

# What is it really like to be a Student during the COVID-19 pandemic?

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Canada



Canada



# Methodology of Study

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- Participants
- 24 students (15 in cegep, 9 in university)
  - 15 females, 8 males, 1 Gender Queer
- Participants responded to 4 questions directly in an e-mail
  - Technology teachers asked students to use during COVID-19
  - Difficulties encountered in use of technology

# Technologies Teachers asked Students to Use

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- There were also 30 apps or software mentioned by 1 or 2 students

<b>Technology</b>	<b># of students mentioned tech</b>	<b># of students said worked well</b>
Zoom	16	12
Microsoft Teams	9	5
Course management systems	18	9
Other video conferencing platforms	8	6

# Difficulties Encountered

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<b>Difficulties encountered</b>	<b>% of students</b>
Problems with software and apps	54%
Connection issues	29%
Problems with hardware	25%
Teachers' management of the course	25%
Students' computer skills and behaviours	25%
Difficulties regarding evaluation	17%

# Want to Know More: Giving Students a Voice!

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- Research does not tell the whole story
- Only students can tell us what it was really like to adapt to remote learning during COVID-19!
- Quotes will start to describe their experiences
- Students will be sharing more about their experiences in the session

STUDENT  
VOICES

# Testimonials (1)

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- Catherine, a university student.

Increased screen time has lead to increased fatigue, which has impacted my sleep schedule.

Recorded synchronous classes have helped the transition to remote learning because they have given me the flexibility to watch at my own pace while also following a regular semester pace of presented material.

# Testimonials (2)

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- Maegan, a third year psychology student at Concordia university

In general it's been hard to learn from home. It has actually been quite anxiety-inducing for me. Having my bedroom be the same place I learn as well as getting countless notifications about my courses every day has made it hard to tease apart my personal time and class time. This makes it really hard to separate these two parts of myself, and I find myself worrying about school when I should be having time for myself.

It was a very quick transition from using technologies I was comfortable with to suddenly having to use multiple different software or applications for different courses.

# Testimonials (3)

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- Christine Vo is a student at Dawson College and tech specialist for Adaptech Research Network.

COVID-19 has stressed me out a lot by making it extremely difficult for me to properly follow along with online courses.

Laboratories for science-related courses are much more difficult since I do not have all of the materials required, or no time to go get them due to medical reasons.

# Testimonials (4)

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- Rosie – legally blind mature student

As a legally blind student, taking classes online meant I was able to use my technology to better: follow class content, access class materials and interact with classmates, School online is an absolute game changer and I'm now hoping to complete a Masters online

After working for nearly a decade, online courses were the perfect way to get back to school... from the comfort of home! The idea of taking classes again after so long was less stressful and I was able to focus on the content rather than spending time and energy getting to/ being on campus.

# Testimonials (5)

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- Olivia, social work student

Teaching assistants were able to provide extra help and constructive feedback on assignments and ensured that all questions were answered.

Having to do both school and work remotely made for a very lonely year; zoom was very impersonal and made it difficult to create new or substantial relationships.

# Testimonials (6)

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- Francesco Salvo, Cegep student in psychology

COVID-19 and remote learning resulted in me spending a lot more time on screens. As a result, I ended my days with eye discomfort and with my eyes full of tears.

A big problem I have with remote learning is being able to stay concentrated. After sitting in the same seat and looking at the same screen for many hours a day my mind starts to drift off. There are also household distractions.

