

Online Student Evaluations of Teaching Update – Fall 2019

By Fall 2019, approximately 70% of classes at UMaine had adopted online student evaluations of teaching using the Blue system. This newsletter summarizes the response rate and student interaction data obtained from Blue.



Help us improve response rates by completing [THIS](#) short survey!

Overall Student Response Rates for Fall 2019

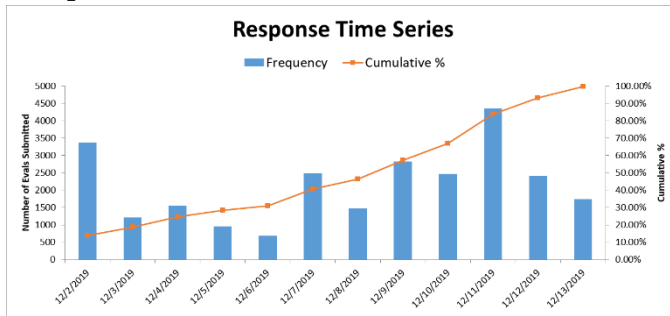
Number of class sections using Blue: **1847**
 Class Section Response Rates: **Mean: 53.7%,**
Median: 50.0%, Std Dev: 21.7%

Mean undergrad response rates were around 50% while graduate rates were a bit higher at 64%. Although lower than typical paper evaluation response rates, these rates are on par with online rates at other institutions. UMaine encourages providing in-class time for completion of evaluations, something that other institutions have found to be effective for increasing response rates.¹

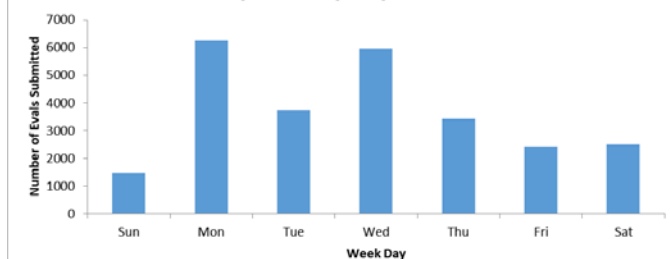
Response Rates By Course Level

	Mean	Median	Std Dev	# of Sections
100	51.1%	50.0%	19.9%	666
200	49.5%	48.0%	18.5%	283
300	53.4%	52.4%	22.2%	292
400	52.3%	50.0%	21.6%	273
Graduate	64.0%	62.5%	24.2%	333

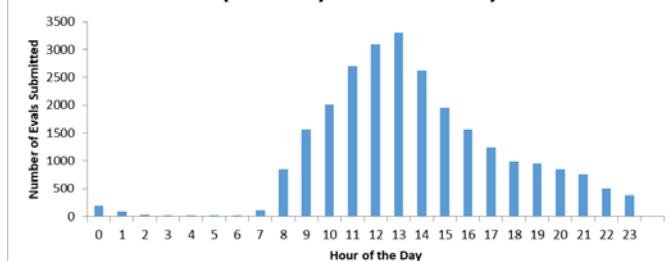
Responses Over Time



Responses by Day of Week



Responses by Hour of the Day



Labs, recitations and clinical courses had lower mean response rates than other course types.

Response Rates By Course Component

	Mean	Median	Std Dev	# of Sections
Clinical	44.3%	38.0%	21.3%	34
Field Experience	56.3%	55.6%	19.2%	30
Independent	71.7%	83.3%	30.4%	22
Lab	51.7%	50.0%	21.1%	309
Lecture	54.3%	51.4%	21.3%	1138
Music	44.4%	43.8%	20.1%	25
Recitation	48.6%	47.4%	20.7%	121
Research	56.7%	54.1%	28.4%	24
Seminar	56.4%	55.0%	21.4%	117
Thesis	65.6%	50.0%	30.4%	21

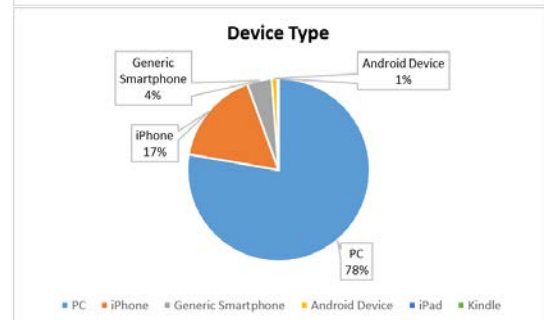
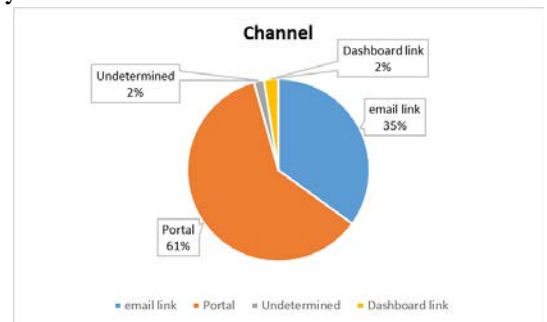
In-person courses had better mean response rates than web-based courses.

Response Rates By Instructional Mode

	Mean	Median	Std Dev	# of Sections
Blended	44.0%	45.7%	13.7%	15
In-Person	54.7%	52.2%	21.7%	1607
Video Conf.	56.7%	50.0%	23.4%	7
Web	47.0%	43.4%	21.1%	218

Most students accessed their surveys via the Blue portal on their computers (not cell phones).

Ways Students Accessed Blue



¹Kuch, F., Roberts, R. (2018) Electronic in-class course evaluations and future directions. *Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education*, 44(5), 726-731.

Young, K., Joines, J., Standish, T., & Gallagher, V. (2018). Student evaluations of teaching: the impact of faculty procedures on response rates. *Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education*, 44(1), 37-49.