

## **Comparative Study of Library and Internet Use as a Source of Information by undergraduate students of Yadanabon University for Development Studies**

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### **Abstract**

Source of academic information is very important for university students. Basically, academic libraries provide much relevant materials in both printed and electronic formats to support their studies. The objectives of the study are to analyze undergraduate students' use of library and internet resources for academic activities. The data required were collected using a questionnaire from 120 undergraduate students from department of library and information studies. The data were analyzed using quantitative method. The result indicate that students use both library and internet resources for their academic work. However, the use of internet is more than that of the University's library resources. Undergraduate students are advised to resort to the use of the university library resources because they do not contain only printed resources but electronic resources as well. This study will be useful for librarians, library professionals, library and information studies students and organizations which want to know the use of library resources.

**Key words:**academic information, undergraduate students, internet resources, library resources

### **Introduction**

In modern times, access to information is more relevant for academic work in all higher institutions. The academic library serves as an important role in supporting the principal functions of research and scholarship the higher education. Today, information is now an important commodity, not just for day-to-day living but for industry and commerce. There is no university all over the world which does not have a library. The libraries are the heart of the universities. Internet is a network of networks that consists of private, public, academic, business and government networks of local to global scope, linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless and optical networking technologies. In recent years, the use of the internet has become very popular in many areas as well as in the educational sector.

It is possible that when some students go to the library to use the available services, others may not go to the library, perhaps due to the availability of alternative like e-resources and internet connection at their services.

In the university for development studies (UDS), there has not been any comparative study on undergraduate students' use of the library and internet as source of information to enhance their academic work. This study attempts to compare the use of library and internet for academic works by the undergraduate students of UDS.

### **Objectives of the study**

The main purpose of the study is to compare use of the library and the internet as a source of information by undergraduate students of university for development studies.

The objectives of the study are:

- To make an analysis of the use of library resources and internet resources
- To encourage the students to use the library resources
- To facilitate the required materials in the library
- To solve the challenges in the use of library and internet

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### Scope of the study

This study covers the use of library and internet as a source of information and frequency and purpose of library and internet use. In addition, it includes 120 undergraduate students from department of library and information studies of using library resources and internet resources in a particular source of information.

### Method of the study

The data required for the study were obtained mainly from primary sources. The primary data were collected using a questionnaire. The questionnaire is designed to gather the use of internet and library by undergraduate students of library and information studies of Yadanabon University. The received data were tabulated and analysed for making observations.

### Literature Review

There are various research studies highlighting the importance of the university's academic and research work. This type of analysis enables the librarian to facilitate the relevant reference materials in the library.

Saikia and Gohain(2013), Atram(2017) and Prakash(2017) study application of ICT in libraries, providing opportunities to users to access and utilize both online resources and other services effectively.<sup>1</sup>

According to Kumar (2016), modern libraries have both print and non-print documents with gadgets and equipment used to access information. Some of the equipment include: computers, digitization machines, CD-ROMs, scanners, printers and internet which have contributed immensely to make the transformation of libraries a success.<sup>2</sup>

### Data Collection and Analysis

The study uses descriptive statistics to analyse the frequency, purpose and challenges associated with the use of library and internet among undergraduate students of Yadanabon University and required data are collected by using questionnaire.

### Response Rate of Undergraduate Studen

120 questionnaire were distributed to undergraduate students from the department of library and information studies and 116 questionnaires were received.

**Table 1 Response Rate of Undergraduate Students**

No. of Questionnaires Distributed	No. of Questionnaires Received	Percentage
120	116	96.6%

Table 1 show that the overall responses are satisfactory giving an average rate of 96.6%.

### Gender

This table shows the distribution of questionnaires according to gender of undergraduate students and the number of responses and percentage.

<sup>1</sup> Saikia,M. and Gohain, A“.Use and User's satisfaction on Library Resources and services in Tezpur University Philosophy and Practice(e-journal)".Paper 972.(2013)

<sup>2</sup> Kumar,M.J“Webometric and Technology Analysis of Journal of library &Information science”(IJLIS)vol.5(2),pp.79-88,Article ID:IJLIS-05-02-009.(2016)

**Table 2 Rate of Response according to Gender of Undergraduate Students**

Gender	No. of Questionnaires Distributed	No. of Questionnaires Responded	Response Percentage
Male	40	38	95%
Female	80	78	97.5%
Total	120	116	96.6%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

As shown in table 2, 38 out of the 116 undergraduate students studied are male and this represents 95%, the remaining 78 respondents representing 97.5% are females. The results show that majority of the students are females.

### Education Qualification

After knowing the gender, the respondents were requested to state their educational qualifications to know the course year.

**Table 3 Educational Qualification**

Course Year	No. of Questionnaires distributed	No. of Questionnaires received	Response Percentage
First Year	24	24	100%
Second Year	24	22	91.7%
Third Year	24	22	91.7%
Fourth Year	24	24	100%
Third Year Honors/Qualifying Class	24	24	100%
Total	120	116	96.6%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

Table 3 shows the educational qualifications of the undergraduate students of library and information studies. The percentage of first year students, fourth year and third year honors/qualifying class are more than any other years of students. In fact, first year, fourth year, third year honors/qualifying class are 100%, second year is(91.7%) and third year is (91.7%).

### Frequency of Library and Internet Use

The result of the study reveals library and internet use among the undergraduate students and the distribution is shown in Table 4.

**Table 4 Frequency of Library Use**

Library list	Frequency	Percentage
Very often	10	8.6%
Often	82	70.7%
Occasionally	24	20.7%
Never	-	-
Total	116	100%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

**Table 5 Frequency of Internet Use**

Internet list	Frequency	Percentage
Very often	30	25.9%
Often	54	46.6%
Occasionally	18	15.5%
Never	14	12.1%
Total	116	100%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

Table 4 shows the frequency of library and Internet use. In terms of frequency of library use, 10 respondents representing 8.6% use library very often, 82 respondents representing 70.7% use it often, 24 respondents representing 20.7% use the library resources occasional. However, there is no students never used the library.

Table 5 reveals the use of internet 30 respondents representing 25.9% use it very often, 54 respondents representing 46.6% indicated that they use it often while 18 respondents representing 15.5% use it occasionally. However, 14 respondents representing 12.1% never use the internet for academic purposes.

#### Source of information for academic work

This table shows that some students will be using library along side the use of internet while others will be using library only or internet only.

**Table 6 Source of information for academic work**

Source of information	Frequency	Percentage
Library only	28	24.1%
Internet only	6	5.2%
Library and Internet	82	70.7%
Total	116	100%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

The results shown in Table 6 indicate that 28 respondents representing 24.1% use only the library for their academic work. Besides, 6 respondents representing 5.2% use only the internet sources for their academic work. Finally, the results indicate that 82 respondents representing 70.7% use both the internet and library for their academic work.

#### Purpose of Library and Internet Use

The following Table 7 shows that students visit the library for different academic purposes. The study revealed that common reasons for undergraduate students' use of the University's library resources and the internet resources for their academic work.

**Table 7 Purpose of Library Use**

Purpose of library use	Frequency	Percentage
Search for literature	48	41.4%
Read lecture notes	24	20.7%
Borrow books	28	24.1%
Search for academic journals	6	5.2%
Use of internet	10	8.6%
Total	116	100%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

**Table 8 Purpose of Internet Use**

Purpose of internet use	Frequency	Percentage
Research	26	22.4%
Communicate with friends	22	19%
Reading for news	68	58.6%
Total	116	100%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

Table 7 show the purpose of library and internet use. In term of library use, search for literature 48 respondents representing 41.1%, 24 respondents representing 20.7% read lecture notes, 28 respondents representing 24.1% borrow books, 6 respondents representing 5.2% search for academic journals, 10 respondents representing 8.6% use internet.

Table 8 reveals that the students use the internet, 26 respondents representing 22.4% research, 22 respondents representing 19% communicate with friends and 68 respondents representing 58.6% read for news.

### Challenges in the use of Library and Internet

The following Table shows the challenges the respondents in the use of library and internet.

**Table 9 Challenges in the use of Library**

Challenge with library use	Frequency	Percentage
Unfavourable working hours	18	15.5%
Unfriendly library staff	46	39.7%
Inability to borrow books from library	30	25.9%
Unavailability of reference materials	22	19%
Total	116	100%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

**Table 10 Challenges in the use of Internet**

Challenge with internet use	Frequency	Percentage
Problem of information over load	14	12.1%
Slow data transmission	62	53.4%
Difficulty in locating relevant information	10	8.6%
Not skilled access peer review journals	30	25.9%
Total	116	100%

Source: Responses of undergraduate students of Yadanabon University (13.2.2018)

As shown in Table 9, the students are facing some difficulties in use of library. They are 18 respondents representing 15.5% unfavourable working hours, 46 respondents representing 39.7% unfriendly library staff, 30 respondents representing 25.9% inability to borrow books from library, 22 respondents representing 19% unavailability of reference materials.

Table 10 shows that the students are facing challenges in the use of internet. They are 14 respondents representing 12.1% problem of information over load, 62 respondents

representing 53.4% slow data transmission, difficulty in locating relevant information 10 respondents representing 8.6%, 30 respondents representing 25.9% not skilled access peer review journals.

### **Findings**

The present study has been undertaken to use the library and the internet of LIS undergraduate students, Yadanabon University. The finding of present study leads to the following observations.

-In this study, all of the respondents 120 questionnaires are received back. Among them 38(95%) are male respondents and 78(97.5%) are female respondents. Thus, the female students are more use the library and internet.

-In this study most of the respondents 24(100%) are first year, fourth year and third year honors / Qualifying class. It found that 82(70.7%) of students use often the library and 54(46.6%) of students use often the internet.

-The result found that 28(24.1%) of students use only the library resources and 6(5.2%) of students use only the internet.

-In this study found that the majority of the students 48(41.4%) use the library search for literature and 68(58.6%) use the internet reading for news.

-In this result the majority of the students 46(39.7%) challenge with unfriendly library staff and 62(53.4%) challenge with slow data transmission on searching internet.

### **Conclusion**

The comparative study of library and internet use as a source of information by undergraduate students in library and information studies provides the use of library and internet for academic work. So both internet and library resources should play a complimentary role in providing relevant information sources to facilitate students' academic work. The result shows that students are not conveniently using both library and internet resources resulting from the challenges associated with both sources. Today new technology have become available as a means to improve library services and references. Electronic technology can help academic students to seek information.

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