

Empowering Educators With Digital Skills in a Distance Learning University



July 2017
Patras, Greece



Themistocleous Panagiotis

Open University of Cyprus

themistocleous@ouc.ac.cy

Rodosthenous Christos

Open University of Cyprus

christos.rodosthenous@ouc.ac.cy

Constantinou Evgenia

Open University of Cyprus

evgenia.constantinou@ouc.ac.cy

Table of Contents

- Introduction (The Open University of Cyprus (OUC))
- Library Services
- Search Support (Knowledge Base)
- Design and Implementation of Training Course
- Trainings Statistics
- Conclusion

The Open University of Cyprus (OUC):

1/2

- Founded in 2002 as the 2nd **State University** of the Republic of Cyprus
- Admitted its first students in 2006/07 and had its first graduates in 2008.
- Offers Undergraduate and Postgraduate (Master and PhD) Programs as well as independent Thematic Units (modules)

Mission:

- Distance Education and Lifelong Learning (LLL)
- Promotion of scientific research, technology development and methodology for Open and Distance Education

The Open University of Cyprus (OUC):

2/2

- The island's **only dedicated distance teaching** University
- The largest university in Cyprus by enrolment of postgraduate students
- **Coordinating role in distance education in Cyprus:** appointed by the Ministry of Education & Culture
- Offers Undergraduate, Postgraduate (Master & PhD) degrees and training/vocational programmes of short duration



Academics at a glance



3733
Graduates



4918
Students



23 +3
Programs

Educational Methodology:

☐ Distance Learning

- ☐ Synchronous & asynchronous communication tools to facilitate constant support and interaction between students & teachers

☐ Blended learning

- ☐ Online, hybrid & face-to-face group meetings between teachers & students

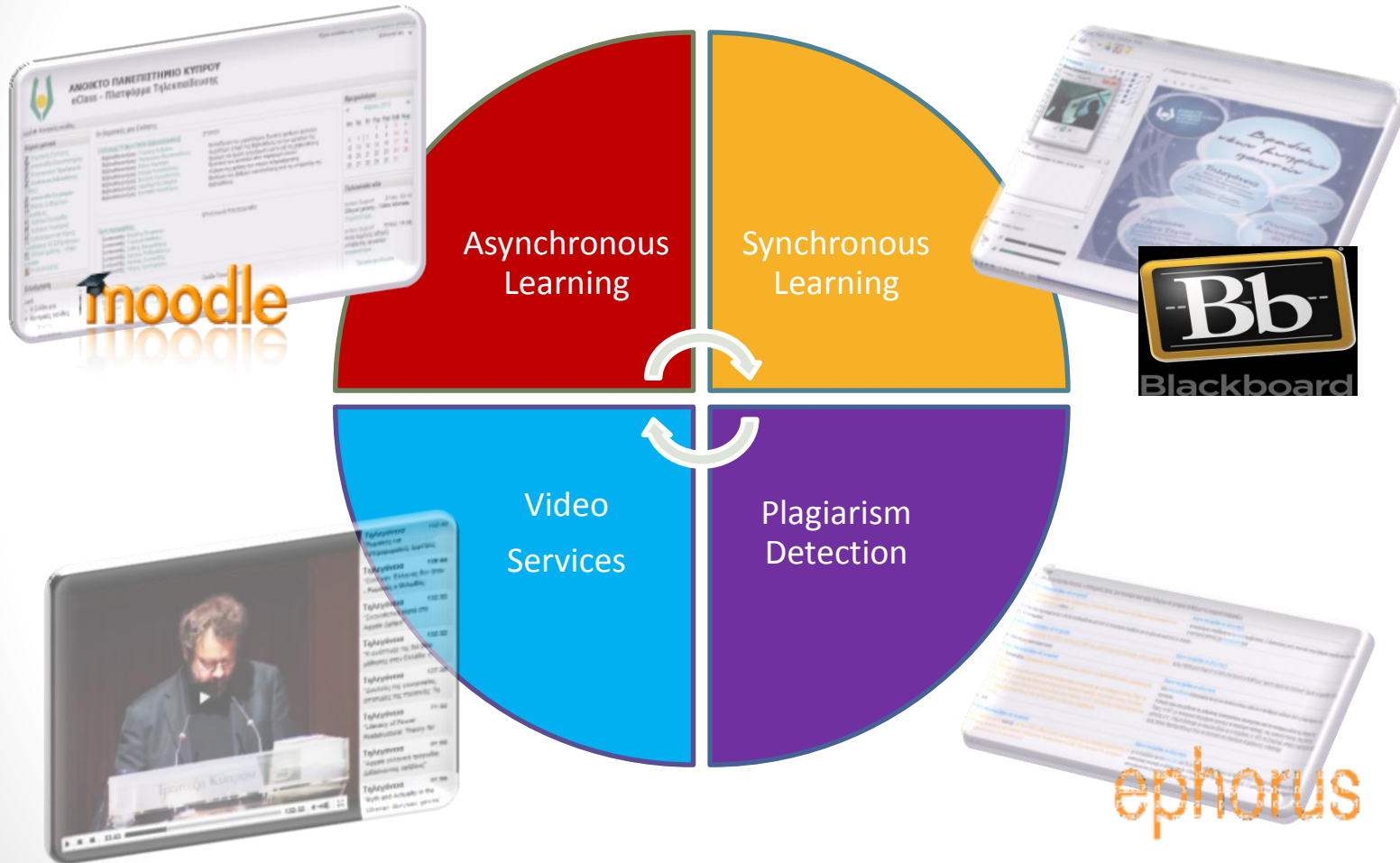
☐ Multi-format Knowledge Resources

- ☐ Conventional Material, e-Books, Lecture Notes, Video lectures

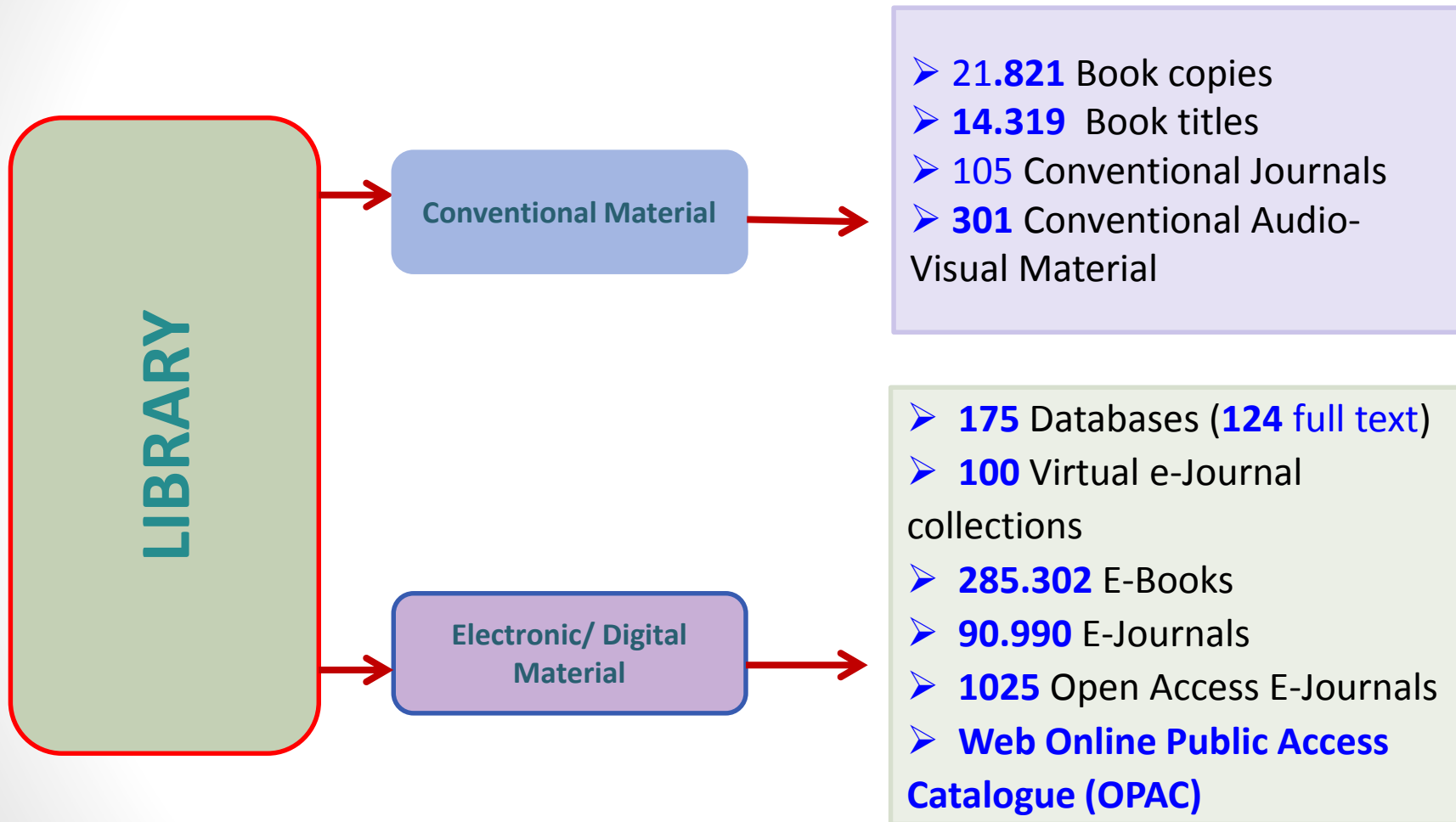
☐ Assessment

- ☐ Assignments
- ☐ Final exams (>50% grade): always with physical presence

eClass – eLearning Platform



Knowledge Resources [1]



Knowledge Resources [2]

Focus investment on Electronic Resources (**75% of the total annual budget**).

Today:

- 25 different providers / publishers
- access to 175 separate databases
 - i. 90,990 Journals
 - ii. 285,302 E-Books
 - iii. 2,900,000 Thesis from US and European Universities
 - iv. 16,754 Conference proceedings
 - v. 218 Book Series (61 Elsevier, 132 Emerald, 25 Springer-Verlag)



Knowledge Resources [3]

OUC Repository:

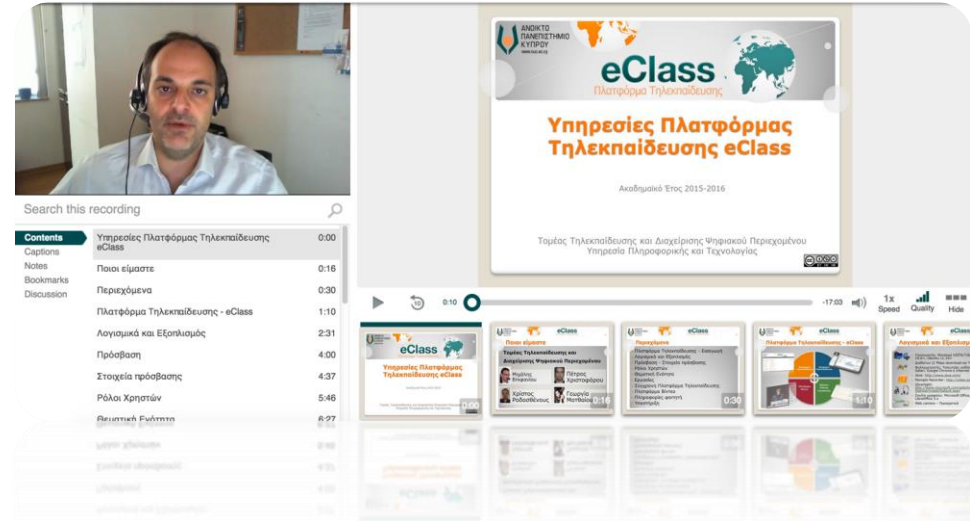
- Institutional Repository contains:
 - 2921 Theses (Msc, PhD)
- Digital Collections indexing:
 - 692 Individual photos and documents
- Agreements for digitizing copyrighted book titles and delivering it electronically through the eClass eLearning Platform



Knowledge Resources [4]

In-house resources:

- Book Titles (Conventional, HTML5, ePUB)
- Lecture Notes
- Lecture Capture content
 - Lectures (video, sound, presentation, chat)
 - Live or On-demand
 - Software demonstrations
 - Searchable content na
 - OCR and Speech recognition
 - REUSABLE
- Virtual Classroom Recordings



Creating an Online Course [1]

**Program Coordinator
+
Subject Librarian**



Propose knowledge
resources

**Search
Knowledge Resources**

Conventional Material
IR KYPSELI
Digital resources
OER

Course creation

(Epub Books, Online Books,
Articles from E-Journals,
Online Videos and Pdf
Quittance)

**Program Coordinator
+
Librarian
+
eLearning Team**

Digital Skills for Educators [1]

- 1- **Create and edit digital audio**
- 2- Use Social bookmarking to share resources with and between learners
- 3- Use blogs and wikis to create online platforms for students
- 4- Exploit digital images for classroom use
- 5- **Use video content to engage students**
- 6- Use infographics to visually stimulate students
- 7- Use social networking sites to connect with colleagues and grow professionally
- 8- **Create and deliver asynchronous presentations and training sessions**
- 9- Compile a digital e-portfolio for their own development
- 10- Have a knowledge about online security

Digital Skills for Educators [2]

- 11- **be able to detect plagiarized works in students assignments**
- 12- Create screen capture videos and tutorials
- 13- Curate web content for classroom learning
- 14- Use and provide students with task management tools to organize their work and plan their learning
- 15- Use polling software to create a real-time survey in class
- 16- **Understand issues related to copyright and fair use of online materials**
- 17- Exploit computer games for pedagogical purposes
- 18- Use digital assessment tools to create quizzes
- 19- Use of collaborative tools for text construction and editing
- 20- **Find and evaluate authentic web based content**
- 21- Use of mobile devices like tablets

Digital Skills for Educators [3]

- 22- **Identify online resources that are safe for students browsing**
- 23- Use digital tools for time management purposes
- 24- Learn about the different ways to use YouTube in your classroom
- 25- Use note taking tools to share interesting content with your students
- 26- Annotate web pages and highlight parts of text to share with your class
- 27- Use of online graphic organizers and pintables
- 28- Use of online sticky notes to capture interesting ideas
- 29- Use of screen casting tools to create and share tutorials
- 30- Exploit group text messaging tools for collaborative project work
- 31- Conduct an effective search query with the minimum time possible
- 32- **Conduct a research paper using digital tools**
- 33- **Use file sharing tools to share docs and files with students online**

Digital Skills for Educators [4]

- Conduct a research paper using digital tools
- Create and deliver asynchronous presentations and training sessions
- Create and edit digital audio/video
- Use video content to engage students
- Understand issues related to copyright and fair use of online materials
- Identify online resources that are safe for students browsing
- Use file sharing tools to share docs and files with students online

Training the Educators (Barriers)

- Educators are not physically present
- Need to support remotely
- Guidelines to access to infrastructures
 - ❖ Identity Access Management
 - ❖ Email
 - ❖ eLearning Platform
 - ❖ Kypseli
 - ❖ LIS
 - ❖ Open Athens accounts
 - ❖ Library cards

Design and Implementation E-Platform

- OUC provides the opportunity for e-learning via a unique interactive platform. Virtual classrooms, online literature sources, coursework submission are some of the tools provided towards real time delivery of the aims of a degree.
- User friendly e-learning environment.
- Tutors have the opportunity to choose the literature material from a vast variety of online and conventional sources.
- Access 24/7.
- All services provided by the library are well explained and presented via informative and explanatory videos uploaded to the platform.

How We Train them in General

- Access to educational content (manuals, short guides, webinars, video on demand)
- Virtual classroom- Realtime training on specific topics (bibliography search, create bibliography, search for content, access to electronic resources, repository access etc.)
- QA sessions to help on specific difficult topics (e.g., plagiarism, academic credibility)
- **Essentials for successful academic year**
- Organize training sessions for each Program of Study based on students specific educational needs

How We Train them via Library

- Educational Library Portal : is accessible to students via the OUC's eLearning platform, the so-called eClass
- Institutional Repository : it concentrates all research and intellectual property work produced at the University
- Subjects Gateways : includes information resources for each programme of study.
- Bibliographic Management Tools : tools in order to managing bibliographic references like EndNote, RefWorks, Mendeley
- **Library Seminars : OUC Library in consultation with the various OUC programmes of study organizes training seminars through the e-Class platform.**

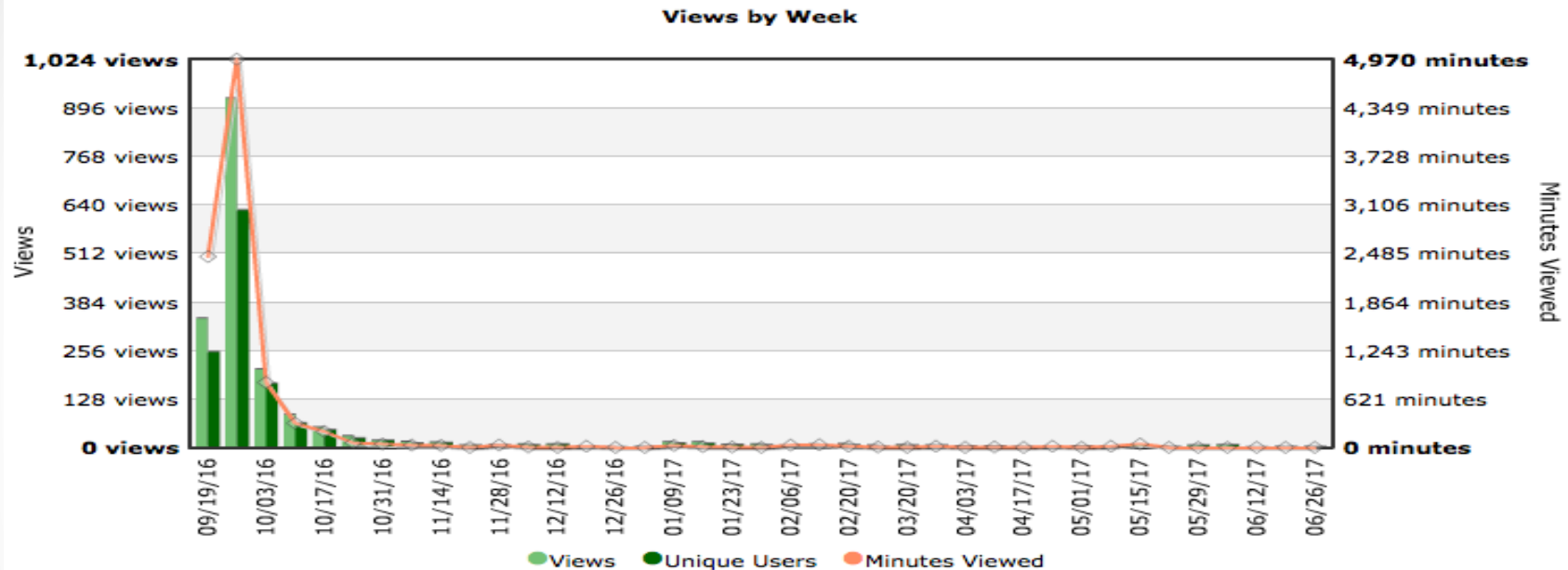
Training Statistics in a Review

- People join the trainings:
 - 4900 students,
 - 350 tutors
- Content creators:
 - 150 coordinators
- How we monitor the training process:
 - Login Statistics
 - Video statistics

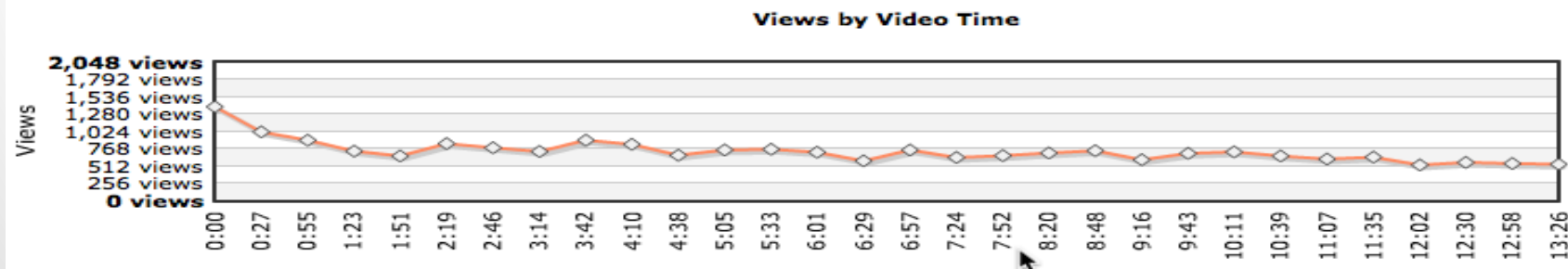
Training Statistics in actual Numbers ^[1]

Minutes viewed data current as of: 6/30/2017 2:28:00 PM (GTB Daylight Time)

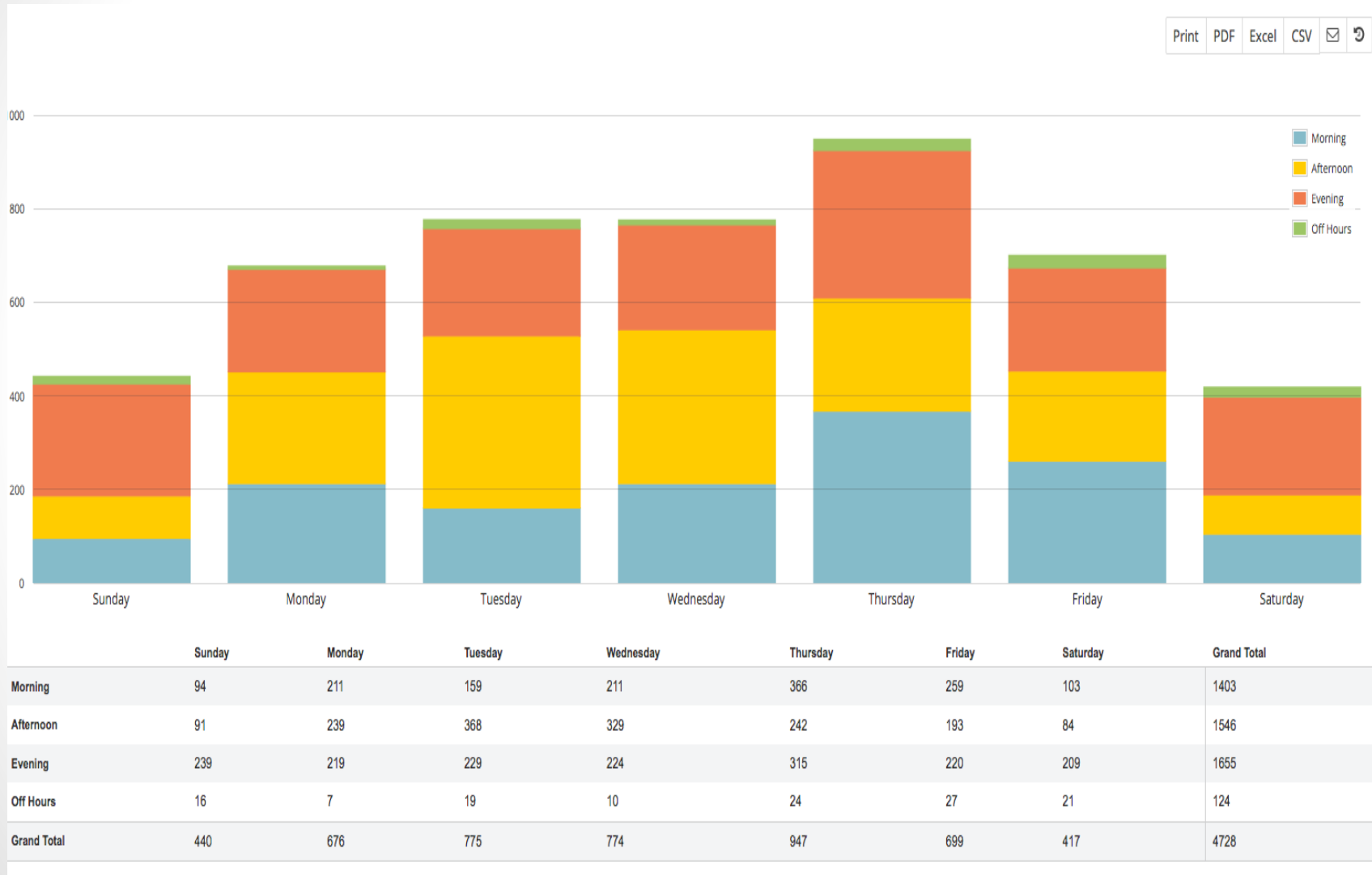
[Download](#)



[Download](#)













Training Statistics in actual Numbers [2]



Training Statistics in actual Numbers ^[3]

Υπολογισμός βάσει των logs από Δευτέρα, 22 Αύγουστος 2011, 2:22 μμ.

Δραστηριότητα	Προβολές	Σχετικές καταχωρήσεις σε ιστολόγια	Τελευταία πρόσβαση
 Ανακοινώσεις	286	-	Τετάρτη, 28 Ιουνίου 2017, 10:18 μμ (1 ημέρα 16 ώρες)
 Υποστήριξη eClass	130	-	Δευτέρα, 19 Ιουνίου 2017, 2:25 μμ (11 ημέρες)
 Συχνές Ερωτήσεις	147	-	Παρασκευή, 2 Ιουνίου 2017, 6:29 μμ (27 ημέρες 20 ώρες)
 Οδηγοί Χρήσης ΑΠΤ	165	-	Τετάρτη, 28 Ιουνίου 2017, 2:21 μμ (2 ημέρες)
 Σύντομοι Οδηγοί Χρήσης ΑΠΤ	185	-	Παρασκευή, 30 Ιουνίου 2017, 10:36 πμ (3 ώρες 58 λεπτά)
 Οδηγοί Βίντεο ΑΠΤ	48	-	Πέμπτη, 29 Ιουνίου 2017, 2:38 μμ (23 ώρες 57 λεπτά)
 Understanding Moodle Free Introduction	13	-	Δευτέρα, 6 Μάρτιος 2017, 3:05 μμ (115 ημέρες 22 ώρες)
 Teaching with Moodle: An introduction ('Εναρξη 02/01/2017) - Free Course	12	-	Τρίτη, 24 Ιανουάριος 2017, 5:59 μμ (156 ημέρες 19 ώρες)
 Οδηγοί Χρήσης ΣΠΤ	200	-	Παρασκευή, 23 Ιουνίου 2017, 1:59 μμ (7 ημέρες)
 Οδηγοί Βίντεο ΣΠΤ	70	-	Κυριακή, 11 Ιουνίου 2017, 8:13 μμ (18 ημέρες 18 ώρες)

Concluding Findings

- The major purpose of the educational portal is the proper, effective and productive information and literature research for Tutors in the beginning, in order to help students to be more familiar at their DIFFERENT way of study.

AND

- Sometimes Tutors have to be also “students” when then methodology of the Institution is DIFFERENT, in order to use in a proper way the opportunities given!
- Such the user friendly environment of Library’s Portal, which contributes substantially towards the delivery of the OUC’s educational aims.



OPEN
UNIVERSITY OF
CYPRUS
www.ouc.ac.cy

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

Open University of Cyprus:
<http://www.ouc.ac.cy>

Library of Open University
of Cyprus:
<http://library.ouc.ac.cy>

“KYPSELI”
The Open University of
Cyprus Repository:
<http://kypseli.ouc.ac.cy>

Panagiotis Themistocleous
themistocleous@ouc.ac.cy , library@ouc.ac.cy