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Putting WebCT to Work in the Library

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Putting WebCT to Work in Libraries



LITA National Forum, 11 October 2001, Milwaukee, WI

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Putting WebCT to Work in Libraries



LITA National Forum, 11 October 2001, Milwaukee, WI

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Putting WebCT to Work in Libraries



Today I will...

- tell you about myself and my Tutorial
- overview WebCT
- overview the WebCT Survey
- talk about WebCT pros and cons
- discuss my WebCT wish-list
- list some course development resources

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Who am I and why am I here?



- University of Central Florida since 1995
- Electronic Resources Librarian
- Previously, a Reference Librarian with instruction duties
- In 1996 saw need for self-paced, JIT library instruction

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The Birth of a Tutorial



- LUISQuest - sign-up, walk-in, mandatory library instruction
- Used by Second Semester English Composition (ENC1102) - *students procrastinate*
- Students needed instruction after last scheduled LUISQuest session

Student need + new librarian + Notepad =
LUISQuest Tutorial

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Meanwhile in Vancouver

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The Birth WebCT

- Murray Goldberg of the University of British Columbia writes programs to help him deliver his classes over the web
- Murray's colleagues want him to help them deliver their courses, too
- Murray is just one guy
- Murray writes WebCT, so non-programmer faculty can deliver web-based classes

Faculty need + Murray =
WebCT

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Things Change

- UCF using WebCT by late 1996
- The LUIS system became WebLUIS
- The LUISQuest tutorial, became the WebLUIS Tutorial
- WebLUIS Tutorial used WebCT evaluation and accountability
- By late 1998 the WebLUIS Tutorial replaced the required in-library sessions

Statistics Don't Lie (I hope)

ENC1102 Use of the WebLUIS Tutorial and Quiz

	Users	Quiz Score
Spring 1999	603	78%
Fall 1999	295	81%
Spring 2000	1053	85%
Fall 2000	434	83%
Spring 2001	904	84%

Only about 1/3 of ENC1102 students use the quiz.

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WebLUIIS Tutorial

WebLUIIS Tutorial

[Connecting to WebLUIIS](#)

What WebLUIIS is, and where and how to connect.

1

2

[Finding Books - The Basics](#)

Using the basic search options.

[Getting Advanced](#)

Techniques to refine your searches, using the Advanced search screen.

3

4

[Finding Articles](#)

How to use WebLUIIS indexes to identify and obtain magazine and journal articles



[Send Comments](#)

...to the author.

Created for the [University of Central Florida Library](#)

Last updated October, 2009

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Tutorial in WebCT (kinda)

On the Library Server

In WebCT

First

[ENC1102 Sections List](#)

Second

[WebCT Login](#)

Third

[WebLUIIS Tutorial Pages](#)

Fourth

[Quiz](#)

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WebCT Features Used

- WebLUIIS Tutorial uses WebCT's:
 - Class roll or gradebook
 - Login/authentication
 - Navigation
 - Quiz and automatic grading
 - Statistics

All the *content* is WebCT independent.

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So much of WebCT goes unused.

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The Good, the Bad, and the WebCT

PROS/
CONS

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- WebCT obviously has something to offer to libraries
- Also has many downsides
- Review some of WebCT's Pros & Cons

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WebCT in Libraries

Thank you for taking a moment to complete the survey. Answer the following 5 questions about your library's use of WebCT. Most of the questions allow you to select multiple answers - select as many as apply. Please add any comments necessary to clarify your choices.

Athena Hoeppe

Electronic Resources Librarian
University of Central Florida Library
Orlando, FL 32816

See [Survey Results](#) as of September 13, 2001

Name

Position

Institution

Email

1. Why did your library choose to use WebCT?

Price

License already available (i.e. campus wide)

Product already in use on campus

Ease of use for instructor/designer

Ease of use for student

Security

Features (i.e. quizzing, glossary, chat, etc.)

Other

2. Does your library use any other software to create and deliver library instruction?

Blackboard

Other

Other

Other

Comments about your choice of WebCT and other software.

3. What instruction or services do you offer in WebCT?

Users/Year

Title:

URL:

Title:

URL:

Title:

URL:

Title:

URL:

4. How would you best describe the instruction and services?

Virtual tour

General library and research concepts

Database or other product instruction

Technology or library competency requirement

Course-based "one-shot" instruction

Credit-bearing course(s).

Course names

Other

Other

Comments about your instruction and services:

5. Which WebCT features do you use?

Quizzing

Graded quizzes/tests

Ungraded self-tests

Automatic quiz/test grading

Essay questions

Random question selection

Surveys

Communication

Discussions/Bulletin Boards

Chat

Email

Course Management

Auto-populate

Syllabus

Grade book

Statistics

Page and usage tracking

Quiz statistics reports

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Glossary

Student groups

Student presentation/work space

Automated design and navigation features

Other

Other

Other

Comments about WebCT features:

Additional comments:

May I contact you for further information?

Yes

No

Would you like to be notified when the survey results are available?

Yes

No

Are any libraries out there?

SURVEY

- I began to wonder if other libraries use more of WebCT
 - How many use WebCT at all
 - What features were in use
 - What innovative uses were being made
- So I created a survey

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Survey Results

11 institutions responded to the 5 question survey. Participants selected anticipated answers with check-boxes, and entered unanticipated answers in their own words. I have placed all unanticipated answers in quotation marks.

1. Why did your library choose to use WebCT?

Price	0
License already available (i.e. campus wide)	8
Product already in use on campus	4
Ease of use for instructor/designer	1
Ease of use for student	1
Security	0
Features (i.e. quizzing, glossary, chat, etc.)	3

2. Does your library use any other software to create and deliver library instruction?

"Power Point"	1
"Internet"	1

3. What instruction or services do you offer in WebCT?

Title	Users/Year
"LIBR1101 Academic Research and the Library"	375
"Will launch LibraryU after Labor Day"	
"Library Skills/ Information Literacy"	
"We're in the planning stages"	
"DELA, the Dalhousie Electronic Library Assistant"	627
"Library 121 - 2 credit distance ed course"	40
"None yet - under development"	
"HUM7104 Research Methods"	100
"Information Literacy tutorial."	1,400

4. How would you best describe the instruction and services?

Virtual tour	1
General library and research concepts	4
Database or other product instruction	4
Technology or library competency requirement	3
Course-based "one-shot" instruction	3
Credit-bearing courses Course Titles: "Academic Research and the Library (LIBR1101)" "Library 121 - Electronic Library Research Skills" "Basic Library Orientation" "Library Science 1" "HUMN7104"	5

"Using the Webpac and DDC"	1
"Electronic Databases and Internet"	1

5. Which WebCT features do you use?

Quizzing	
Graded quizzes/tests	6
Ungraded self-tests	1
Automatic quiz/test grading	4
Essay questions	3
Random question selection	2
Surveys	0
Communication	
Discussions/Bulletin Boards	4
Chat	3
Email	6
Course Management	
Auto-populate	1
Syllabus	5
Grade book	2
Statistics	
Page and usage tracking	6
Quiz statistics reports	5
Miscellaneous	
Calendar	5
Glossary	4
Student groups	0
Student presentation/work space	0
Automated design and navigation features	5

About the WebLUIIS Tutorial

TUTORIAL

- Introduction to the OPAC
- Introduction to searching indexes
- Basic search techniques
 - Search fields & terms
 - Boolean, truncation, proximity
- Modular and includes a quiz

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URLs

Open* Library Instruction in WebCT

WebLUIIS Tutorial	http://library.ucf.edu/Tutorial
LibraryU	http://www.LibraryU.org
DELA, the Dalhousie Electronic Library Assistant	http://webct.dal.ca/public/library/index.html
Library 121	http://www.lib.montana.edu/~alivy/modules.html
Postgraduate Studies in Education: Information Skills Program	http://webct.library.uq.edu.au:8900/public/distmed/index.html
CygNET: Information Skills Courses Online	http://www.library.uwa.edu.au/training/online.html
University of Calgary: Library Tutorials	http://www.ucalgary.ca/library/linc/webct.html

**These tutorials are open in the sense that anyone can see the contents of the tutorial.*

About WebCT and Other Course Development Software

WebCT's Home	http://www.webct.com/
Online Educational Delivery Applications	http://www.ctt.bc.ca/landonline

Presentation Links

Putting WebCT to Work in the Library	http://library.ucf.edu/Presentations/LITA
WebCT Survey	No longer available

WebCT Features

- WebCT is a full featured course development tool
- Designed with semester-length classes in mind
- Includes tools for:
 - Course organization (*syllabus, calendar*)
 - Content arrangement and delivery (*modules*)
 - Communication (*email, forums, chat*)
 - Assessment (*quizzes, assignments*)
 - Class work (*whiteboard, presentation space*)
 - Study tools (*progress tracking, notes*)
 - [More](#)

All I want for WebCT...

WISHES

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- Variable authentication scheme
 - Set account creation option by course (like in versions 1.x and 2.x)
 - Make MyWebCT optional
 - Would allow greater use of Tutorials, chat, forums, reading rooms

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How much would you pay now?

- WebCT's functions are very popular
 - Used by 2218 institutions worldwide
 - 1338 institution in USA (about 50% of market)
 - 135 in Canada (about 66% of market)
- Price varies greatly
 - Low: \$500 per institution in a consortia
 - High: \$4000 per institution
 - Other charges for additional services.

Where are the Libraries?

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WebCT Survey

(can you say "unscientific"?)

- Created a simple 5 question survey
- Posted on the web, with check-box answers
- Announced on:
 - BI-L
 - NETTRAIN
 - Web4Lib
 - WebCT Users
- Waited with bated breath

Survey Participants

Institution	Instruction	Users/Yr
Dalhousie University	DELA	627
Fairfield University	In progress	
Montana State University	Library 121	40
Passaic County Community College	Library Skills	
Potomac State College	Library Science 1	
Southern Methodist University	HUM7104 Res. Methods	100
State University of West Georgia	LIBR1101	375
Suburban Library System	LibraryU	
Technikon Pretoria	In progress	
University of Central Florida	WebLUIS Tutorial	1,300
University of Wisconsin-Parkside	Info Literacy Tutorial	1,400

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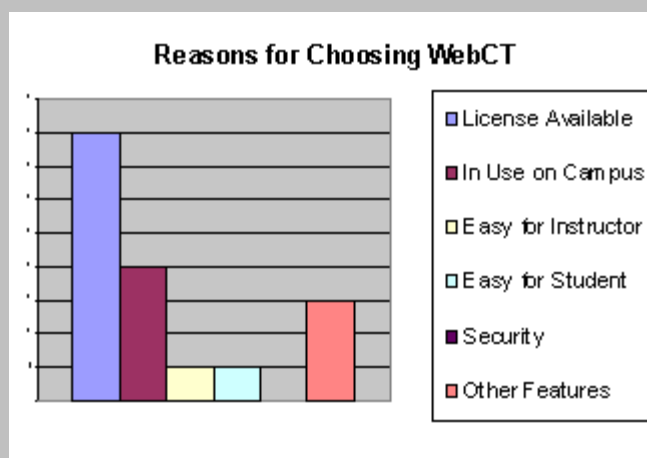
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Survey Questions

1. Why did your library choose to use WebCT?
2. Does your library use any other software to create and deliver library instruction?
3. What instruction or services do you offer in WebCT?
4. How would you best describe the instruction and services?
5. Which WebCT features do you use?

Survey Says...

Why did your library choose to use WebCT?



Survey Says...

Why did your library choose to use WebCT?

License already available (i.e. campus wide)	8
Product already in use on campus	4
Features (i.e. quizzing, glossary, chat, etc.)	3
Ease of use for instructor/designer	1
Ease of use for student	1

- Overwhelming reasons: because it was there
- Not selected because features matched need

Survey Says...

Does your library use other software to create and deliver library instruction?

"Power Point"	1
"Internet"	1

No other course development software mentioned

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Survey Says...

What instruction or services do you offer in WebCT?

Title	Users/Year
"LIBR1101 Academic Research and the Library"	375
"Will launch LibraryU after Labor Day"	
"Library Skills/ Information Literacy"	
"We're in the planning stages"	
"DELA, the Dalhouse Electronic Library Assistant"	627
"Library 121 - 2 credit distance ed course"	40
"None yet - under development"	
"HUM7104 Research Methods"	100
"Information Literacy tutorial."	1,400

Survey Says...

How would you best describe the instruction and services?

Credit-bearing courses	5
General library and research concepts	4
Database or other product instruction	4
Technology or library competency requirement	3
Course-based "one-shot" instruction	3
Virtual tour	1

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Survey Says...

Which WebCT features do you use?

Quizzing	
Graded quizzes/tests	6
Automatic quiz/test grading	4
Essay questions	3
Random question selection	2
Ungraded self-tests	1

Communication	
Email	6
Discussions/Bulletin Boards	4
Chat	3

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Survey Says...

Which WebCT features do you use?

Statistics	
Page and usage tracking	6
Quiz statistics reports	5

Course Management	
Syllabus	5
Grade book	2
Auto-populate	1

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Survey Says...

Which WebCT features do you use?

Miscellaneous	
Automated design and navigation features	5
Calendar	5
Glossary	4

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Some Observations

- WebCT often used for credit courses - Good fit
- Works for tutorials and one-shots
- Other uses still in development
- Most popular features would require programming to recreate
- UCF's experience well within the norm

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Some Innovation?

- No mention of services outside of instruction
 - Reference chat with individuals and groups
 - Forums for Q&A, library assignment discussions, suggestions
- No presence in other online courses
 - Ask a Librarian forums
 - Chat for library instruction to class or groups
 - "Reading Rooms"
 - Loading library modules or quizzes into other courses

Libraries have WebCT by default.

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Pro: *Campus Wide Solution*

- Familiar to campus users
- Someone else handles administration and technical work
- [Support services](#) for faculty
 - *Create course templates*
 - *Teach faculty*
 - *Create manuals and instruction*
- Buy in and acceptance of format
- Lower price to library

Con: Campus Wide Solution

If you're alone:

- Unfamiliar to campus users
- A lot of work is involved and YOU have to do it all!
 - System administration
 - Technical support and work
 - Teaching designers, creating templates
- You have to pay for the software, hardware, personnel

Con: Campus Wide Solution

If you're NOT alone:

You'll do it their way

- System administrators control some options
- URLs and file locations may change
- You must use dictated formats and standards
- Fixes happen according to their priorities

It's important to have a good, close relationship!

Pro: *Flexible*

- WebCT serves up almost any webable format
 - *Videos, sound, ScreenCams, streaming*
 - *PDF, PowerPoint, Word, Excel*
 - *JavaScript, forms, plain ol' HTML*
- Developing compatibility with PALM, PDAs and e-content

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Con: Inflexible

- You'll do it WebCT's way
...or make work arounds
 - Limited layout options
- Barriers to non-standard use
 - Autopopulate / Login problem / [MyWebCT](#)
 - Difficult to move or share content

You'll need to explore and tweak!

Pro: *Full Featured*

- Quizzing, [statistics](#), communication heavily used
 - Provide assessment and accountability demanded by faculty
- Login and [student management](#)
 - Provide security for copyrighted materials, restricted links
 - Automatically tracks student work
- Unused features present untapped potential

Con: Too Many Features (and where are they anyway?)

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- Steep learning curve
- Do you speak my [jargon](#) (PDF from UCF CDWS)?
- Difficult to find the features in [design options](#)
- Difficult to navigate for students and designers

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Pro: Defacto Standard

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- Frequent references to *"course development software, such as WebCT"*
- Transfer students may already know it
- Incoming faculty may already know it
- Wont go out of business next year (we hope)

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Con: Library - What's that?

- WebCT seems confused about what a library is
 - Marketing of Questia
 - Push online texts
 - Confusing use of Library on WebCT.com pages
 - No effort to incorporate university library resources

Oh, I also want...

- Facilitate content sharing
 - Quizzes should be portable
 - Modules should be portable
 - Several courses should be able to use to content and tools maintained in one place

And, puleeze...

. Link to the Library

- Create an administrator function to set the Library URL(s)
- Make a Reading Room tool
- Stop marketing Questia >-(

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All I want for Libraries...

- Expand our use of WebCT
- Explore potential of communication tools outside of a course setting
- Explore collaborations with faculty

Your Ideas?

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Resources

Library Instruction and Services in WebCT:

WebLUIIS Tutorial

<http://library.ucf.edu/Tutorial>

LibraryU

<http://www.LibraryU.org>

DELA, the Dalhousie Electronic Library Assistant

<http://webct.dal.ca/public/library/index.html>

Library 121

<http://www.lib.montana.edu/~alivy/modules.html>

Postgraduate Studies in Education: Information Skills Program

<http://webct.library.uq.edu.au:8900/public/distmed/index.html>

CygNET: Information Skills Courses Online

<http://www.library.uwa.edu.au/training/online.html>

University of Calgary: Library Tutorials

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/library/linc/webct.html>

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This Presentation:

<http://library.ucf.edu/Presentations/LITA>

Me:

Athena Hoepfner, athena@mail.ucf.edu

END

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Tools			Utilities			Designer Options
To perform one of the tasks below, click it.			To perform one of the tasks below, click it.			Below are the tools, organizer pages, and content modules that you've added to your course. To modify one of these, click it.
Content Assistant	Update Student View	Add Page or Tool	Manage Files	Manage Course	Change Settings	Modify
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pages/URLs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Organizer Page ◦ Single Page ◦ URL • Contents & Related Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Content Module ◦ Syllabus ◦ Glossary ◦ Index ◦ Calendar ◦ Image Database ◦ CD-ROM ◦ Compile ◦ Search ◦ Resume Course • Communication Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Discussions ◦ Mail ◦ Chat ◦ Whiteboard • Evaluation Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz ◦ Self Test ◦ My Grades ◦ Assignments • Study Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ My Progress ◦ Language ◦ Student Homepages ◦ Student Presentations ◦ Student Tips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload File • Create • Edit • Copy • Move • Rename • Delete • Zip • Unzip • Upper Case • Lower Case • Download 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage Students • Track Students • Manage Presentation Groups • Manage Teaching Assistants • Track Pages • Backup Course • Reset Course • Share Access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor Name • Language: Design View • Language: Student View • Welcome Page • Course Menu • Course Appearance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Page Colors ◦ Background Image ◦ Icon Style ◦ Replace Icon ◦ Hide Left Nav Bar ◦ Show Left Nav Bar ◦ Hit Counter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homepage • Quiz

Putting WebCT to Work in the Library

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Summary

WebCT is the most widely used package online course creation, management, and delivery. Originally designed to help non-technical faculty deliver semester-length courses over the web, WebCT is now used by libraries to deliver various types of library instruction. The University of Central Florida licensed WebCT in 1997, and the Library created the WebLUI Tutorial in WebCT by 1998. To find out how other libraries use WebCT, I created a simple 5-question survey. The responding 11 institutions revealed many similarities in their use of WebCT. The most striking revelation is that the libraries did not specifically select WebCT on its merits - rather, they use it because it was already licensed and in use on campus. The libraries put to use many of WebCT's functions, such as quizzing, communication tools, and statistics gathering. However, it is not ideally suited to library use and has shortcomings when applied to library instruction and services.

Survey Results

11 institutions responded to the 5 question survey. Participants selected anticipated answers with check-boxes, and entered unanticipated answers in their own words. I have placed all unanticipated answers in quotation marks.

1. Why did your library choose to use WebCT?

Price	0
License already available (i.e. campus wide)	8
Product already in use on campus	4
Ease of use for instructor/designer	1
Ease of use for student	1
Security	0
Features (i.e. quizzing, glossary, chat, etc.)	3

2. Does your library use any other software to create and deliver library instruction?

"Power Point"	1
"Internet"	1

3. What instruction or services do you offer in WebCT?

Title	Users/Year
"LIBR1101 Academic Research and the Library"	375
"Will launch LibraryU after Labor Day"	
"Library Skills/ Information Literacy"	
"We're in the planning stages"	
"DELA, the Dalhousie Electronic Library Assistant"	627
"Library 121 - 2 credit distance ed course"	40
"None yet - under development"	

"HUM7104 Research Methods"	100
"Information Literacy tutorial."	1,400

4. How would you best describe the instruction and services?

Virtual tour	1
General library and research concepts	4
Database or other product instruction	4
Technology or library competency requirement	3
Course-based "one-shot" instruction	3
Credit-bearing courses Course Titles: <i>"Academic Research and the Library (LIBR1101)"</i> <i>"Library 121 - Electronic Library Research Skills"</i> <i>"Basic Library Orientation"</i> <i>"Library Science 1"</i> <i>"HUMN7104"</i>	5
"Using the Webpac and DDC"	1
"Electronic Databases and Internet"	1

5. Which WebCT features do you use?

Quizzing	
Graded quizzes/tests	6
Ungraded self-tests	1
Automatic quiz/test grading	4
Essay questions	3
Random question selection	2
Surveys	0
Communication	
Discussions/Bulletin Boards	4
Chat	3
Email	6
Course Management	
Auto-populate	1
Syllabus	5
Grade book	2
Statistics	
Page and usage tracking	6
Quiz statistics reports	5
Miscellaneous	
Calendar	5
Glossary	4
Student groups	0
Student presentation/work space	0

WebLUIIS Tutorial

The WebLUIIS Tutorial is used to teach students some basic library skills - how to search the catalog and selected indexes. All second semester English composition, ENC1102, faculty are asked to assign the tutorial. About 1/3 of the ENC1102 students actually take the tutorial and quiz.

ENC1102 Use of the WebLUIIS Tutorial and Quiz

	Users	Quiz Score
Spring 1999	603	78%
Fall 1999	295	81%
Spring 2000	1053	85%
Fall 2000	434	83%
Spring 2001	904	84%

URLs

Open* Library Instruction in WebCT

WebLUIIS Tutorial	http://library.ucf.edu/Tutorial
LibraryU	http://www.LibraryU.org
DELA, the Dalhousie Electronic Library Assistant	http://webct.dal.ca/public/library/index.html
Library 121	http://www.lib.montana.edu/~alivy/modules.html
Postgraduate Studies in Education: Information Skills Program	http://webct.library.uq.edu.au:8900/public/distmed/index.html
CygNET: Information Skills Courses Online	http://www.library.uwa.edu.au/training/online.html
University of Calgary: Library Tutorials	http://www.ucalgary.ca/library/linc/webct.html

**These tutorials are open in the sense that anyone can see the contents of the tutorial.*

About WebCT and Other Course Development Software

WebCT's Home	http://www.webct.com/
Online Educational Delivery Applications	http://www.ctt.bc.ca/landonline

Presentation Links

Putting WebCT to Work in the Library
WebCT Survey

<http://library.ucf.edu/Presentations/LITA>

No longer available