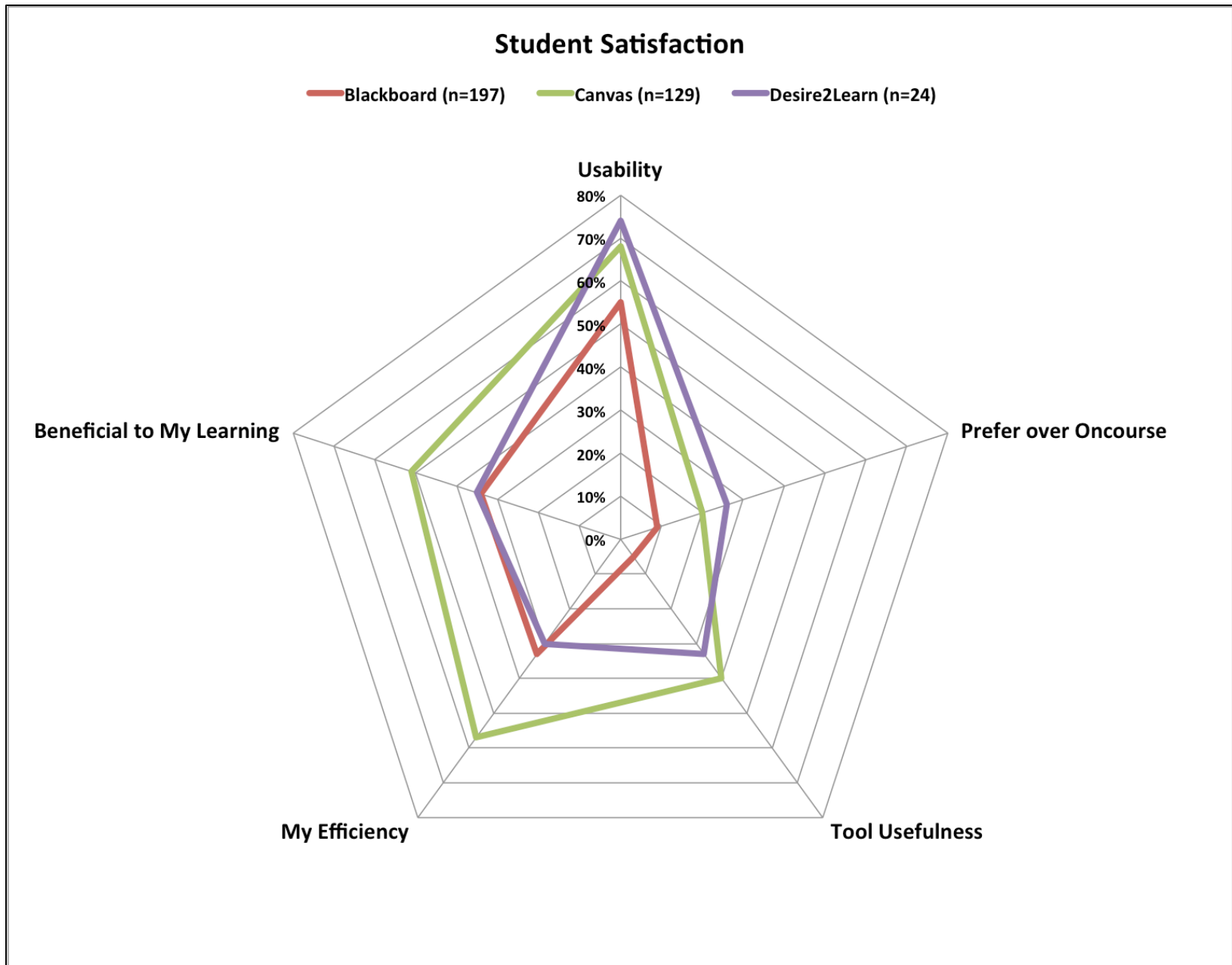


Figure 1: Select Aspects of the Student Evaluation

What student respondents *liked most* about the pilot LMS (open-ended question):

**Canvas SP13**

- Overall ease-of-use, the clean layout, and the modern user interface;
- Ability to see their grades on an assignment (and how peers did on that assignment);
- Tracking grades across assignments, and receiving automated updates when grades were posted by the instructor; and
- Viewing upcoming modules, assignments, and due dates enabled them to keep up with course requirements.

**Blackboard FA13**

- The overall appearance and layout of the interface;
- The notifications and To-do lists on the dashboard;
- The calendar with due dates of assignments;
- The ease of use of the discussion boards and Blogs;
- The ability to preview assignment submissions; and
- The ease of accessing and tracking grades.

**Desire2Learn FA13**

- The appearance of the overall interface;
- Receiving confirmations of assignment submissions and updates on course grades; and
- Ease of access to supplemental videos for the course.

What student respondents *liked least* about the pilot LMS (open-ended question):

**Canvas SP13**

- Difficulty navigating within and across features in Canvas;
- Difficulty following discussion threads and using the features in the Discussions tool;
- Confusing and repetitive message systems across the gradebook, assignment feedback, discussions, and announcements features; and
- Having to use two LMS systems for their courses (Canvas and Oncourse).

**Blackboard FA13**

- Being unable to tell if an assignment was correctly submitted;
- Unintuitive use of multiple tabs;
- Difficulties in accessing quizzes/tests;
- Technical difficulties of the site loading very slowly, freezing/crashing, messages/emails being lost, and not fully opening in certain web browsers; and
- Having to use two LMS systems for their courses (Blackboard and Oncourse).

### Desire2Learn FA13

- Difficulty in learning how to use the site's features;
- Having to use two LMS systems for their courses (Oncourse and Desire2Learn);
- Difficulty finding things and navigating to different tools and features; and
- The lack of interface/linkage between the Desire2Learn email system and the IU email system.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In fall 2013 IU conducted a second Canvas pilot to assess how well Canvas works for large enrollment courses with multiple sections. Two instructors volunteered to participate, but only one followed through with plans to teach in Canvas. The pilot course combined twelve sections and roughly 300 students into a single site with 11 instructors. Since the focus of this pilot was on functionality for instructors, the students in this course were not surveyed.

<sup>2</sup> The Canvas survey instrument did not include a question about overall ease-of use. Instead, students were asked about the ease-of use of specific tools and features. The value shown here is the average across all tools and features.

<sup>3</sup> The Canvas survey instrument did not include a question about LMS preference. Canvas pilot participants were later invited to complete a one-question survey on this topic. Only 35 of the 734 students who received the second survey responded.

<sup>4</sup> Tools and capabilities used by fewer than 50% respondents are not included here.

<sup>5</sup> Shown in parentheses is the average score for the tool/capability on a 4 point scale (1=not at all satisfied, 4=highly satisfied)

<sup>6</sup> Email forwarding is available in Desire2Learn, but some students may not have enabled it.