

Computer Science Students' Writing and Oral Communication Skills Survey

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE A SURVEY: Informed Consent Form

Dear Student,

Students in rural schools are often missing soft skills when they enter college and the workforce. Lack of effective communication skills -whether in terms of effectively giving instructions to others, writing clear memos and e-mail messages, or negotiating everyday conflicts impacts their ability to thrive and excel in a work setting. The purpose of this study is to identify writing and communication challenges (past and present) as a computer science student and aspiring cybersecurity professional.

You are eligible to participate in this study because you are enrolled in a Computer Science course. Participation will require approximately 5 minutes of your time to complete a survey. The time you spend will be a good investment. The findings of this study and funds provided by the National Security Association will be used to develop tutoring services to meet the needs you identify. No foreseeable risks are associated with this study.

By participating, you affirm that you are at least 18 years old. You are free to decide not to participate in this study or to withdraw at any time by closing the browser and exiting out of the survey. Your decision will not result in any loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. The information you provide will be anonymous and will have no bearing on the services you receive from the University. Your decision to participate will not be known to COSC Instructors and your decision will have no effect on your grades in any IUP courses. Your response will be considered only in combination with those from other participants. If the information obtained in the study is published in scientific journals or presented at scientific meetings your identity will be kept strictly confidential. Data will be maintained for three years to meet federal regulations.

Your opinion matters!

<p>Research Team Members: Ms. Jennifer Baggett, Ms. Krista Sarraf & Alex Ashcom Indiana University of Pennsylvania Davis 307, 570 South Eleventh Street Indiana, PA 15705 Phone: 724/357-2400 Email address: z.hu@iup.edu</p>	<p>Principal Investigator/ Faculty Advisor: Dr. Crystal Machado Associate Professor Indiana University of Pennsylvania Davis 307, 570 South Eleventh Street Indiana, PA 15705 Phone: 724/357-2400 Email address: cmachado@iup.edu</p>
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This project has been approved by the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects (Phone: 724/357-7730).

By Clicking "Next" you agree to participate in the survey.

A: General Questions

1. Computer Science Students' Writing and Oral Communication Skills Survey

2. The Course Number of this class

3. I am a

Freshman

Sophomore

Junior

Senior

4. Please indicate which gender you identify with.

Male

Female

Other

Prefer not to say

5. I am

a native speaker of English

a non-native speaker of English

6. I am

monolingual

bilingual

multilingual

7. My major is:

8. I am considering the following careers in the future:

B: Technical Question

9. List the courses that you took in high school that were most helpful for you as a computer science student.

10. Which courses would you have liked to have taken in high school to increase your chances of success as a computer science student/professional?

11. Please indicate how important the following courses are, in terms of success as a computer science student/professional.

	Not important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Databases, Operating Systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Computer Networks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Software Engineering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

C: Attitude towards Writing and Communication Skills

12. Please indicate the degree to which you disagree or agree with the following statements.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Good writing skills are essential for success as a computer science/ cybersecurity student and professional	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Good oral skills are essential for success as a computer science/ cybersecurity student and professional.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. Please indicate the degree to which you disagree or agree with the following statements.

	Not Applicable	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Slightly disagree	Slightly agree	Agree	Strongly agree
People who have read my writing (co-workers, teachers, professors etc.) say my writing is clear.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I write effectively for people with technical knowledge about my field.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I write effectively for people without technical knowledge of my field.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I find it relatively easy to use information from sources in my writing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I use proofreading techniques to ensure that my work has no errors.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People tell me I create effective visual aids (for example, PowerPoints) for oral presentations.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People who have heard me give speeches and oral presentations say my delivery is effective.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I seek feedback about drafts of my writing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I use feedback to improve my writing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. In the last year I have used the following resources to improve my writing.

	No	Yes
online resources (like YouTube clips, websites etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
proofreading programs like Grammarly, PaperRater, After The Deadline, OnlineCorrection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
friends/peers/ family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	No	Yes
professors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I do not need help with my writing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15. In the last year, how many times have you used the following resources to improve your writing? Please provide a number.

IUP's Writing Center in Eicher Hall

COSM's Writing Tutoring in Stright Hall

IUP's Online Writing Center

Other (Please identify other resources you use)

16. Thank you so much for completing this survey.