

# Digital Learning Trends at Canadian Higher Education Institutions:

Finding from the 2022 National Survey of Online and Digital Learning

Contact North | Contact Nord webinar  
January 31, 2023

**Presenter:** Dr. Nicole Johnson, Executive Director, CDLRA



Canadian Digital Learning  
Research Association  
Association canadienne de  
recherche sur la formation en ligne

# Overview



- Categorizing Key terms
- Pandemic Challenges
- Anticipated Trends
- Student Preferences
- Teaching with Technology
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)
- Implications for the Future



# Research Background



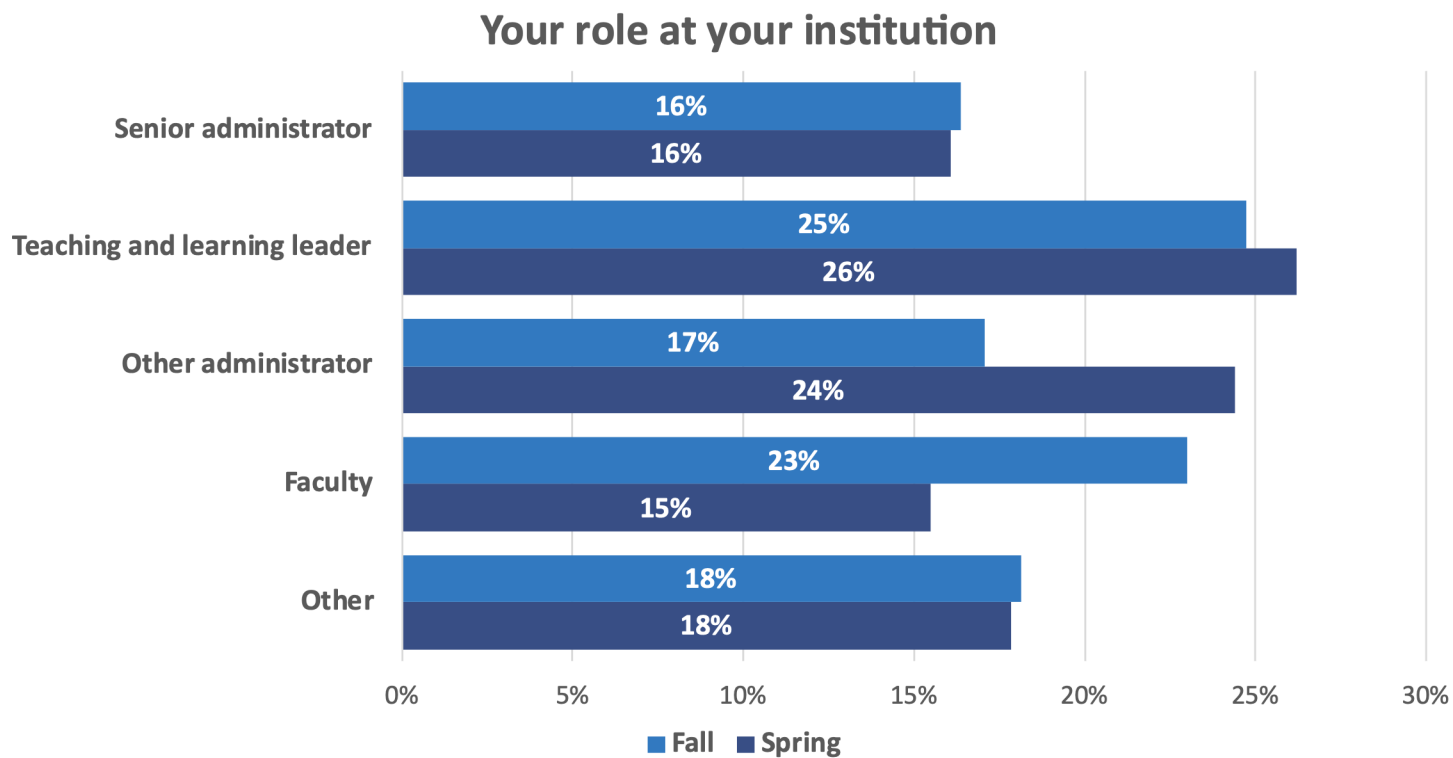
- **Surveys conducted in Spring and Fall 2022**
  - **Spring 2022:** 169 individuals representing 91 different Canadian institutions
  - **Fall 2022:** 287 individuals representing 141 different Canadian institutions

*\*The combined responses from the Spring and Fall rounds of the survey had **456 total individuals representing 163 institutions.***



Canadian Digital Learning  
Research Association  
Association canadienne de  
recherche sur la formation en ligne

# Participants



# Categorizing Key Terms



Definition		
	Canada	USA
ONLINE LEARNING means all instruction and interaction is fully online (synchronous or asynchronous)	90%	91%
HYBRID LEARNING means a blend of online and in-person instruction (online instruction is synchronous or asynchronous)	96%	95%
HYFLEX LEARNING means instruction is available online and in-person and students can move between online and in-person	91%	71%
IN-PERSON LEARNING means all instruction takes place in an in-person setting	88%	92%
SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING means instruction takes place in real-time and requires student presence	99%	96%
ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNING means instruction is available for students to access at a time that works best for them	98%	97%



## Distance Learning (Remote Learning)

### Offline Distance Learning

All instruction is done by correspondence that does not use Internet technologies  
(e.g, print resources sent by mail)

### Online Learning

All classes and/or instructional activities happen online; there is no on-campus requirement  
(synchronous, asynchronous, or a mix of synchronous/asynchronous)

SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE

COMBINED SYNCHRONOUS/ASYNCHRONOUS

ASYNCHRONOUS ONLINE

SELF-PACED ASYNCHRONOUS

EMERGENCY REMOTE LEARNING

MULTI-ACCESS ONLINE

### Hybrid Learning (Blended Learning)

Any mix of online and in-person instruction; online elements may be synchronous or asynchronous)  
(structure of online/in-person mix may follow an instructor prescribed or student-choice model)

FLIPPED CLASSROOM

CO-MODAL LEARNING

MULTI-ACCESS HYBRID

HYFLEX LEARNING

ONLINE INSTRUCTION WITH IN-PERSON PRACTICUM OR INTENSIVE

## In-Person Learning (Face-to-Face Learning, On-Campus Learning)

### In-Person Technology-Supported Learning

All classes take place on campus

(technology is used in teaching and learning; use of digital resources)

A variety of technologies are used to support the learning experience that may include: LMS, office hours by video conference, OER, online homework, online student interaction, recorded lectures, and/or technology use during classroom sessions

### In-Person Non-Digital Learning

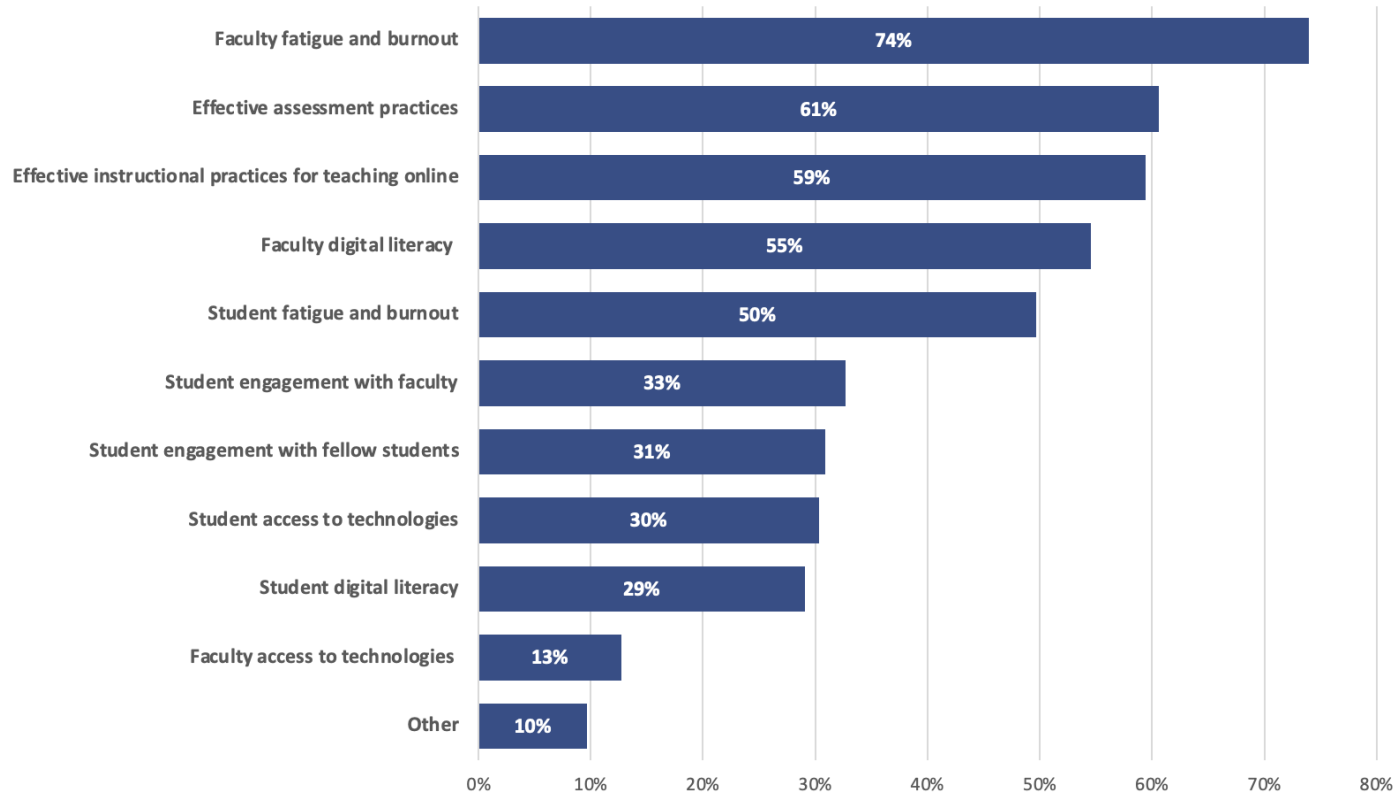
All classes take place on campus

(no technology or digital resources are required to complete coursework)

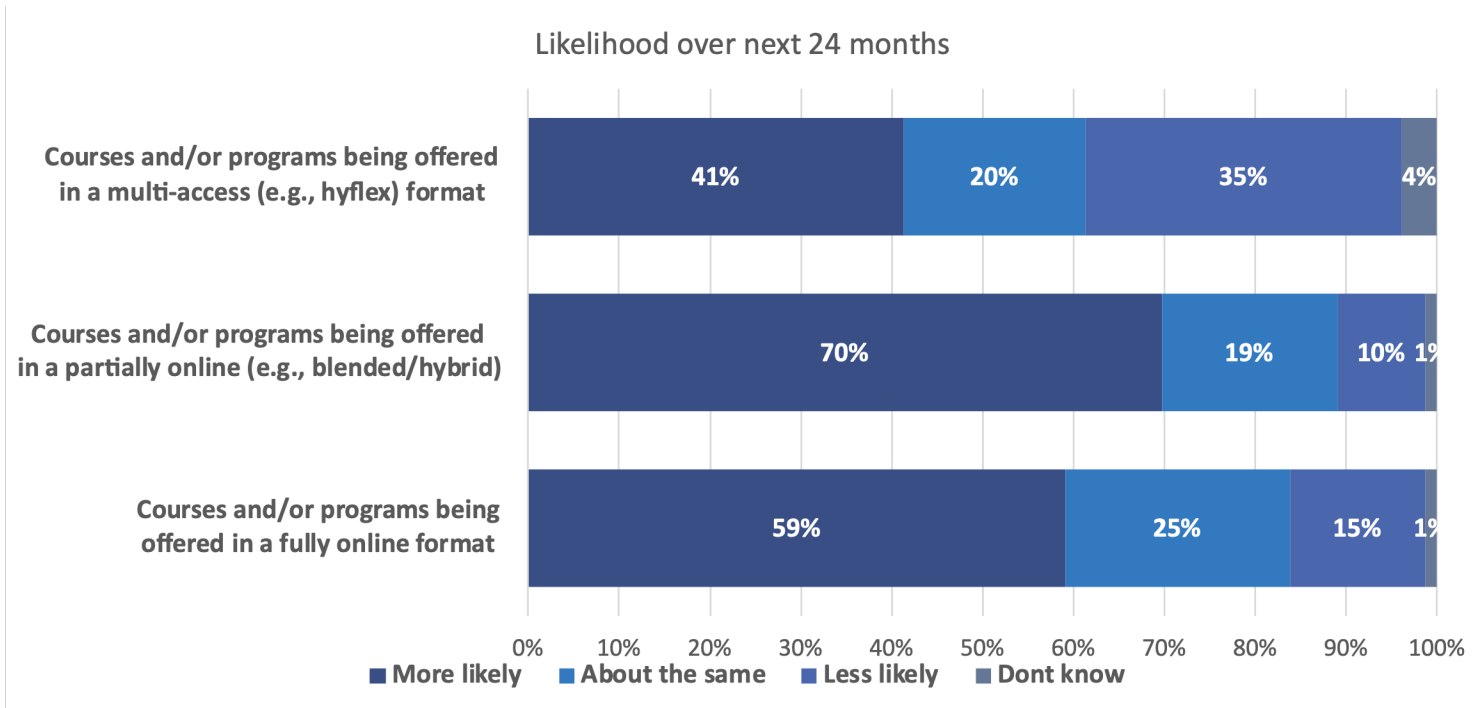
# 2022 Challenges



## What teaching and learning challenges are most pressing?

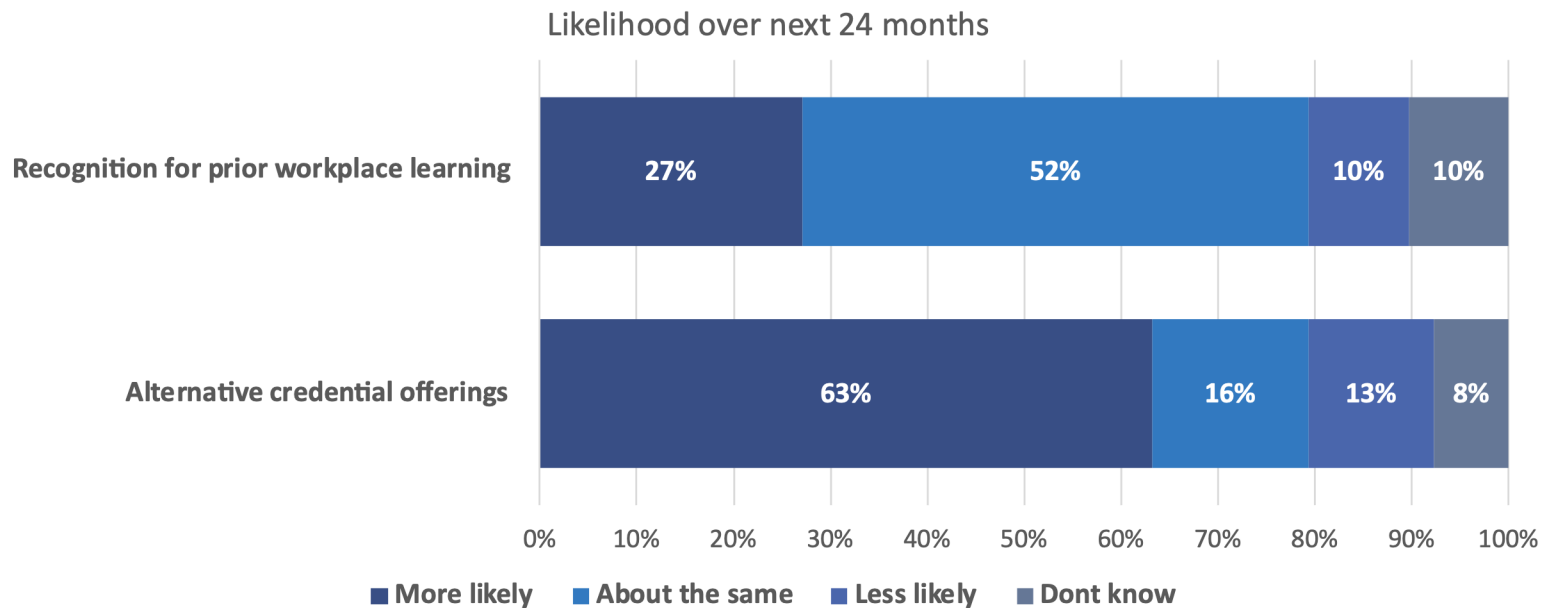


# Anticipated Trends

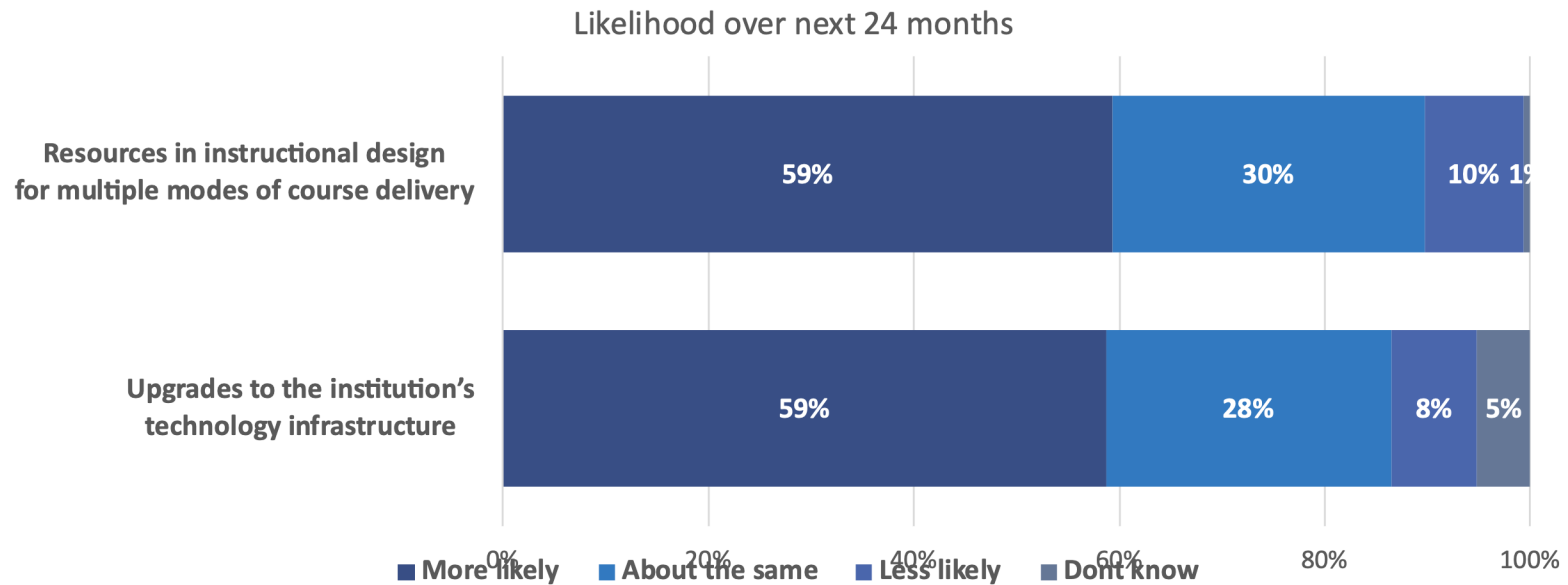




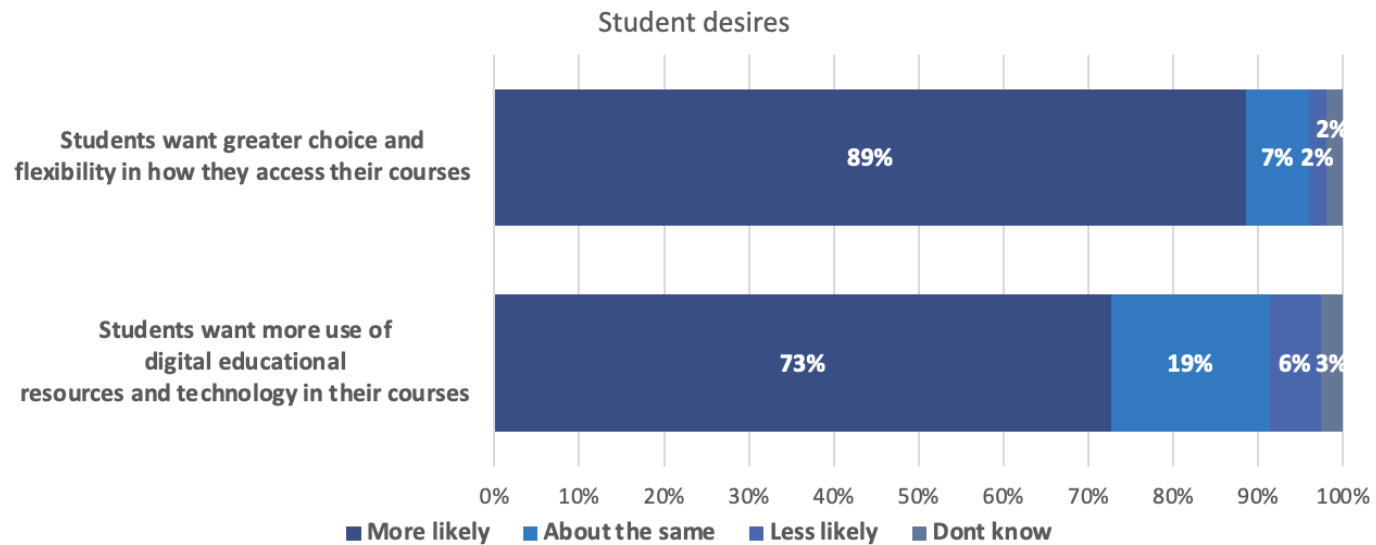
# Anticipated Trends



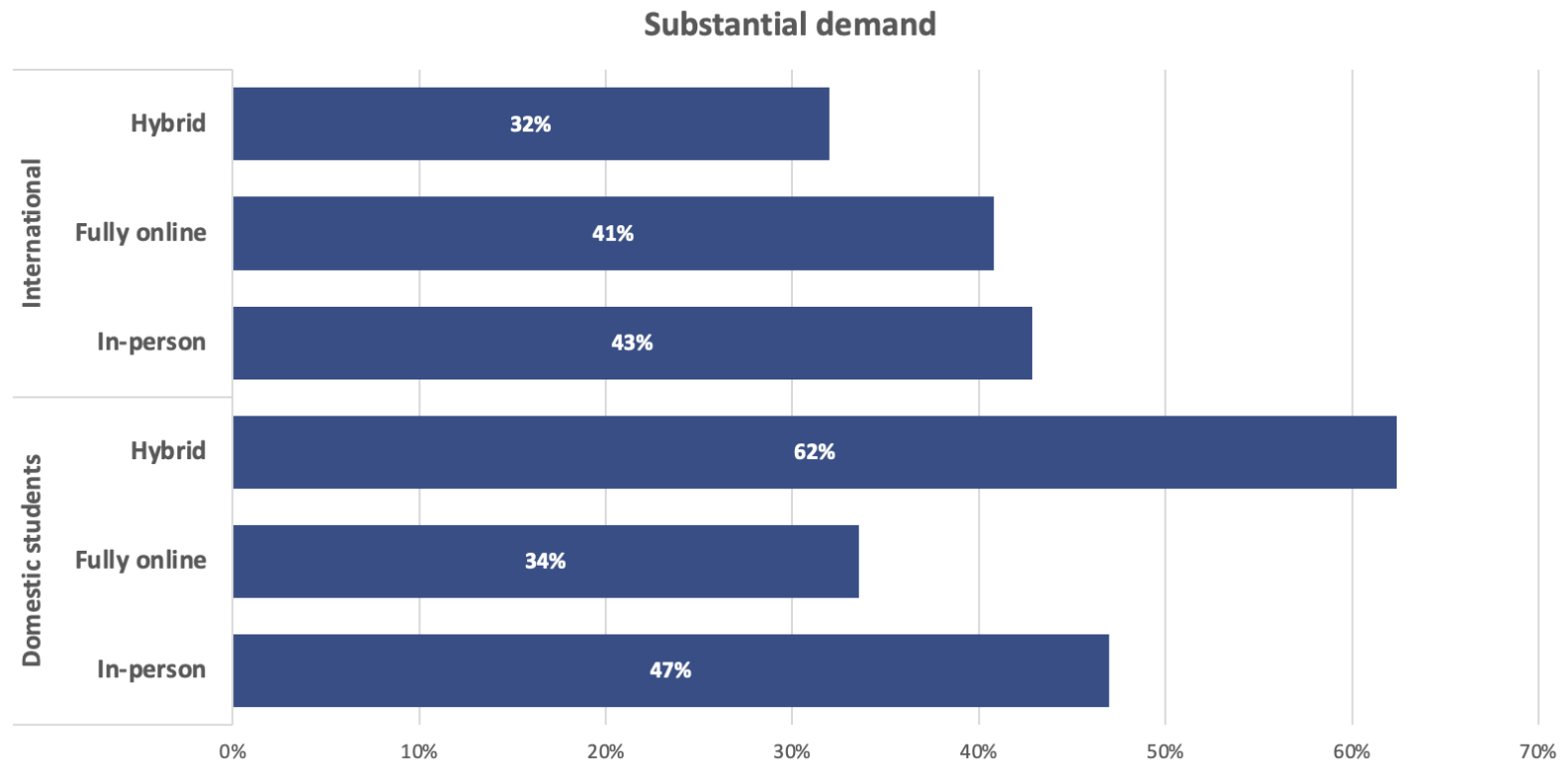
# Anticipated Trends



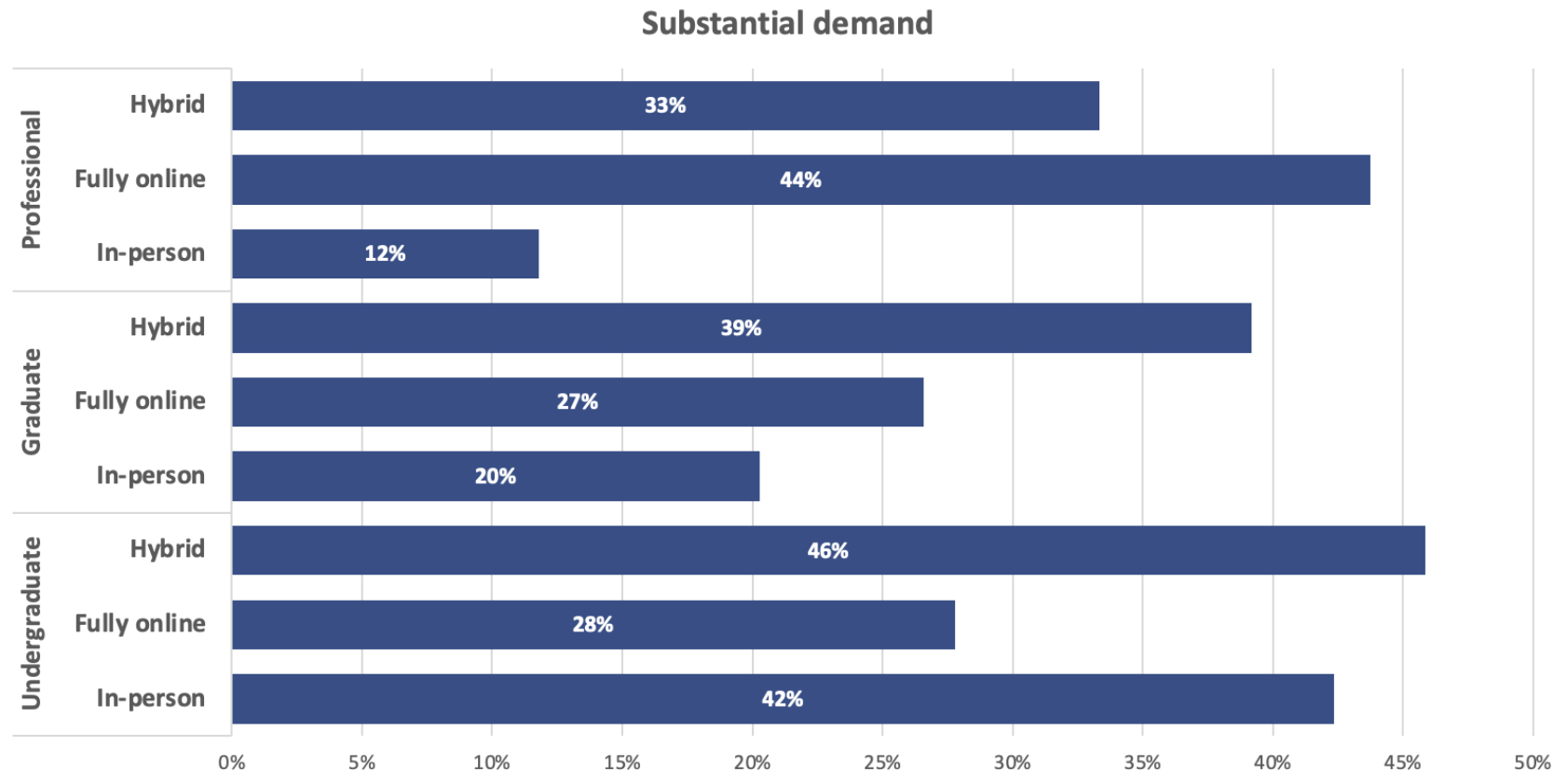
# Student Preferences



# Demand for Learning Modes



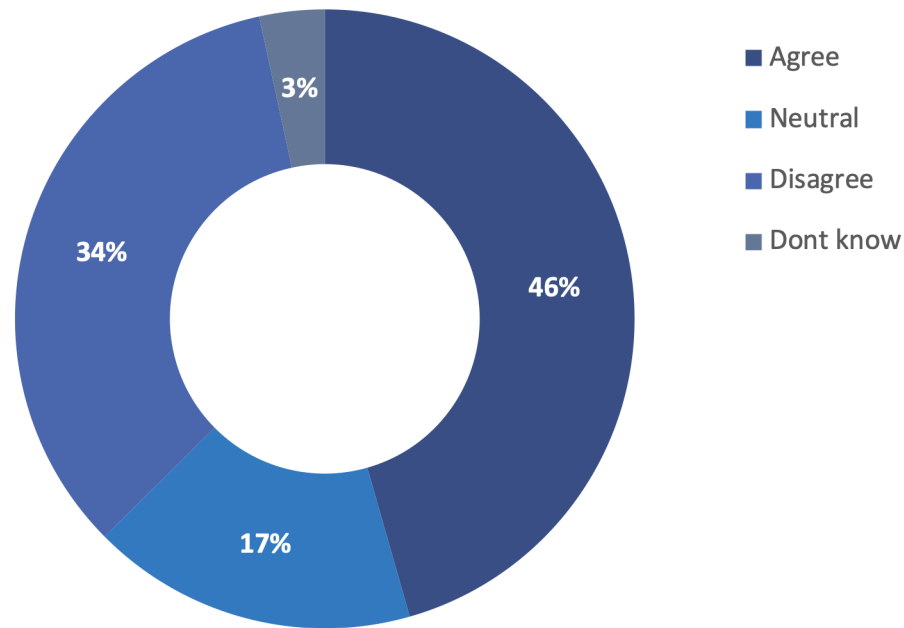
# Demand for Learning Modes



# Teaching with Technology



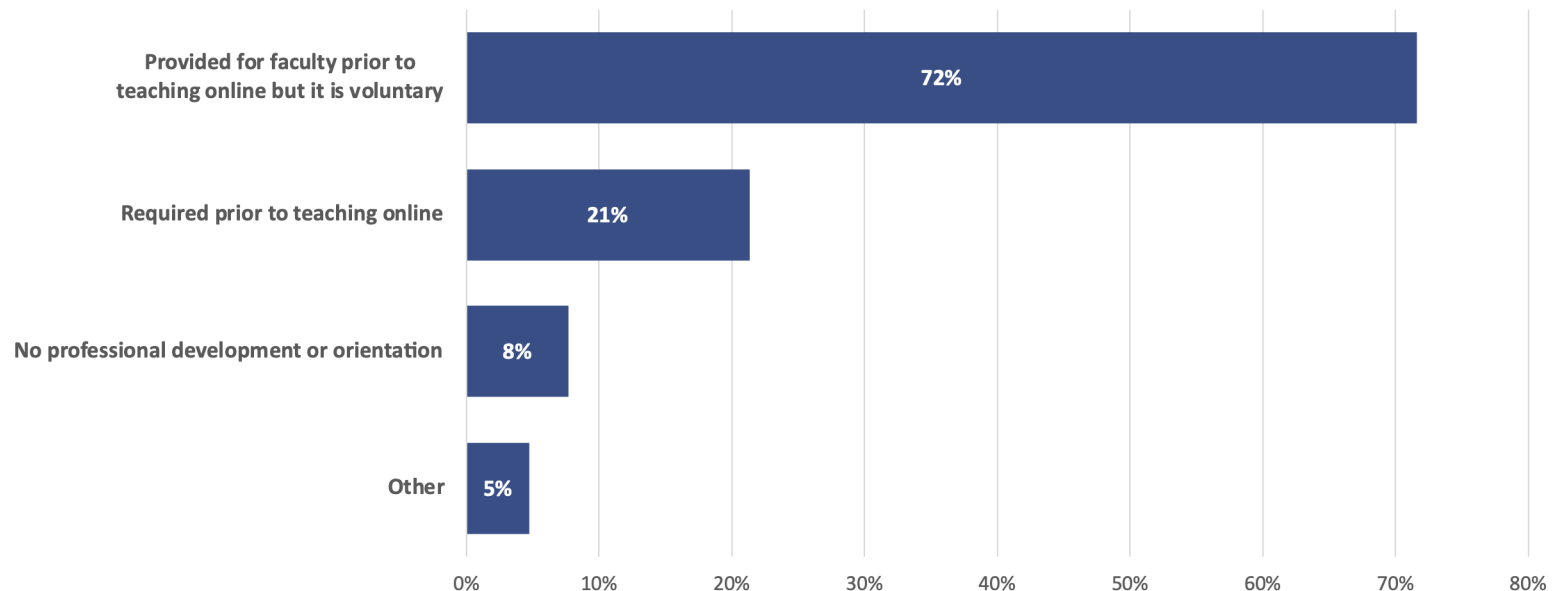
My institution provides funding and resources for faculty to use innovative technologies in their courses



# Teaching with Technology



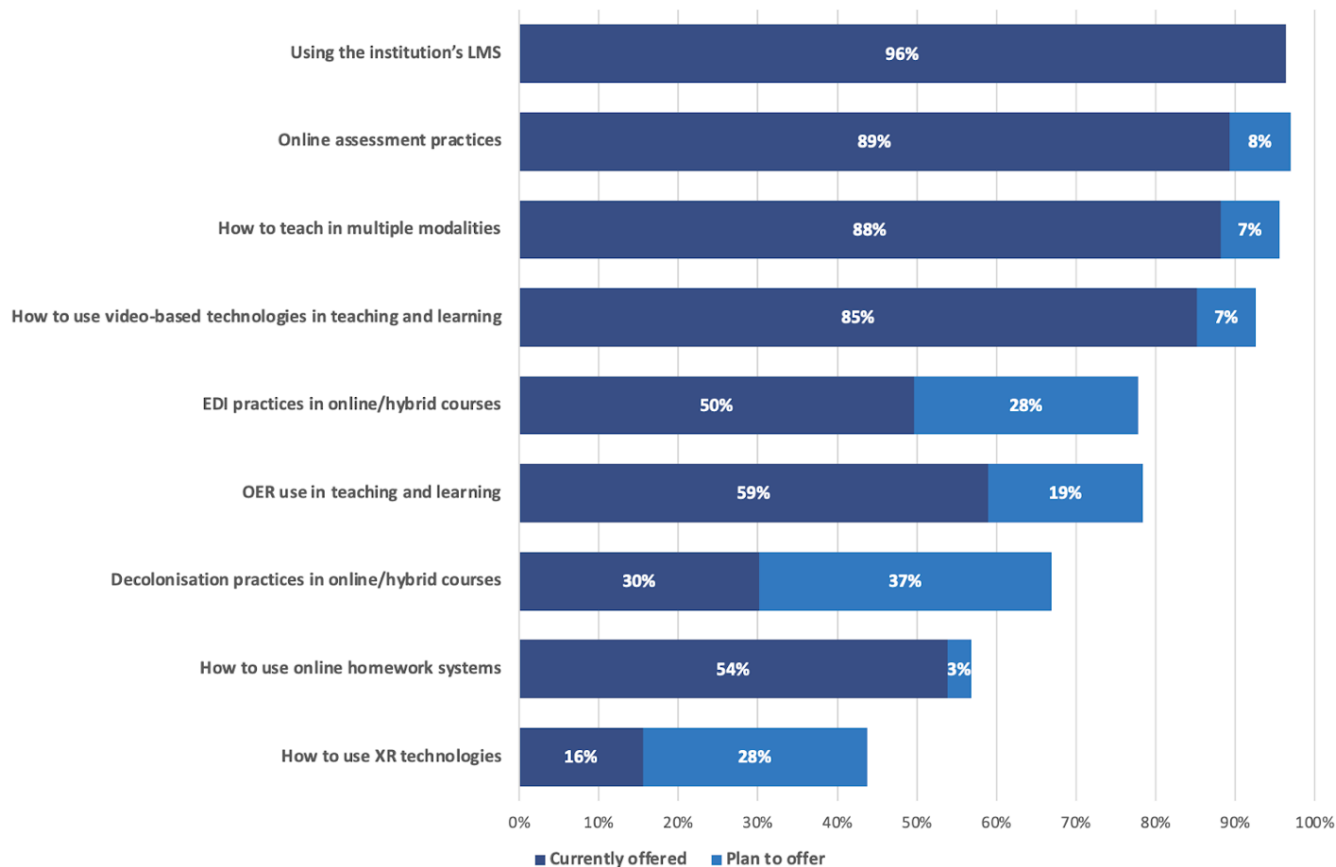
**What are the professional development or orientation expectations for your faculty prior to their teaching their first online course at your institution?**



# Teaching with Technology



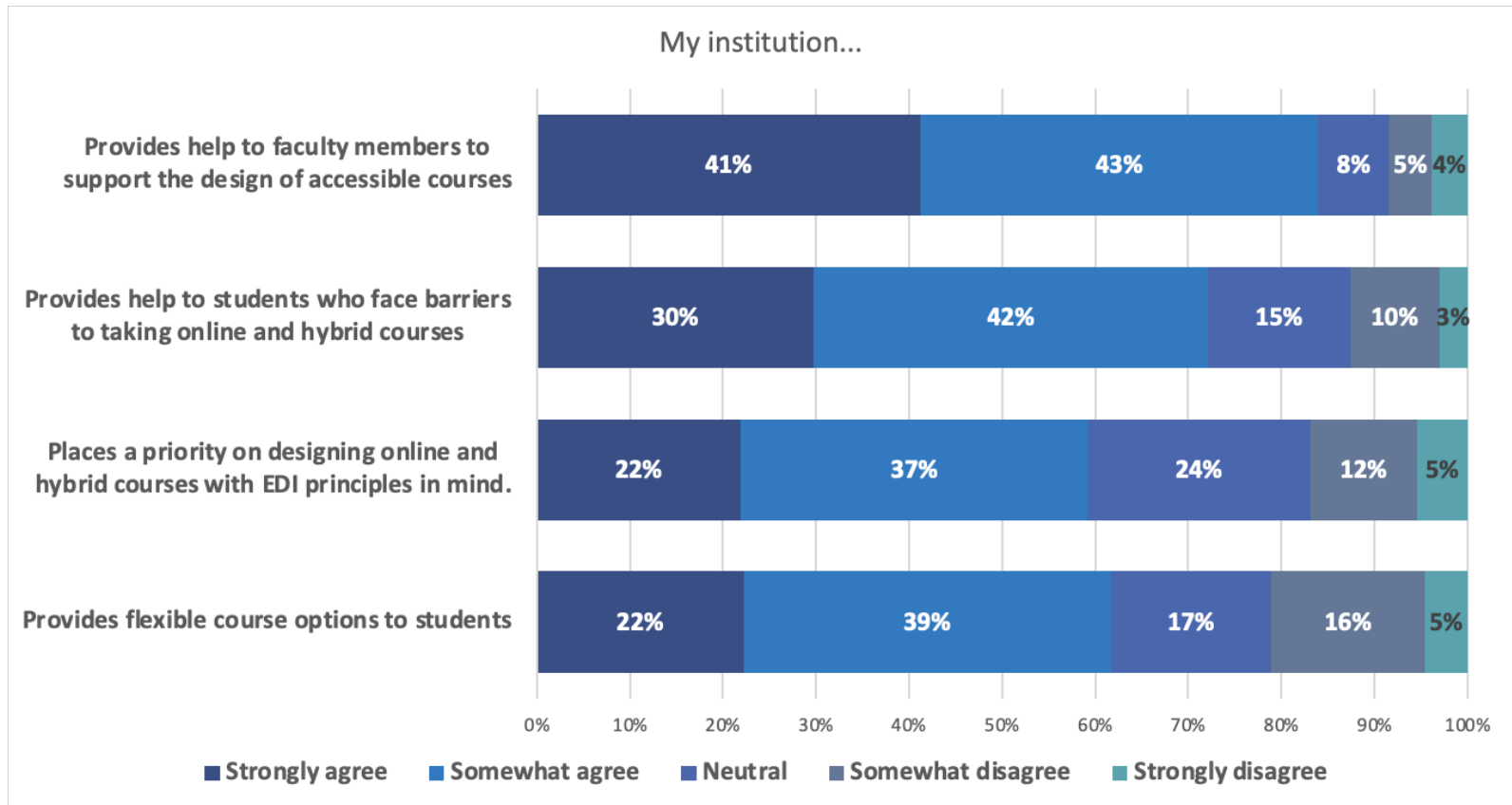
My institution provides professional development on the following topics related to digital learning



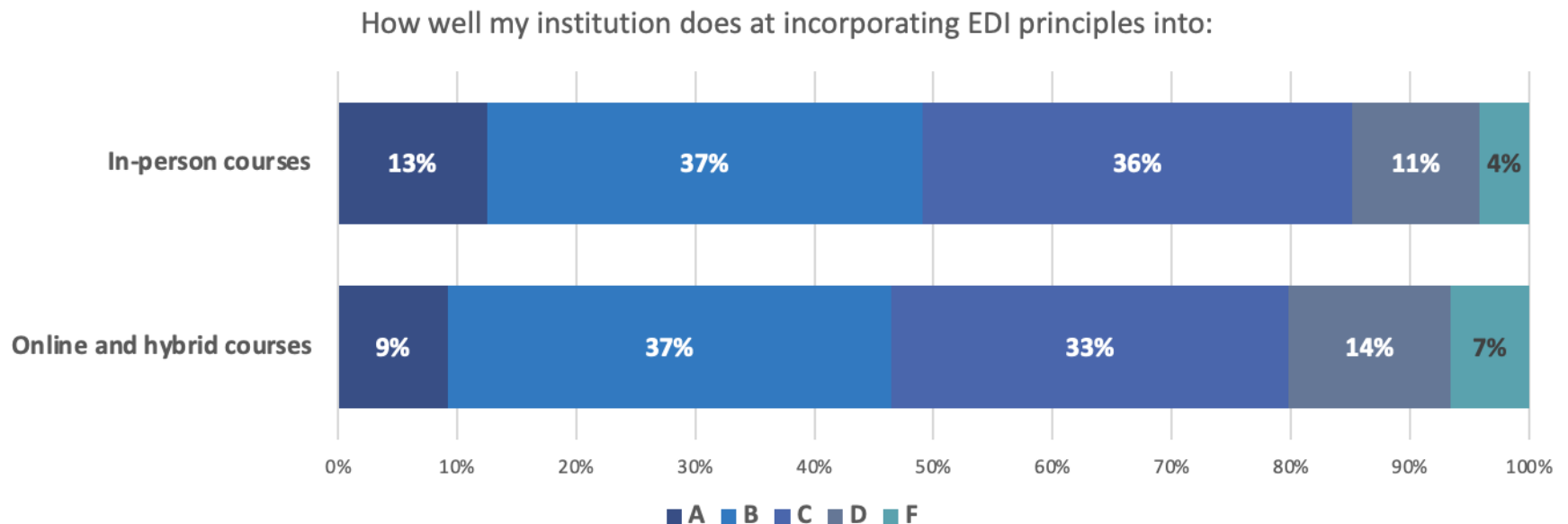
Canadian Digital Learning  
Research Association  
Association canadienne de  
recherche sur la formation en ligne



# Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)



# Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)



# What Now?

- Technology
- Flexibility
- Accessibility



# Implications for the Future

- Common understandings of key terms is critical
- Widespread use of digital technologies in teaching and learning
- In-person learning will continue to play a critical role.
- Desire for flexibility - flexibility facilitates accessibility
- Opportunity to experiment with new strategies to enhance and provide learning experiences for a (hopefully) increasingly diverse student body
- Develop strategies to support instructors as they learn to teach in new ways for our digital age.



# Participate in Future Studies

Scan the QR code and sign up to receive invitations to participate in CDLRA research studies.



**Canadian Digital Learning  
Research Association**  
**Association canadienne de  
recherche sur la formation en ligne**

# Thank You

We thank our sponsors, partners, and the respondents that participated in this study.

The CDLRA welcomes your insights and feedback:

**[nicole.johnson@cdlra-acrfl.ca](mailto:nicole.johnson@cdlra-acrfl.ca)**

**[www.cdlra-acrfl.ca/publications](http://www.cdlra-acrfl.ca/publications)**



Canadian Digital Learning  
Research Association  
Association canadienne de  
recherche sur la formation en ligne