



## **Consent Block**

## Q1.

My name is Erin Owens, and I am a Professor in the Newton Gresham Library at Sam Houston State University (SHSU). Along with my faculty colleagues Soo-yeon Hwang, Dianna Kim, Tyler Manolovitz, and Lisa Shen, I am conducting a survey about faculty and graduate students' use of library ebooks for academic purposes.

The survey includes questions that ask you about your use of library ebooks at SHSU. You will also be asked some basic demographic questions. It will take about 15 minutes of your time. To qualify for this study, you must be over the age of 18 and currently employed as a faculty member at SHSU –OR– currently enrolled as a Masters or Doctoral student at SHSU.

Your participation in this study is voluntary. If you decide to participate, your responses will be anonymous - that is, recorded without any identifying information that is linked to you.

Participants will have the option to enter a prize drawing; three winners will be selected by random drawing, and each winner may choose from the following SHSU branded gear: sweatshirt in preferred size, pajama pants in preferred size, or pair of glassware in preferred style (*exact items may vary based on availability on the SHSU Barnes & Noble bookstore website*). Prize drawing entry is not required, and personal information from entries will be stored separately and will be impossible to connect to an individual survey response.



Your survey responses will be kept confidential to the extent of the technology being used. Qualtrics collects IP addresses for respondents to surveys they host; however, the ability to connect your survey responses to your IP address has been disabled for this survey. That means that I will not be able to identify your responses. You should, however, keep in mind

that answers to specific questions may make you more easily identifiable. The security and privacy policy for Qualtrics can be viewed at <https://www.qualtrics.com/security-statement/>.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact me at [eowens@shsu.edu](mailto:eowens@shsu.edu).

If you have any questions regarding your rights as a human subject and participant in this study, or to report research-related problems, you may call the Institutional Review Board at SHSU for information, at (936) 294-4875, or [irb@shsu.edu](mailto:irb@shsu.edu).

- ☐ I consent
- ☐ I do not consent

## General Question Block

## Q2. Familiarity with Library ebooks

The SHSU Library purchases some books in electronic form (“ebooks”). These ebooks can be read online from any Internet-connected device.

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

Q3. Have you ever used an SHSU Library ebook in your field, either for a class or for self-study in your discipline?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q4. Since you indicated you have NOT used a library ebook in your field, please rate how likely are you to try them in the future.

- ☐ Definitely will not
- ☐ Probably will not
- ☐ May or may not
- ☐ Probably will
- ☐ Definitely will

Q5. Since you indicated you HAVE used a library ebook in your field, please rate your reaction.

- ☐ I will go out of my way NOT to use library ebooks.
- ☐ I would rather use a print book, if I have a choice.
- ☐ I don't care; I feel about the same towards library ebooks and print books.
- ☐ It depends – I really like some library ebooks, but I dislike others.
- ☐ I would rather use a library ebook, if I have a choice.
- ☐ I will go out of my way NOT to use a print book.

Q6. Please choose the statement that BEST describes why you will not use library ebooks.

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

Q7. Since you indicated that you dislike SHSU library ebooks or all ebooks in general, please tell us what it is that you dislike.

Q8. In your opinion, how important or desirable are the following features in an ebook?

Please rate each one on a scale of "Extremely Important" to "Not at all Important".

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Slightly important	Not at all 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 ebook 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 ebook.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Download the ebook to read offline (limited time).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Download the ebook to  
keep (no time limit).



Q9. (Optional) What other features or capabilities are important to  
you in an ebook?



Q10. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	N/A (not applicable)
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 ebooks 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 materials 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 ebooks more valuable or beneficial to me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q11. Do you USE an electronic device for reading? (Devices could include iPad or other tablet, smart phone, Kindle, Nook, etc.)

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

Q12. *Assume for a moment that you **do** use an electronic device for reading.* If the SHSU library's ebooks were compatible with that device, how would that affect your choice to use library ebooks in your field?

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

Q13. (Optional) Additional comments regarding library ebooks in your field of study:

Q14. 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

### Graduate Student Block

Q15. Which Masters degree are you currently pursuing? (If more than one apply, please choose the one that you consider to be **PRIMARY**.)

Q16. Which Doctoral degree are you currently pursuing? (If more

*than one apply, please choose the one that you consider to be **PRIMARY.**)*

Q17. How would your professor's positive recommendation affect your choice to use an ebook for a class?

- ☐ I would be more likely to use ebooks in that class.
- ☐ No effect – I already preferred ebooks.
- ☐ No effect – I still wouldn't be interested in ebooks.
- ☐ I would be less likely to use ebooks in that class.

Q18.

Would you like the SHSU library to purchase more ebooks to support classes in your field?

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

Q19. Would you rather wait for a print book to be returned to the library or borrow the ebook immediately online?

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

Q20. Indicate where you attend classes and how regularly.

	None	One course in a typical year	Several courses in a typical year	Several courses in a typical semester	Almost all courses
Online / Remote	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SHSU-Main campus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SHSU-The Woodlands Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SHSU-College of Osteopathic Medicine	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q21. Do you qualify for Distance Learning services from the library and university? To qualify, you must (a) live outside Walker County, and (b) not be enrolled in any classes located on campus.

- ☐ No, I do not qualify
- ☐ Yes, I qualify
- ☐ I don't know / I'm not sure

Q22. Have you ever used the library's Distance Learning Services to have a library book mailed to your home?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q23. 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 ebook 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 ebook copy online or on a mobile device
- ☐ Try to make my way through the class without reading the book
- ☐  Other (please specify)

**Faculty Block**



## Q24. What is your current faculty status at SHSU?

- ☐ Tenured faculty
- ☐ Tenure-track faculty
- ☐ Clinical faculty
- ☐ Lecturer or Lecturer-Pool
- ☐ Visiting Assistant or Associate Professor
- ☐  Other (please specify)

Q25. During an AVERAGE academic year (fall, spring, and summer semesters), how many UNDERGRADUATE sections do you teach in each of the following locations? (please select N/A for 0 classes)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Not Applicable	
Entirely Online	<input checked="" type="radio"/>											<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
On campus at SHSU-Main Campus (with or without online elements)		<input checked="" type="radio"/>										<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
On campus at SHSU-The Woodlands Center (with or without online elements)			<input checked="" type="radio"/>									<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
On campus at SHSU-College of Osteopathic Medicine				<input checked="" type="radio"/>								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

Q26. During an AVERAGE academic year (fall, spring, and summer semesters), how many GRADUATE sections do you teach in each of the following locations? (please select N/A for 0 classes)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Not Applicable	
Entirely Online	<input checked="" type="radio"/>											<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
On campus at SHSU-Main Campus (with or without online elements)		<input checked="" type="radio"/>										<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
On campus at SHSU-The Woodlands Center (with or without online elements)			<input checked="" type="radio"/>									<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
On campus at SHSU-College of Osteopathic Medicine (with or without online elements)				<input checked="" type="radio"/>								<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

Q27. 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

Q28. Looking ahead to the next five academic years, how do you expect your course load to change for GRADUATE courses?

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

Q29. Please indicate your college, and then department you are PRIMARILY affiliated with.

*(If more than one apply, please select the one you consider to be **primary**.)*

College

Department

Q30. 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 ebook format? (View librarians assigned to each discipline at <http://library.shsu.edu/about/facultystaff/subject.html>).

- ☐ Definitely yes
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Might or might not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Definitely not

## COVID Block

Q31. Were you also a graduate student or faculty member prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q32. Prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, how often did you use library ebooks for academic purposes?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Annually
- ☐ Never

Q33. During the COVID-19 pandemic, how often did you use library ebooks for academic purposes?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Annually
- ☐ Never

Q34. Did the COVID-19 pandemic change your use of library ebooks?

- ☐ Greatly increased
- ☐ Somewhat increased
- ☐ Stayed about the same
- ☐ Somewhat decreased
- ☐ Greatly decreased

Q35. Do you expect this increase/decrease in use to continue post-pandemic, when previous access levels to all source types have been restored?

- ☐ Very likely
- ☐ Somewhat likely
- ☐ Neither likely nor unlikely
- ☐ Somewhat unlikely
- ☐ Very unlikely

Q36. During the pandemic, did you make use of any of these services from the SHSU library? (Mark all that apply)

- ☐ Book delivery to home
- ☐ Book delivery to office
- ☐ Scheduled book pick-up at library entrance
- ☐ Walked the aisles in person to retrieve a book / browse books
- ☐ None of these



Q37. Would you have avoided this service to access physical books if the book you needed had been available as a library ebook instead?

- ☐ Very likely
- ☐ Somewhat likely
- ☐ Neither likely nor unlikely
- ☐ Somewhat unlikely
- ☐ Very unlikely

Q38.

Overall, did the COVID-19 pandemic change your attitude towards library ebooks?

- ☐ Greatly improved
- ☐ Somewhat improved
- ☐ Stayed the same (positive)
- ☐ Stayed the same (negative)
- ☐ Somewhat worsened
- ☐ Greatly worsened

## Demographics and Conclusion

Q39. Your year of birth:

Q40. You identify as:

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐  Prefer to self-identify
- ☐ Prefer not to say

## Q41. 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.

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

- ☐ I would like to be entered in the prize drawing.
- ☐ I would be willing to participate in future surveys or focus groups related to library ebooks.

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