



Call for Data Inclusion Empirical Analysis of Learning Outcomes

Background

The Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Initiative seeks to codify any and all empirical studies on the effectiveness (positive or negative) of Web-based instruction (WBI). Web-based training, Web-based instruction, online learning, and e-learning are all terms that describe training and education, which is delivered via the World Wide Web. Studies from all sectors—government, industry, and academia—are sought.

ADL, in conjunction with the University of Tulsa, is conducting a meta-analysis to substantiate evidence on the instructional effectiveness of Web-based training or instruction. Thus far, 110 studies have been identified, primarily from academic journals and government reports. For a completed list of the current inventory, see www.adlnet.org.

The purpose of this call is to request publications we may have overlooked, including pilot data, unpublished papers or data sets that evaluate the effectiveness of Web-based instruction. Unpublished papers or data sets may include presentations at national or local conferences.

Project Goals

- Compare the effectiveness of WBI or blends of WBI to Instructor-led, classroom training, traditional computer-assisted training, or a no training control group
- Assess changes in knowledge, skills, performance, behaviors or attitudes before and after participation in WBI
- Assess reactions to (e.g., satisfaction with) learning from Web-based courses

Inclusion Criteria

To be included in our meta-analysis:

1. Papers must include descriptive statistics (i.e., means and standard deviations) for measures of either:
 - Learning – may include knowledge tests, task performance, behaviors or attitudinal change
 - Reactions to training – may include overall satisfaction, perceived utility, affective reactions, satisfaction with materials, satisfaction with the instructor, or other reactions to the training experience
2. Participants in training must be adults (age 18+) who were trained on job-related knowledge or skills or attending a college or vocational class.
3. Papers can include studies with quasi-experimental designs or pre-/post-test comparisons.
4. The study need not be reported in English.
5. Please attach a statement giving permission to ADL to include your data in the final study for public release.

Note: Findings from individual studies will not be reported. Empirical results will be merged, a meta-analysis will be conducted, and overall effect-sizes will be reported.

Contact Information

If you would like to contribute an empirical study to our meta-analysis or receive a copy of our results, please:

- E-mail: study@adlnet.org
- Mail: ATTN: Traci Sitzmann, Department of Psychology, University of Tulsa, 600 South College Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74104

Miscellaneous

- The attached Word document contains all papers and data received to date.
- This is a recurring analysis. If you are planning a study in the future, please consider including it in the ADL meta-analysis. A preliminary report will be available on www.adlnet.org on **August 1, 2004**.