

E-Book Use Among Graduate Students and Faculty

1. Participant Consent

The Newton Gresham Library at Sam Houston State University is conducting a survey to understand how graduate students and faculty feel about library e-books, as well as preferences for in-depth reading of books for class study or research.

This survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes of your time and is entirely optional. All of your information will be kept strictly confidential and will be used for research purposes only.

Once you complete the survey, graduate students may choose to be entered into a prize drawing for one of several Barnes & Noble gift cards, up to \$75 in value, which may be used at the SHSU campus bookstore or online at bn.com.

If you have questions, comments, or concerns about this survey, please contact its creators:

- Erin Cassidy, Web Services Librarian, 936-294-4567, ecassidy@shsu.edu
- Michelle Martinez, Reference Librarian, 936-294-1629, mmm034@shsu.edu
- Lisa Shen, Reference Librarian, 936-294-3587, lcs009@shsu.edu

This survey was approved by the SHSU Internal Review Board (IRB) (Protocol Number 2011-04-025). All current graduate students and faculty members at SHSU have been invited to participate.

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2. Familiarity with Library E-Books

The library purchases some books in electronic form ("e-books"). These e-books can be read online from any Internet-connected computer.

Throughout the following questions, please focus on books that are being studied closely FOR CLASS PURPOSES -- do not focus on online dictionaries/encyclopedias or books that you would be reading only for pleasure.

***1. Have you ever used an SHSU library e-book in your field, either for a class or for self-study in your discipline?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

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3. I Have Not Used Library E-Books

2. If you have NOT used a library e-book in your field, please rate how likely are you to try them in the future.

- ☐ 1 - Definitely will not
- ☐ 2 - Probably will not
- ☐ 3 - May or may not
- ☐ 4 - Probably will
- ☐ 5 - Definitely will

Comments (optional):

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4. I Have Used Library E-Books

3. If you HAVE used a library e-book in your field, please rate your reaction.

- ☐ 1 - I will go out of my way NOT to use library e-books.
- ☐ 2 - I'd rather use a print book, if I have a choice.
- ☐ 3 - I don't care; I feel about the same towards library e-books and print books.
- ☐ 4 - It depends – I really like some library e-books, but I dislike others.
- ☐ 5 - I'd rather use a library e-book, if I have a choice.
- ☐ 6 - I will go out of my way NOT to use a print book.

Comments (optional):

5. Feelings Towards Library E-Books

***4. Please choose the statement that BEST describes why you will not use library e-books.**

- ☐ I specifically dislike the library's e-books.
- ☐ I dislike all e-books in general.
- ☐ I don't necessarily dislike library e-books but have had no occasion to use them.

5. If you indicated that you dislike library e-books or e-books in general, please tell us what it is that you dislike.

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6. E-Book Features

***6. In your opinion, how important or desirable are the following features in an e-book?
Please rate each one on a scale of 1 (Very Unimportant) to 5 (Very Important).**

	1 - Very Unimportant	2 - Somewhat Unimportant	3 - Neither Important Nor Unimportant	4 - Somewhat Important	5 - Very Important
Search in text.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
See search terms highlighted.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Take and save notes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Copy and paste from the book into other documents.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Automatic citation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interactivity, such as integrated video, hyperlinks, etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Print individual pages.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Print individual chapters.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Print the whole book.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Download the book to read offline (limited time).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Download the book to keep (no time limit).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. (Optional) What other features or capabilities are important to you in an e-book?

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*8. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	1 - Strongly Disagree	2 - Somewhat Disagree	3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree	4 - Somewhat Agree	5 - Strongly Agree	N/A
It is uncomfortable to read more than a few pages on a computer screen.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have a disability which makes e-books hard to use.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I find it easier to comprehend class study or research material when I can highlight and take notes on printed pages.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It is hard to carry around print books for class.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have a disability which makes e-books more valuable or beneficial to me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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7. E-Reading Devices

***9. Do you USE an electronic device for reading? (Devices could include Kindle, Nook, iPad, smart phone, etc.)**

- ☐ Yes.
- ☐ No, but I plan to start doing so within the next two years.
- ☐ No, and I have no interest in doing so.

***10. Assume for a moment that you do use an electronic device for reading. If the library's e-books were compatible with that device, how would that affect your choice to use library e-books in your field?**

- ☐ I would be more likely to use e-books in my field.
- ☐ No effect – I already preferred e-books.
- ☐ No effect – I still wouldn't be interested in e-books.
- ☐ I would be less likely to use e-books in my field.

11. (Optional) Additional comments regarding e-books in your field of study:

8. Tell Us a Little About You

***12. What is your PRIMARY classification or status at SHSU? (If you are a graduate student and also the instructor of record for a class, please select your student classification.)**

- ☐ Masters Student
- ☐ Doctoral Student
- ☐ Faculty

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9. Graduate Student Questions

***13. Which graduate degree are you currently pursuing? (If more than one apply, please choose the one that you consider to be PRIMARY.)**

***14. How would your professor's positive recommendation affect your choice to use an e-book for a class?**

- ☐ I would be more likely to read an e-book for that class.
- ☐ No effect – I already preferred e-books.
- ☐ No effect – I still wouldn't be interested in e-books.
- ☐ I would be less likely to read an e-book for that class.

***15. Would you like the library to purchase more e-books to support classes in your field?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know or don't care

Comments (optional):

16. Would you rather wait for a print book to be returned to the library or borrow the book immediately online?

- ☐ Wait for the print book to be returned.
- ☐ Borrow the book immediately online.

***17. Select the response that BEST describes where you attend your classes.**

- ☐ I take ALL my classes on campus at SHSU.
- ☐ I take MOST of my classes on campus at SHSU, but I occasionally take a class at the University Center or online.
- ☐ I take MOST of my classes at the University Center or online, but I occasionally take a class on campus at SHSU.
- ☐ I take ALL my classes either at the University Center or online (a mixture of the two).
- ☐ I take ALL my classes at the University Center only.
- ☐ I take ALL my classes online only.

***18. Do you qualify for Distance Learning services from the library and university?**

- ☐ No, I do not qualify. I am able to attend classes on campus, even if I don't choose to do so. I probably live inside Huntsville / Walker County or close by.
- ☐ Yes, I qualify. I am not able to attend classes on campus, because I live outside Huntsville / Walker County, and I may even live outside Texas.
- ☐ I don't know / I'm not sure.

10. Distance Student Questions

***19. Have you ever used the library's Distance Learning Services to have a library book mailed to your home?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

***20. As a distance student, if you needed to read a book for a class (excluding a primary required textbook), which option would you prefer for getting that book? Assume that the book is NOT available for free on Google Books or similar websites.**

- ☐ Borrow the book by mail with the SHSU library's Distance Learning Services
- ☐ Read the e-book online from the SHSU library
- ☐ Borrow the book from a different library close to me (not the SHSU library)
- ☐ Borrow the book from a friend or classmate
- ☐ Buy my own print copy of the book (new or used)
- ☐ Buy my own e-book copy online or on a mobile device
- ☐ Try to fake my way through the class without reading the book
- ☐ Other (please specify)

11. Faculty / Instructor Questions

21. With what department are you PRIMARILY affiliated? (If more than one apply, please select the one you consider to be primary.)

***22. What is your current faculty status at SHSU?**

- ☐ Tenured faculty
- ☐ Tenure-track faculty
- ☐ Clinical faculty
- ☐ Interim faculty
- ☐ Other (please specify)

***23. During an AVERAGE academic year (fall, spring, and summer semesters), how many UNDERGRADUATE classes do you teach in each of the following locations?**

On campus at SHSU (with or without online elements)

At the University Center in the Woodlands (with or without online elements)

Dual-campus (at SHSU, with video streamed to University Center)

Entirely online

***24. During an AVERAGE academic year (fall, spring, and summer semesters), how many GRADUATE classes do you teach in each of the following locations?**

On campus at SHSU (with or without online elements)

At the University Center in the Woodlands (with or without online elements)

Dual-campus (at SHSU, with video streamed to University Center)

Entirely online

***25. Looking ahead to the next five academic years, how do you expect your course load to change for UNDERGRADUATE courses?**

- ☐ More Online Classes
- ☐ No Change
- ☐ Fewer Online Classes
- ☐ I don't know / Unsure

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***26. Looking ahead to the next five academic years, how do you expect your online course load to change for GRADUATE courses?**

- ☐ More Online Classes
- ☐ No Change
- ☐ Fewer Online Classes
- ☐ I don't know / Unsure

***27. Would you recommend to your UNDERGRADUATE students the use of library e-books in your field?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable / I don't teach undergraduate

Comments (optional):

***28. Would you recommend to your GRADUATE students the use of library e-books in your field?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable / I don't teach graduate

Comments (optional):

***29. Would you be willing to collaborate with the library in selecting which books in your field which would be most useful to your students in e-book format? (View librarians assigned to each discipline at <http://library.shsu.edu/about/facultystaff/subject.html>.)**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Comments (optional):

12. Demographics

***30. Your year of birth:**

***31. Your gender:**

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer not to say

13. Thank you! You're Done.

IF you choose to provide your name and email on this page (this is entirely optional and is not required), this information will be used ONLY to contact you for the purposes you have selected.

Your contact information will be stored confidentially and separately from your survey responses to protect your anonymity. Contact information will be erased within one year of this study's completion.

32. (Optional) Check any options that interest you. You do not have to check any.

- ☐ I would like to be entered in the prize drawing (*graduate students only are eligible*).
- ☐ I would be willing to participate in future surveys or focus groups related to library e-books (*both graduate students and faculty are eligible*).

Thank you for contributing your thoughts and opinions to our survey! Your survey is now ready to be submitted.