OU Mobile VLE: extending the reach of studying through the mobile web

Conference or Workshop Item

How to cite:


For guidance on citations see FAQs.

© 2012 Rhodri Thomas, The Open University

Version: Version of Record

Link(s) to article on publisher’s website:
http://research.moodle.net

Copyright and Moral Rights for the articles on this site are retained by the individual authors and/or other copyright owners. For more information on Open Research Online’s data policy on reuse of materials please consult the policies page.
OU Mobile VLE: extending the reach of studying through the mobile web

- Use of "dead time", mobile use also includes that on sofa
- Mobile phone contracts predominate [from current user sample]
- Usage: Touch phones (up) Smart phone (down), changing bi-yearly
- Assessment [scores] remain a key driver
- More frequent visits via mobile over the 2010 period
- Reading updates and forums are the most completed activity
- Accessing different parts of Study Planner important
- Switching view or mode depending on requirement
- Downloadable resources preferred in standard formats
- OU app for adding multimedia rather than 3rd party/intermediates
- Self-help, FAQ-based and crowd-source online support sufficient for device specifics

Survey taken in October 2010 with n=557 responses, followed up by ongoing feedback

Current usage levels from viral, peer and self-discovery with no publicity.
Longitudinal research will add further qualitative data for evaluation.

What next?
- Extending mobile theme to other access points.
- Realigning subject-based entry points around qualifications.
- Thin-client/HTML5 apps in prototype, including:
  - Tokenised (easier) sign-in, with 2-tier authentication
  - Cached content packages – incl. multimedia and eBooks
  - Mobile services for distance and blended learning
  - Rich media contribution and collaboration

Generic guidance and device-specific peer support