

## Article Reading Four: Survey

The purpose of this reading is to familiarize you with how researchers use surveys. In this article, think about the methodology used. How do the authors seem to use a questionnaire to solicit information about behaviors, perceptions and other aspects of email exchanges with faculty? Even if you don't fully understand all of the statistical terms, don't despair! Keep reading with your attention focused on the overall logic and design of the study and the arguments being offered about their conclusions.

First, read the entire article. On the first reading, just read it to get a bigger picture of what the scholar is trying to communicate. Second, read the article again with these questions in mind. Some of the questions focus on your ability to comprehend the article. Other questions address your understanding the methodological choices the author made.

### Article Comprehension

1. What is the purpose of this study?
  - a. The purpose of the study was to examine student-initiated email with faculty, their perceptions of faculties' motives for using email, and their views of the consequences of student-faculty email.
  - b. The purpose of the present study was to examine faculty-initiated email with students, their perceptions of students' motives for using email, and their views of the consequences of faculty-student email.
  - c. The purpose of the study was to examine faculty-initiated email and faculty-initiated relationships both plutonic and romantic.
  - d. The purpose of the study was to examine student-initiated email and student-initiated relationships both plutonic and romantic.
  
2. What type of prior research has been done and what pattern of organization did the authors use to in the literature review to summarize it?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Which one of the following is NOT a reason students used email with their professors?
  - a. organization
  - b. procedural/clarification
  - c. efficiency
  - d. personal/social

### Method Comprehension

4. How did the researchers rationalize the first 2 research questions?
  
5. What other method was used in this study to deal with the open-ended questions at the end of the questionnaire? What four broad categories emerged from this method?
  
6. The types of coding passes are
  - a. positive negative, neutral
  - b. open, closed, selective
  - c. increase, decrease, stable
  - d. open, axial, selective
  
7. How did the two universities differ significantly?
  
8. Were there any limitations to this study? If so, what were they?

### Personal Reflection

9. One of the statements in the discussion section was, "Faculty are now expected by students to be available '24/7' (p. 173). Do you think this is true? Why or why not? How could this be an opportunity for future research?
  
10. What aspects about the discussion of the study reflected some of your own experience? In terms of email use with faculty do you think UNCW is more like school 1 or school 2 in the study? How would you test your position?