



Enhancing Efficiency in Course Evaluations

FALL 2024: Transitioning to Blue, by Explorance

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ILLINOIS TECH

Center for Learning Innovation

Overview

A background graphic featuring a white line graph with three data points on a dark blue background. The graph is overlaid on a grid of vertical and horizontal lines. A numerical value '289.33' is visible in the background.

Phase 1: End of Course (EoC) course evaluations for Fall 2024
(Develop, Launch, Deliver Reports)

Phase 2: Mid-term and EoC course evaluations for Spring 2025
(Develop, Launch, Deliver Dashboards)

Recent progress

Phase 1 implementation
Admin training, data configuration
Survey building, distribution
Reports building, distribution

Challenges

Uniform dates
Consistent Source Data (Banner fields)
Project Timeline

Project Team

Center for Learning Innovation

- Norma Scagnoli, nscagnoli@iit.edu, Vice Provost for Learning Innovation
- Lauren Woods, lwoods1@iit.edu, Managing Director, Center for Learning Innovation
- Chuck Scott, scott@iit.edu, IIT Online Student Services Manager
- Khashayar Vafaiifakhr, kvafaiifakhr@iit.edu, LMS Administrator
- Kelly Roark, kroark@iit.edu, Director of Educational Technology

Office of Technology Services

- Molly McDermott, mcdermott@iit.edu, Senior Project Manager, PMO
- Tim Batson, tbatson@iit.edu, Manager, Enterprise Solutions and Integrations

Enrollment Services

- Abby McGrath, amcgrat1@iit.edu, AVP, Enrollment Services



Project Description & Goals

Establish a new course evaluation and reporting system, standardize core questions and reporting across the institution by replacing Qualtrics with "Blue" by Explorance. Key components: Automation, Integration, and Reports

- Replicate Qualtrics functionality for course evals
 - Integrate with Banner (e.g., automate faculty, course, and students lists from live system)
 - Deliver an intuitive dashboard for faculty and faculty admins
 - Host survey link in Canvas to make it easily accessible to students
 - Automate reporting
 - Allow colleges/depts to customize their evals and add questions
 - Long-term goal: scale-up course eval questions to other programs
-



Previous Limitations

- No system for question uniformity **across all colleges**
 - Excluded from Qualtrics surveys: ID, Kent; Coursera used Qualtrics, but not in the same way
 - Different scales
 - Colleges / departments need for their own/additional questions
 - Qualtrics not easily accessible for individual reports
 - Limited user accounts
 - Unsustainable system: One person managed process for Mies campus: delivering survey, support desk for faculty, running reports
 - Previous evaluation systems & processes
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Why use Blue?

- **Canvas Integration:** Students and instructors can access evaluations in Canvas and the Illinois Tech Portal
- **Automation:** Evaluations and reports can be scheduled to be sent at different times
- **Response Analytics:** Real-time survey response analytics can be used to increase participation
- **Uses university data:** syncs with Banner to import faculty and courses
- **Robust and customizable reporting features:** Reporting dashboards will allow faculty and administrators to compare data between semesters and years (TBD once we can compare between semesters)

Why use Blue

ILLINOIS TECH Search...

Home Tasks Bookmarks NS

NS

Norma Scagnoli

Say something about yourself...

MY BOOKMARKS

No bookmarked items

Quickly access bookmarked items

Blue dashboard

Consult the independent analysis tool to identify meaningful, continuous improvement opportunities.

[View your dashboard](#)

explorance

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TASK PROGRESS

Nothing to do right now

You will be notified as soon as a new task is assigned to you.

MY ACTIVE TASKS

Nothing to do here

You are all caught up! We'll notify you when you've got new tasks to complete.

MY REPORTS

Individual Instructor Report Fall 2024 for Hardware & OS Foundations II ITM-706-02 - 202510 (Norma Scagnoli) Individual Instructor Report Fall 2024	Made available on 2024-12-16	...
Departmental Report Fall 2024 for Undergraduate Education Departmental Report Fall 2024	Made available on 2024-12-16	...
Departmental Report Fall 2024 for Social Sciences Departmental Report Fall 2024	Made available on 2024-12-16	...
Departmental Report Fall 2024 for Psychology		

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End of Term Course Evaluations Fall 2024
Individual Instructor Report Fall 2024 for Hardware & OS Foundations II ITM-706-02 - 202510 (Norma Scagnoli)

Created Monday, December 23, 2024

Courses/Audience: 18
Responses Received: 5
Response Rate: 27.8%

Downloads

[Download PDF](#)

This individual course report includes all responses and student comments. There is a box or bar chart for each question. Note that some individual reports may include additional questions specific to colleges or programs.

Course Questions

Competency Statement	Value
Mean	3.75
Standard Deviation	0.64

1. The class meeting began and ended on time.

Competency Statement	Value
Mean	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.82

2. I could hear/see the lecture material clearly.

Competency Statement	Value
Mean	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.82

3. Assignments, activities and exams reflected the material covered in the course.

Competency Statement	Value
Mean	3.50
Standard Deviation	0.58

4. The teaching approach used engaging (e.g., encouraged class participation and/or active learning) or related course material to "real world" situations.

Competency Statement	Value
Mean	2.80
Standard Deviation	0.81

Please use this space to elaborate on any of the above questions about the course.

Comments

I need to do additional research and independent study to understand some topics.

Instructor Questions

Competency Statement	Value
Mean	3.50
Standard Deviation	0.58

Objectives

"This project will be a success if/when..."

- Reports for all courses are automated, with the correct populations receiving the correct kind of report
- There are predetermined schedules for Evaluations and Reports that carry to future semesters
- Spring evaluations use logic for scheduling
- More students participate in evaluations
- Faculty get meaningful data on their courses
- Data can be compared across all colleges for leadership



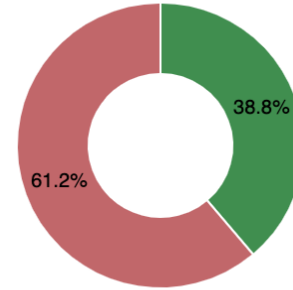
Current Status

Statistics 38.8% response

- 31,271 Evaluations sent
- 12,144 Completed

Faculty Satisfaction Survey <https://forms.office.com/r/WsPGinBcFk>

- Overall satisfaction rating 4 out of 5
- 14/19 said it was very easy or somewhat easy to use
- "I am happy that we have this available to the faculty."
- "I hope the system will have the ability to display trends over time." (it will starting this semester)



Include Deleted Tasks

Notifications

Select All

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed	38.8% (12144)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expired	61.2% (19127)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Was In Progress	0.4% (130)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Was Not Completed	60.7% (18997)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Timeline

Milestone	Dates estimates
✓ Project Kick-off with Project Management Office	September 2024
✓ Project planning: installation, loading data, compiling surveys, building surveys, testing, communication, etc.	September- mid-December
✓ Fall 2024 EoC reports sent*	Monday, December 16 (Dec 23, others/late grades; Jan 17 Law)
Send Spring 2025 midterm evaluations	Mon, February 24, 2025
Send Spring 2025 midterm reports	Mon, March 17, 2025
Send Spring EoC evaluations	Sun, April 6, 2025 (open for 3 weeks)
Send Spring EoC reports	Mon, May 19 for most (Tue, May 27 for others/late grades)
Training and Communications for using Reporting Dashboards (to compare data across semesters)	March-May 2025
Project Close-out	End of May 2025

Challenges

Implementation Time

No time to do a pilot or to check features in depth

Technology takes time for planning, design and assessment before full implementation. Rushing into a new system without time to pilot has risks.

Variations

- Start and end dates
- Course length
- Exam dates
- Course grading due dates
- Preference for when students start and complete evaluations

Institutional Data

The information shared in Banner by all units

TA roles and statuses (grader, support, instructor)

Integration of Past Survey Data

Transfer from Qualtrics (and other past systems)

Course Selection

Which courses are included or excluded? (i,e, ROTC)

Some variations depended on course name

EoC by Units

Every units collect their own data

Little sharing between units

Lack of uniformity in faculty evaluations



Key factors to successful implementation

- Leadership support
 - Dedicated PM from PMO
 - Thorough planning even in short timeframe
 - Teamwork & communication
 - Input and collaboration from colleges that used different systems and questions to merge with the Core questions
 - Providing documentation/resources for faculty
<https://www.iit.edu/cli/faculty-resources/faculty-development/student-course-evaluations>
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Summary | How can you support this work?

- Encourage user adoption among faculty and students
- Consider conditioning student evaluation completion before viewing grades for higher student response rates
- Let team know how you would like to use data as instructors, as departments; team can meet your needs
- Please complete our survey!
<https://forms.office.com/r/WsPGinBcFk>
- Think about how you will use your data to enhance the student experience