What Students Want

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Abstract

This poster explores the presentational style of teaching material that students claim to like, and contrasts it with their actual preferences when referencing it.

Introduction

This poster explores the presentational style of teaching material that students claim to like, and contrasts it with their actual preferences when referencing it. The author suspects that claimed student preferences for colour and animation will not be sustained when their actual preferences are measured.

Methodology

Students in a computer-based maths course are presented with the same material in two formats: a colourful Powerpoint presentation or boring old Word documents. In both cases the material revises and augments material covered in class, and the content of each is identical, accessed via the intranet. Hit counters are installed.

Near the end of the course, students will be asked which presentation they preferred, and this can be contrasted with their demonstrated preferences on the intranet.

Individual student selections are not being monitored.

Conclusions

At the time of writing it is not possible to draw even tentative conclusions from available data.