

**STUDY ON FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE THE INTERNET  
USAGE OF UNDERGRADUATES IN THE EDUCATIONAL  
ACTIVITIES, SPECIAL REFERENCE TO EASTERN  
UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA.**



**SINNATHAMBY PRASHANTH**



**DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT  
FACULTY OF COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT  
EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA**

**2010**

## ABSTRACT

The research study has intended the title; "Study on factors that influence internet usage of undergraduates in the educational activities at eastern University, Sri Lanka" this research was carried out of the reason for most of student's internet usage and online learning are poor. This study tried to find out the reason for that in which some of the students are very good in internet usage.

Use of computers and the Internet has been associated with improvements in student's education and everyday lives. Since these technologies have the potential to improve access to information, to help get tasks done better or more quickly, and to facilitate communication, computer and Internet use rates are indicators of the standard of living. Since the use of computers helps students gain computer literacy, use rates may indicate how well prepared the current generation of students will be to face the future.

This study has done by using seven established variable namely; a) Resource Availability b) Time Management c) Competency d) control and Maintenance e) Usage f) Motivation. The main objectives of this survey are to explore the level of influence of factor into the student' performance and find out level of influence in terms of age, gender, year and faculty.

The study is based on the information collected from 200 samples in the Eastern University, Sri Lanka. The responses were obtained through interview, structured questionnaires. It was analyzed through SPSS package. The results are illustrated by table. According to the survey the finding indicated that the factors had a moderate level influence in the educational performance. It will motivate the students to take fullest interest in online learning activity.

I hope this research will be helpful to increase the number of students and effectiveness in learning at Eastern University and also I have given the recommendations to maximize the deciding factors in positive way to eradicate the problem such as implementing the "Acceptable Use Policies" for Internet Use (AUP).

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement	I
Abstract	II
Contents	III
List of Tables	VII
List of Figures	VIII

## CHAPTER 01: INTRODUCTION

## PAGE NO

1.1 Background of the study	1
1.2 Statement of the problem	3
1.3 Research Questions	4
1.4 Objective of the study	5
1.5 Significant of the study	5
1.6 Scope of the study	6
1.7. Methodology	7
1.8 Limitations	7
1.8 Assumptions	7
1.9 Summary	8

## CHAPTER 02: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introducing the Internet	9
2.2 Description of internet	9
2.2.1 From a social point of view	9
2.2.2 From a practical, recreational, or commercial point of view	10
2.2.3 From the technical point of view	10
2.3 How does the Internet Work	11
2.4 Why do we need the internet	14
2.5 Core Courses at Eastern University	15
2.6 Why is the Internet so Important	16
2.7 The Internet's Significant Impact on Education	18
2.8 Influence of Internet on the Education System	21

2.8 Typical Goals of Online Students	24
2.9 Who is the Right Student for Online Education?	26
2.10 What the Internet Does Not Do	30
2.11 The World without Internet	31
2.12 Advantages and Disadvantages of Online Learning: Is It the Right Choice for You?	32
2.13 The Impact of the Internet in Our Daily Lives	37
2.14 Summary	38

## **CHAPTER 03: CONCEPTUALIZATION FRAMEWORK AND OPERATIONALIZATION**

3.1 Introduction	39
3.2 Conceptualization	39
3.3 Conceptual Framework	39
3.3.1 Student Competency	41
3.3.2 Time Management	41
3.3.3 Control and Maintenance Management	42
3.3.4 Availability of resources	43
3.3.5 Usage	43
3.3.5 Motivation	44
3.3.6 Syllabus	44
3.4 Operationalization	45
3.5 Summary	46

## **CHAPTER 04: METHODOLOGY**

4.1 Introduction	47
4.2 Study Setting, Design type of data and method of survey	47
4.3 Population and Sampling	48
4.4 Method of Data Collection	49
4.4.1 Primary data	49
4.4.2 Secondary data	49
4.5 Questionnaire	49
4.6 Method of Data Evaluation	51



4.7 Method of Data Analysis	53
4.8 Summary	53

## **CHAPTER 05: DATA PRESETATION AND ANALYSIS**

5.1 Introduction	54
5.2 Personal Information	55
5.2.1 Age	55
5.2.2 Gender	55
5.2.3 Academic Year	56
5.2.4 Faculty	56
5.2.5 Spend with computer per day	57
5.3 Research Information	58
5.3.1 Resource Availability	59
5.3.2 Time Management	60
5.3.3 Competency	61
5.3.4 Control and Maintenance	63
5.3.5 Syllabus	64
5.3.6 Usage	68
5.3.7 Motivation	68
5.4 Cross Tabulation	69
5.5.1 Age	69
5.5.2 Gender	70
5.5.3 Academic Year	71
5.5.4 Faculty	72
5.5.5 Time spend with computer per day	73
5.4 Summary	74

## **CHAPTER -06 DISCUSSIONS**

6.1 Introduction	75
6.2 Discussion on Personal Information	75
6.2.1 Age distribution	75
6.2.2 Gender	75

6.2.3 Academic Year Distribution	76
6.2.4 Faculty Distribution	76
6.2.5 Time Spend with Computer per Day	77
6.3 Discussion on Research Information	77
6.3.1 Resource Availability	77
6.3.2 Time Management	78
6.3.3 Competency	79
6.3.4 Control and Maintenance	80
6.3.5 Syllabus	81
6.3.6 Usage	81
6.3.7 Motivation	82
6.3.8 Summary	83

## CHAPTER 07 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Conclusions	84
7.2 Recommendations	85
7.2.1 Recommendation to the Students	85
7.2.2 Recommendations to the CICT	86
7.2.3 Recommendations to the Parents	87
7.2.4 Recommendations to the all Faculties	87
7.3 Recommendations to CICT to maintain below policy	88
7.3.1 "Acceptable Use Policies" for Internet Use (AUP)	88
7.3.2 In addition, an AUP should:	89
7.4 Implication	90
7.4 Summary	91
Reference	I-II
Appendix- Questionnaire	III-V