

Product Name MyITLab  
 Course Name Computer Concepts with Applications  
 Credit Hours Three

**Key Results** MyITLab’s personalized learning features and promotion of increased time on task help students of all skill levels increase their understanding of course concepts and achieve both higher posttest scores and higher application exam scores.

**Text**

*Go! Office 2010 Introductory*, 2e, Shelley Gaskin; *Technology in Action, Complete*, 8e, Alan Evans, Kendall Martin, Mary Anne Poatsy

**Implementation**

Computer Concepts with Applications offers students an introduction to the computer concepts and applications used in business, including both theory and hands-on computer instruction. Because the course meets the computer literacy requirement for most Oklahoma State University—Oklahoma City degree programs, it draws a diverse population in terms of major and computer experience.

All of my course content resides within MyITLab and I use nearly all of its features. During lab time I use the active help desk and sound bytes from *Technology in Action*—students listen to the assignment and then take a posttest on the content that I loaded into MyITLab. Also during lab time, students work the MyITLab simulation trainings and take pretests (to generate individualized Study Plans) and posttests for each chapter.

For homework, I use MyITLab Grader projects. Prior to each application exam, students take a practice exam, which enables them to check their understanding of course material and ensure that they’re prepared for the exam.

As the lead instructor for this course, I work with 16 adjuncts. MyITLab’s coordinator course feature enables me to create one course for all instructors to use, which helps standardize the course across sections. In total, use of MyITLab contributes 90 percent to each student’s final course grade.

**Assessments**

- 38 percent MyITLab exams (9)
- 30 percent MyITLab lab assignments
- 22 percent MyITLab Grader projects
- 10 percent Attendance

**Results and Data**

A review of Study Plan completion rates (after failure of chapter pretest) shows that students who complete their Study Plan are five times more likely to pass the posttest than are students who do not complete their Study Plan (figure 1).

Similarly, after cross-referencing exam scores and completion of practice exams, we learned that students who completed the practice exams scored higher on the exams for that application (figure 2).

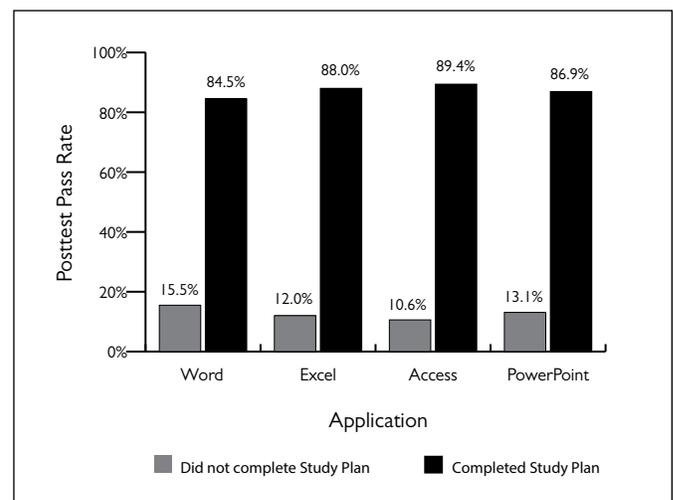


Figure 1. Percentage of Students Who Passed the Chapter Posttest after Failing the Chapter Pretest, Spring 2012

*“MyITLab not only helps students meet the learning outcomes for the course; it also helps them learn the skills they’ll need to succeed in the workplace.”*

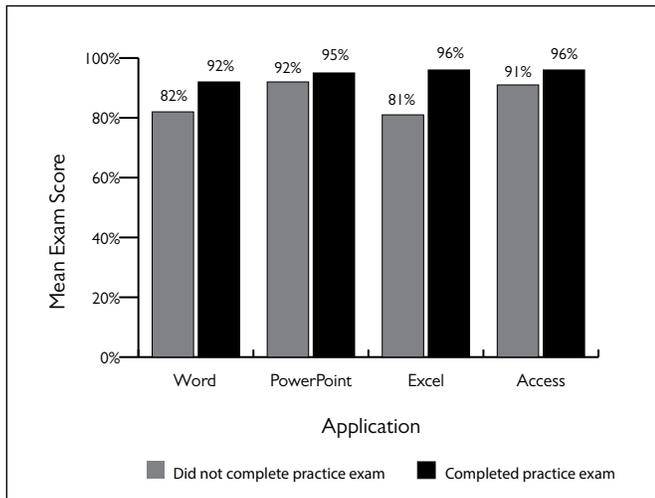


Figure 2. Comparison of Mean Application Exam Scores of Students Who Did and Did Not Complete the Practice Exam, Spring 2012

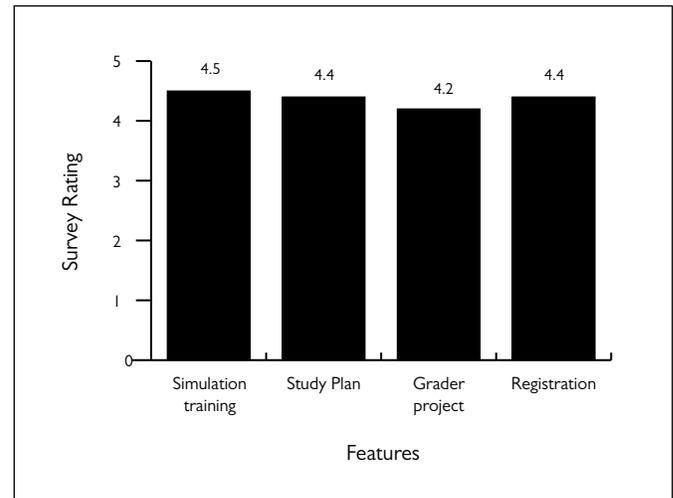


Figure 3. Average Student Rating of MyITLab Features, Spring 2012 (n=120)  
1=Not Effective, 5=Very Effective

## The Student Experience

Students are both more prepared and more engaged since we started using MyITLab. They appreciate that all of the course content is in one place, and more and more of them are showing up for optional lab time.

MyITLab offers something for every learning style: students can see it, hear it, and do it. They have the flexibility to work whenever and wherever they have an Internet connection. Also, if we cancel class due to, say, inclement weather, students can stay current by working online.

I asked the students in my sections to rate the effectiveness of MyITLab assessments as learning tools. Every assessment averaged a rating of more than four on a five-point scale. In addition, 95 percent of the students indicated that “the MyITLab registration process was easy” (figure 3).

*“I learned a lot about the applications, and I really enjoyed doing the assignments.”*

—Student

*“I liked everything about this course. The materials were interesting and kept me engaged.”*

—Student

## Conclusion

MyITLab not only helps students meet the learning outcomes for the course; and it helps them learn the skills they’ll need to succeed in the workplace. From instructors’ standpoint, the platform is very intuitive and easy to master, and its automatic grading feature means we’re no longer burdened by manual grading: our time can be spent helping students learn these applications hands-on.

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