

Bibliography

Jisc Digital Student project 'Online learners' experiences and expectations of the digital environment'

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Introduction

This bibliography was developed during the Jisc Digital Student study on Online learners' expectations and experiences of the digital environment. A significant element of the study was a literature review.

Due to the extensive research literature on online and distance learning, our searches were limited to papers published after 2012, although some key papers before that date were included. Over 270 papers were included in the review and were collated in an open online library. Studies that involved learners through large-scale surveys and/or detailed qualitative work were prioritised as well as studies that focused on the learning experience, rather than teaching, course design, or organisational issues. These included:

- Factors influencing the outcomes of online learning using measures such learners' engagement, progression, satisfaction, successful completion and credits/grades achieved comparative literature which contrasts online and offline learning activities or experiences or contrasts differently designed online learning components
- Case study evidence conducted from the perspective of teachers and online learning designers and evaluation studies of specific online courses or interventions
- Qualitative and mixed-method research studies which provide a focused theoretically informed and rich picture of online learners' experiences from a variety of perspectives
- Feedback from learners surveys carried out by researchers, online learning providers, and some national bodies

Search terms used:

At the outset our database search terms were:

- online learning
- online learners
- MOOC
- open_learning
- virtual learning
- networked_learning...
- plus (learner)...
- experience
- engagement
- satisfaction
- motivation
- identity/identities
- progression
- development
- perception

To these we later added emotions, disability, retention, curriculum design, socio-economic status, social class, educational disadvantage, cultural, second language students, diversity



Other literature reviews and meta-analysis

- Alem, F., Plaisent, M., Bernard, P., Chitu, O., 2014. Student Online Readiness Assessment Tools: A Systematic Review Approach. e-Journal of e-Learning 12, 376–384.
 http://www.ejel.org/volume12/issue4/p376 Keywords online learners, readiness
- Bang, J., 2015. MOOCs in Europe: A Literature Review http://pure.au.dk//portal/files/90670653/MOOCs_in_Europe.pdf Keywords online learners, MOOC, Europe
- Beetham, H., White, D., Wild, J., 2013. Students' expectations and experiences of the digital environment literature review. Jisc.
 http://repository.jisc.ac.uk/5573/1/JR0005_STUDENTS_EXPECTATIONS_LITERATURE_REVIE W_2.o.pdf Keywords learning technology, UK, learner expectations, learner experiences
- 4. Bernard, R.M., Borokhovski, E., Tamim, R.M., 2014. Detecting bias in meta-analyses of distance education research: big pictures we can rely on. Distance Education 35, 271–293. doi:10.1080/01587919.2015.957433 http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/01587919.2015.957433 Keywords distance learners
- Capdeferro, N., Romero, M., Barberà, E., 2014. Polychronicity: review of the literature and a new configuration for the study of this hidden dimension of online learning. Distance Education 35, 294–310. doi:10.1080/01587919.2015.955249
 http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/01587919.2015.955249 Keywords online learners,
- 6. Halverson, L.R., Graham, C.R., Spring, K.J., Drysdale, J.S., Henrie, C.R., 2014. A thematic analysis of the most highly cited scholarship in the first decade of blended learning research. Internet & Higher Education 20, 20–34. doi:10.1016/j.iheduc.2013.09.004

 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.iheduc.2013.09.004 Keywords blended learning, online learners, communication
- 7. Hart, C., 2012. Factors Associated with Student Persistence in an Online Program of Study: A Review of the Literature. Journal of Interactive Online Learning 11, 19–42. http://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ976760 Keywords online learners, USA, HE, retention, learner achievement
- 8. Hew, K.F., Cheung, W.S., 2014. Students' and instructors' use of massive open online courses (MOOCs): Motivations and challenges. Educational Research Review 12, 45–58. doi:10.1016/j.edurev.2014.05.001
 - http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1747938X14000128 Keywords online learners, MOOC, learner motivation, learner experience



- 9. Lee, K., 2015. Discourses and realities of online higher education: a history of [discourses of] online education in Canada's Open University (phd). http://eprints.lancs.ac.uk/77614/ Keywords HE, online learners, learner experience
- 10. Means, B., Toyama, Y., Murphy, R., Baki, M., 2013. The Effectiveness of Online and Blended Learning: A Meta-Analysis of the Empirical Literature. Teachers College Record 115, 1–47. https://www.sri.com/sites/default/files/publications/effectiveness_of_online_and_blended_learning.pdf Keywords online learners, learner experience, blended learning
- 11. Mitchell, F., 2015. Keys to Success in the Online Accounting Classroom to Maximize Student Retention. Journal of Higher Education Theory and Practice 15, 36–44. http://www.na-businesspress.com/JHETP/FranklinM_Web15_5_.pdf Keywords online learners, learner experience, retention
- 12. Pavlakou, M., Sharpe, R., 2014. Learners' expectations and experiences of the digital environment in the Further Education and Skills sector: a review of the literature conducted for the Jisc FE Digital Student project. Jisc. https://digitalstudent.jiscinvolve.org/wp/files/2014/12/JISC-FEDS-lit-review-Dec19-branded.pdf Keywords UK, FE, skills, online learners, learner experience, learning technology
- 13. Phillips, B., 2015. A Study of The Skills Sectors' learners' expectations and experiences of the digital environment A Literature Review. Jisc. https://digitalstudent.jiscinvolve.org/wp/files/2016/01/JISC_SkillsSectors_Literature_Review_SEROFinal.docx Keywords UK, FE, skills, online learners, learner experience, learning technology
- 14. Rienties, B., Rivers, B.A.. 2014 Measuring and Understanding Learner Emotions: Evidence and Prospects." Learning Analytics Review.(No. 1) http://www.laceproject.eu/publications/learning-analytics-and-emotions.pdf Keywords online learners, blended learning, learner emotion, learner motivation, learner attitudes, learner achievement, self-regulation
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- 16. Tsai, C.-C., Chuang, S.-C., Liang, J.-C., Tsai, M.-J., 2011. Self-Efficacy in Internet-Based Learning Environments: A Literature Review. Educational Technology & Society 14, 222–240. http://www.ifets.info/journals/14_4/19.pdf Keywords self-efficacy, online learners, learning technology



Factors influencing the outcomes of online learning

Literature on factors influencing the outcomes of online learning using measures such learners' engagement, progression, satisfaction, successful completion and credits/grades achieved. These studies help us to understand how differences among learners influence their experiences of online learning.

- Alem, F., Plaisent, M., Bernard, P., Chitu, O., 2014. Student Online Readiness Assessment Tools: A
 Systematic Review Approach. e-Journal of e-Learning 12, 376–384.
 http://www.ejel.org/volume12/issue4/p376 Keywords online learners, readiness
- Alquarashi, E., 2016. Self-Efficacy In Online Learning Environments: A Literature Review.
 Contemporary Issues in Education Research 9
 http://www.cluteinstitute.com/ojs/index.php/CIER/article/download/9549/9710 Keywords online learners, self-efficacy, digital literacy, learner experience
- 3. AOC. A summary discussion of the use of learning technologies in further education: AoC/ALT position paper., 2014. . Association of Colleges & Association for Learning Technology, London. https://www.aoc.co.uk/sites/default/files/A%2osummary%2odiscussion%2oof%2othe%2ouse %2oof%2olearning%2otechnologies%2oin%2oFurther%2oEducation_1.pdf Keywords FE, learning technology, USA, blended learning, online learning
- 4. Artino, A.R., Jones, K.D., 2012. Exploring the complex relations between achievement emotions and self-regulated learning behaviors in online learning. The Internet and Higher Education 15, 170–175. doi:10.1016/j.iheduc.2012.01.006
 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/257496467_Exploring_the_complex_relations_bet ween_achievement_emotions_and_self-regulated_learning_behaviors_in_online_learning Keywords USA, professional learning, online learners, learner achievement, learner emotion, self-regulation
- 5. Betts, K., Cohen, A.H., Veit, D.P., Alphin, H.C., Broadus, C., Allen, D., 2013. Strategies to Increase Online Student Success for Students with Disabilities. Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks 17, 49–64. http://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ1018265 Keywords Disabled learners, distance learners, learner achievement, learner engagement, online learners
- 6. Boling, E.C., Hough, M., Krinsky, H., Saleem, H., Stevens, M., 2012. Cutting the distance in distance education: Perspectives on what promotes positive, online learning experiences. The Internet and Higher Education, Special issue of the American Educational Research Association's online teaching and learning special interest group 15, 118–126. doi:10.1016/j.iheduc.2011.11.006 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S109675161100090X Keywords HE, USA, distance learners, online learners, sense of community, communication
- 7. Bonk, C.J., Mimi Miyoung Lee, Xiaojing Kou, Shuya Xu, Feng-Ru Sheu, 2015. Understanding the Self-Directed Online Learning Preferences, Goals, Achievements, and Challenges of MIT OpenCourseWare Subscribers. Journal of Educational Technology & Society 18, 349–368. http://www.ifets.info/journals/18_2/26.pdf Keywords mooc, USA, open learning, learner achievement, learner experience, learner motivation, self-regulation



- 8. Buzdar, M.A., Ali, A., Tariq, R.U.H., 2016. Emotional Intelligence as a Determinant of Readiness for Online Learning. The International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning 17. doi:10.19173/irrodl.v17i1.2149 http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/2149

 Keywords Pakistan, HE, online learners, learner achievement, learner motivation, self-efficacy
- 9. Capdeferro, N., Romero, M., 2012. Are online learners frustrated with collaborative learning experiences? The International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning 13, 26–44. http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/1127 Keywords online learners, collaboration, learner emotion, learner experience
- 10. Chen, R., Bennett, S., 2012. When Chinese learners meet constructivist pedagogy online. Higher Education 64, 677–691. doi:10.1007/s10734-012-9520-9 http://ro.uow.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2535&context=edupapers Keywords Australia, cultural differences, HE, online learners, learner experience, learner achievement, sense of community
- 11. Cheng, J., Kulkarni, C., Klemmer, S., 2013. Tools for Predicting Drop-off in Large Online Classes, in: Proceedings of the 2013 Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work Companion, CSCW '13. ACM, New York, NY, USA, pp. 121–124. doi:10.1145/2441955.2441987 http://dx.doi.org/10.1145/2441955.2441987 Keywords online learners, retention
- 12. Cole, M.T., Shelley, D.J., Swartz, L.B., 2014. Online instruction, e-learning, and student satisfaction: A three year study. The International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning 15 http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/1748 Keywords USA, HE, learner satisfaction, online learners, blended learning, retention, social presence, retention, interaction
- 13. Cleveland-Innes, M., Campbell, P., 2012. Emotional presence, learning, and the online learning environment. The International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning 13, 269–292. http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/1234 Keywords international, HE, distance learners, online learners, learner emotion, learner experience
- 14. Comer, D.R., Lenaghan, J.A., Sengupta, K., 2015. Factors That Affect Students' Capacity to Fulfill the Role of Online Learner. Journal of Education for Business 90, 145–155. doi:10.1080/08832323.2015.1007906 http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/08832323.2015.1007906 Keywords USA, HE, distance learners, online learners, learner expectations, learner perceptions
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- 16. Crampton, A., Ragusa, A.T., 2012. Communication and Education: Finding the Balance with 24/7 Opportunities for Students. International Journal of Technology, Knowledge & Society 8, 33–42. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/275850159_Communication_and_education_findin



- **g_balance_with_247_opportunities_for_students Keywords** Australia, HE, distance learners, online learners, communication, interaction, learner expectations, learner satisfaction, student support
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- 18. Dray, B.J., Lowenthal, P.R., Miszkiewicz, M.J., Ruiz-Primo, M.A., Marczynski, K., 2011. Developing an instrument to assess student readiness for online learning: a validation study. Distance Education 32, 29–47. doi:10.1080/01587919.2011.565496

 http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01587919.2011.565496 Keywords readiness, online learners, distance learners, learner achievement
- 19. Dziuban, C., Moskal, P., Thompson, J., Kramer, L., DeCantis, G., Hermsdorfer, A., 2015. Student Satisfaction with Online Learning: Is It a Psychological Contract? Online Learning 19. http://olj.onlinelearningconsortium.org/index.php/olj/article/viewFile/496/141 Keywords USA, HE, online learners, social presence, learner satisfaction, assessment, learner experience, learner engagement
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 Journal of Research in Special Educational Needs 12, 192–200. doi:10.1111/j.14713802.2011.01230.x

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 - https://www.researchgate.net/publication/263752183_Technology_for_people_not_disabilitie s_Ensuring_access_and_inclusion Keywords Assistive technology, disabled learners, accessibility, inclusive technology, online learners
- 22. Fuller, J., Risner, M., Lowder, L., Hart, M., Bachenheimer, B., 2014. Graduates' Reflections on an Online Doctorate in Educational Technology. TechTrends: Linking Research & Practice to Improve Learning 58, 73–80. doi:10.1007/s11528-014-0771-4

 http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/%2Fs11528-014-0771-4 Keywords online learners, learner perceptions, learner experience, HE, USA, distance learners, professional learning, social presence, interaction, sense of community
- 23. Hachey, A.C., Wladis, C., Conway, K., 2015. Prior online course experience and G.P.A. as predictors of subsequent online STEM course outcomes. Internet & Higher Education 25, 11–17. doi:10.1016/j.iheduc.2014.10.003 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.iheduc.2014.10.003 Keywords HE, USA, online learners, readiness, retention, prior online experience
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- 25. Harrison, R., Gemmell, I., Reed, K., 2014. Student satisfaction with a web-based dissertation course: Findings from an international distance learning master's programme in public health. The International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning 15. http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/1665 Keywords distance learners, online learners, part-time learners, interaction, HE, professional learning, learner satisfaction, student support, UK
- 26. Hart, C., 2012. Factors Associated with Student Persistence in an Online Program of Study: A Review of the Literature. Journal of Interactive Online Learning 11, 19–42. http://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ976760 Keywords online learners, USA, HE, retention, learner achievement
- 27. Hartnett, M., George, A.S., Dron, J., 2011. Examining motivation in online distance learning environments: Complex, multifaceted and situation-dependent. The International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning 12, 20–38.

 http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/1030 Keywords online learners, learner motivation, self-efficacy, social presence
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- 35. Jung, I., Kudo, M., Choi, S.-K., 2012. Stress in Japanese learners engaged in online collaborative learning in English. British Journal of Educational Technology 43, 1016–1029. doi:10.1111/j.1467-8535.2011.01271.x http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-8535.2011.01271.x/abstract Keywords Japan, HE, collaboration, online learners, learning technology, digital literacy, self-efficacy, learner experience, learner perceptions, cultural differences
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 http://www.macrothink.org/journal/index.php/ije/article/viewFile/6322/5333 Keywords Turkey, HE, distance learners, online learners, collaboration, interaction, learner achievement, learner satisfaction
- 38. Kirmizi, Ö., 2015. The Influence of Learner Readiness on Student Satisfaction and Academic Achievement in an Online Program at Higher Education. Turkish Online Journal of Educational Technology TOJET 14, 133–142. http://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ1057353 Keywords Turkey, distance learners, online learners, HE, digital literacy, learner achievement, learner attitudes, learner motivation self-efficacy, learner perceptions
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- and Distributed Learning 12, 19–38. http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/882 Keywords MOOC, online learners, social presence, communication, connectivism
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international, mooc, non-traditional learners, professional learners, collaboration, social networks

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 http://repository.jisc.ac.uk/6436/2/Student_digital_experience_tracker_pilot_report__June_2016_FINAL.pdf Keywords learner experience, UK, learning technology, FE, HE
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 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22616408 Keywords US, professional learning, distance learners, online learners, learner perceptions, learner emotion, sense of community



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Comparative literature

Comparative literature which contrasts online and offline versions of similar learning activities, tasks, or larger portions of the learning experience – or contrasts differently designed online learning components - within the same course of study. These studies help us to understand how features of online learning design influence the learning experience. Again we will include recent (post 2012) research and synthesis studies of these issues, with a preference for synthesis studies.

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Case study evidence and evaluation studies

Case study evidence, largely conducted from the perspective of teachers and online learning designers, and evaluation studies of specific online courses or interventions. These studies help us to understand aspects of the learner experience in more detail, but only where the learner perspective has been elicited and explored, and typically only with relevance to fairly specific settings.

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https://www.researchgate.net/publication/259418123_Working_online_together_to_enhance_learner_autonomy Keywords France, HE, online learners, distance learners, learner perceptions,

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 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/281605236_Balancing_pedagogy_student_readine ss_and_accessibility_A_case_study_in_collaborative_online_course_development Keywords disabled learners, HE, online learners, self-directed learning, learner satisfaction
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Qualitative and mixed-method research studies

Qualitative and mixed-method research studies which provide a focused, theoretically informed and rich picture of online learners' experiences from a variety of theoretical perspectives.

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