

I record conversations with lecturers when I go to discuss my assignment for later review and I also use my mp3 player to take notes in lectures...

E-libraries are great because I'm not tied to being on campus... My PDA and laptop also give me increased mobility.

LXP

I can do [the online activities] anytime, anywhere. When I've got 10 minutes between meetings, half an hour between other things... you can slot it in any day of the week.

LEX

technology is widely used by learners to fit learning into life



[The VLE] is simply outdated. Incredibly poor UI, terribly hard to navigate. Tutors have no idea how to use it and administrate it.

LXP

University e-mail I don't really use for people at University, I usually use texting, Facebook or MSN... You can get an immediate response with phones and Messenger.

E4L

It would be extremely helpful to have a campus-wide wireless network, not just a few hotspots scattered throughout the campus. I should be able to open up my laptop anywhere on campus and connect to the Internet.

ECAR

learners have high expectations of technology with respect to access, choice and reliability



[The VLE] has supposedly been embraced by the University, but content is rarely ever provided by course tutors...

LXP

Some of [the tutors] are much better at it than others and when you become comfortable with one tutor and he's extremely helpful on it, you sort of expect that from the others.

LEX

Encourage those [lecturers] not using [the VLE] to see what others are doing and see if it can be helpful and useful and not such a huge change, and make it accessible.

LEAD

students expect consistency across modules in use of the VLE



Have to turn off desktop computer in my room in order to read – too noisy and distracting!

LXP

I would advise [new students] to not get too one dimensional in their study habits and only use IT but use other forms of learning as well.

LEAD

In the end there was no way I could go near [the language-learning software], it was so boring... What I really wanted was to interact with people.

E4L

students stress that learning with ICT should be balanced with face to face and paper-based learning



It is very useful to have one's own laptop for work and social purposes but it can also be very distracting.

LEAD

I search for what I need using search engines... reference those through to Word, and send the file to my peers using IM, where I get feedback and additional info.

LXP

I suppose I would [write my essay] for about an hour and then if I got bored or needed a break then maybe I'd take a break by going on Myspace or Hotmail... and MSN, you know, and then go back to it.

LEX

many learners use technology to multi-task; some find it a distraction from study



I build a lot of my own software, e.g. for bibliographic referencing, because it better fits my own way of working.

LXP

[Using my assistive technology] helped me to develop more courage to use new things... they were all in awe of my preparation, my Mind Map. They said 'wow'.

LexDis

I use *Inspiration* only because I have decided that I am going to do as much as possible to further myself in my life. So, I have all this stuff and I'm going to mess around with it.

LexDis

some learners, including many disabled learners, are agile adopters and explorers of technology



Over the three years I have had to do presentations... so I have had to use different technologies

STROLL

I didn't really know how to use the online journals... now I can use them confidently

I've gone from using pencils to do my drawings to using different mediums like digital media, photoshop and flash

STROLL

Things like [the VLE], University e-mail account and language learning software, they were all introduced to me by teachers and tutors. Friends would introduce things like SMS, YouTube...

E4L

in choice and use of technology for learning, students are largely led by their tutors



So I think oh okay, perhaps I should post these concepts on [the VLE] to make my tutor understand that I did make some progress.

Oxford Brookes

You get assessed on how much you talk on [the forum], so we try to keep to a minimum the other contact, unless we meet in person and the facilitator is there to see that we have done it.

LexDis

as technology makes learning more public, learners are playing the academic game in new ways



My pen tablet [means] I can input images to a computer with analogue pressure, and very good accuracy, rather than using a mouse.

STROLL

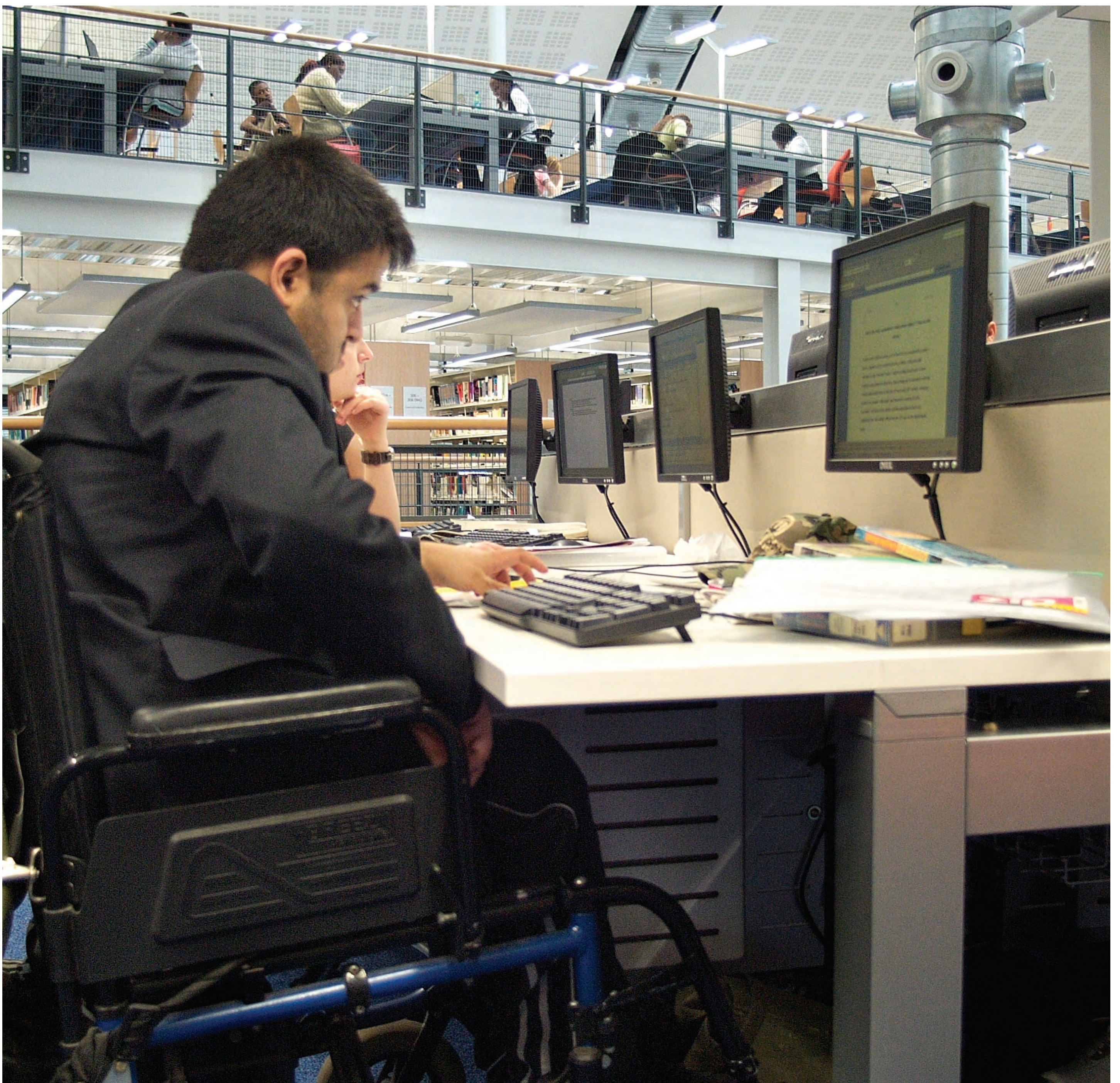
If we are required to be networked for a computer workshop, for example, there generally aren't places you can plug in a laptop with assistive technology in.

LexDis

My favourite piece of technology is my voice recognition software...so rather than reading and making notes I am reading and speaking my thoughts about what I'm reading into a Word document.

STROLL

learners expect to personalise institutional technology and use personal technology in the institutional environment



Students learn differently and want choice. Such as paper or book, computer or internet, hand out or [VLE].

LEAD

Variety... with different options for each course, so students can choose which systems to learn from.

LEAD

I hate sitting in front of the computer when I'm not working because I just get sick of being there 10 hours a day anyway, so really I would much rather be out walking with my MP3 player

E4L

learners want meaningful choices over how they learn with or without ICT



e-books and journals are a fantastic resource via an Athens account.

LXP

I've been using a lot more journal articles for research data to complement the books that I've been getting from the library. I can access it wherever I am via the Internet.

STROLL

When we used the search engine for journals and such like, I really did think ... yes, this is loads better than going to find a paper journal... It will search 7,000 journals or whatever in a minute

E4L

access to academic digital content is seen as a unique benefit of further and higher education



... and they're saying use books, but books cost money so the internet is the main thing that we end up using...
LEX

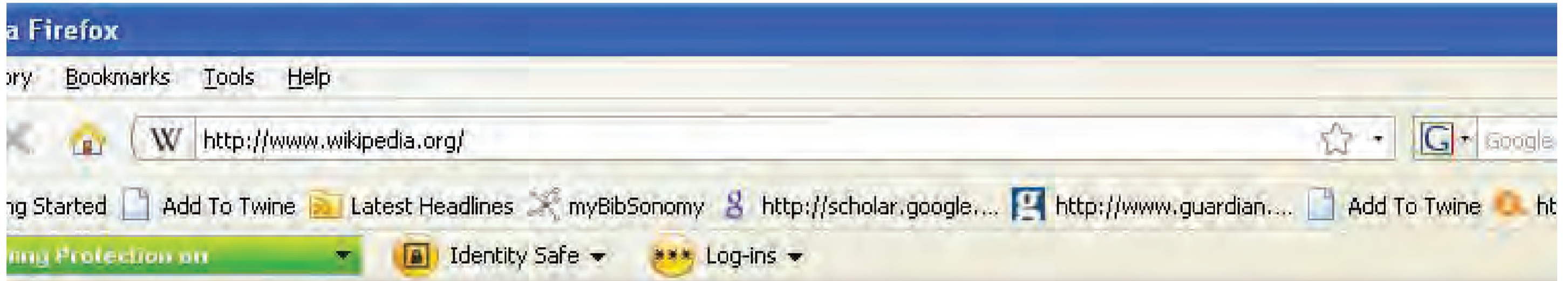
Well firstly if I want to look anything up... I will usually Google it... Then I would fire up MSN... Finally [the VLE] and all the resources the University makes available on-line.

[The internet] is a world of information. You don't have to go anywhere, it is all on one database

You can Google it and you've got what you need in a second.

STROLL

sites such as google and wikipedia are referred to before academically approved sources



WIKIPEDIA

English
The Free Encyclopedia
2 634 000+ articles

日本語
フリー百科事典
539 000+ 記事

Deutsch
Die freie Enzyklopädie
830 000+ Artikel

Español
La enciclopedia libre
419 000+ artículos

Français
L'encyclopédie libre
730 000+ articles

Italiano
L'enciclopedia libera
518 000+ voci

Polski
Wolna encyklopedia
555 000+ haseł

Português
A enciclopédia livre
441 000+ artigos

Русский
Свободная энциклопедия
333 000+ статей

Nederlands
De vrije encyclopedie
498 000+ artikelen

search • suche • rechercher • szukaj • 検索 • ricerca • zoeken • busca • buscar • поиск
 sök • 搜索 • søk • haku • cerca • пошук • ara • căutare • suk • hledání • keresés • serču • h'adat'

English ▼

→

Especially Facebook...

I keep in touch with friends who are studying Law at other universities and we have been able to compare notes sometimes.

STROLL

I used my mobile phone to contact a friend to find out where I could get my cover sheet for my essay... I found one on another student's home page who'd put it up there conveniently.

LXP

My [group] we always text each other and say, 'Oh, are you coming in at this time, or we'll meet at this time', and so it looks on the face of it from the [VLE] that we haven't been communicating all year, but we have, it's just outside of that board.

LEAD

there is an underworld of social networking in support of learning



When I started the course...
if the kids were at school I
couldn't turn on the computer.
E4L

I find IT more of a challenge
than traditional students who
grew up in the Information
Age... yet some instructors
take it for granted that all of
their students possess equal
competence with technology.

When teachers start making
computer-based participa-
tion requirements it really puts
poor students at a disadvan-
tage. I do not own a computer
and I should not be penalized
for my inability to buy one.

the digital divide is getting narrower but deeper: those without ICT access and basic skills are increasingly disadvantaged



I'll use Wikipedia when it comes up on a Google search...

LXP

We didn't get a use of [ICT in school] and never really got taught it. You just kind of went on and got slapped if you went on chat rooms.

LEAD

There is a definite gap between what we need and what we are given, where we have to find out how to use the technology for ourselves, which is for most of us a case of trial and error.

LEX

despite their facility with digital technology, many learners lack information skills



I hope that dinosaurs eventually die and the rest see that digitalization is the most important human advancement.

ECAR

I prefer to do it by hand rather than on computer ... my computer has crashed about three times since we've been at Uni and I've lost everything that way

LexDis

We had extensive computer training at my school from when we were eleven, and we had our own school intranet... And we were taught how to use all the different things from quite a young age.

LEAD

learners display enormous differences in their ICT experiences, attitudes and preferences



I use my laptop. I take it away, it's attached to me. I couldn't survive without it.

LEX

I absolutely love my MacBook

STROLL

... and I was lying on the beach with my ipod, and it just had been through so much.... so it was an emotional attachment. Sad, but I loved that thing.

LEX

[I] can't revise if I'm not in front of my computer.

LEAD

My little memory stick which I can carry about in my hand-bag [means] I can get things from home to Uni and vice versa.

STROLL

learners attach emotional significance to their technologies

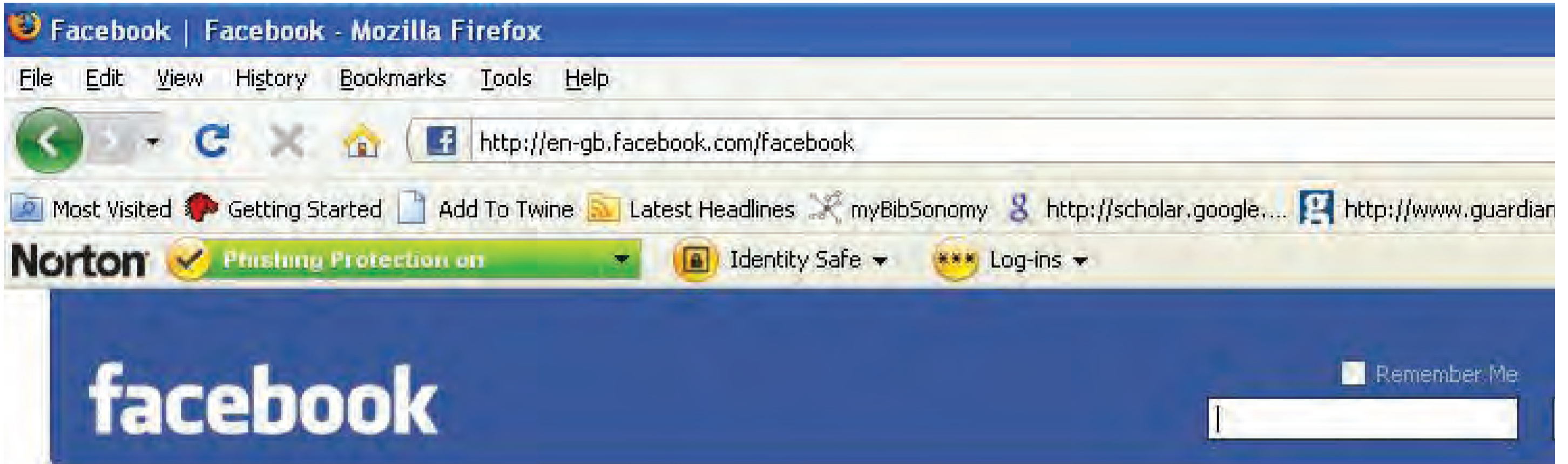


I use blogging as a personal means to reflect on work... Some of this is in private and some of it is open for viewing and commenting by others
LXP

I think that from the moment one person is present on the internet by giving his/her real name, by having blogs or using wikis for example, he/she is aware of evolving in a public space.
STROLL

Facebook and Myspace are avenues to get away from learning not to help learning.
STROLL
I think it's great to have tutors/ university staff/lecturers on Facebook. After all, it is supposed to be a social community network.
STROLL

learners have different attitudes to learning in the public/private spaces of social networks



[Sign Up](#)

Facebook helps you to connect and share with the people in your life

Facebook

[Browse more Products](#)



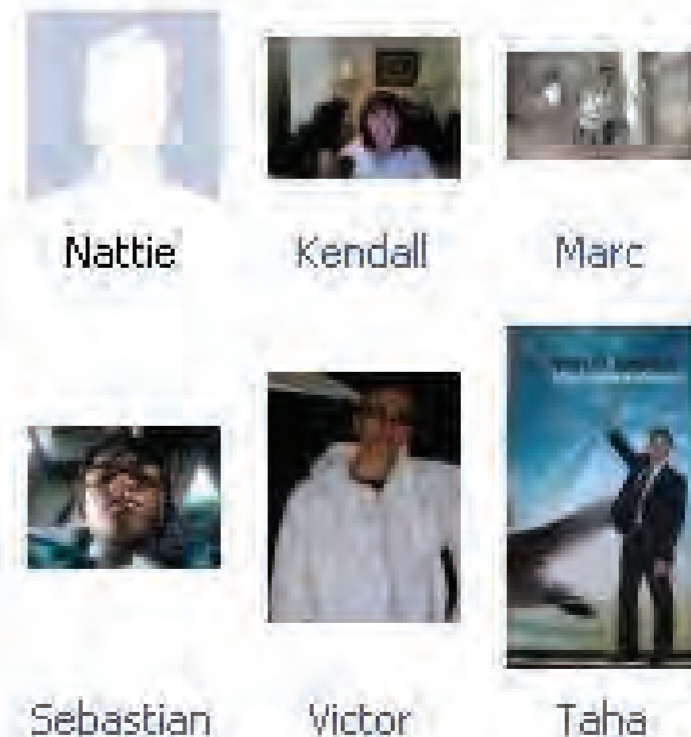
Founded: February 4, 2004

Information

Website: <http://www.facebook.com/>
Company Overview: Facebook gives people the power to share and makes the world more open and connected.
Millions of people use Facebook everyday to keep up with friends, upload an unlimited number of photos, share links and videos, and learn more about the people they meet.

Fans

6 of 1,107,930 fans



[We're Hiring](#)

[Exploring online social networks] is a guilty pleasure because I think that I really should be working instead, so I don't try out all these wonderful things.

LexDis

Researcher: Have you ever gone off and investigated technologies yourself that you might want to use...?

Student: No, I stick to what I'm told about.

E4L

Some of the newer software that has come out which I'm not familiar with using, if I come to a point when I just can't find out a way to use it I'll just leave it and won't bother with it.

E4L

most learners do not explore the potential of technologies beyond the basics



I feel as if I'm doing two courses... a [subject] course and a technology skills course.

LexDis

I just don't want books to be on the computer, I don't like that idea at all. Everything else, films and things like that, OK, but books, no, it creeps me out.

LEX

I prefer to scribble down things, even if you are going to type them up neatly later, take notes quickly while you think about them... rather than searching through and copy-pasting, combin[ing] bits and pieces.

LEAD

technologies that require learners to change habits of study may meet resistance



If you're on a website and it's interactive and... you see colours and all that, it stimulates you a bit more to actually read it.

LXP

[Video] keeps you focused more. Like I said if you're just listening to somebody talk, sometimes you can drift, but when you're actually watching it, it holds your attention.

E4L

I'm more of a visual person. I'd rather watch something than read. If it was on a [video]-cast and I was on my way here or on the bus or something, I could watch it on my phone or MP3 player.

E4L

younger learners in particular may prefer to work with image-based content



Online discussions for me personally don't work well... you can't observe how others really feel about something.

ECAR

The biggest thing that would allow me to [work] more effectively would be if more students were aware of the possibilities of using group collaboration tools such as citeulike and deli-cio-us.

LXP

I use the forums more as exams become closer to develop an understanding by talking to other people, work with friends which is great if either of you is stuck. To teach someone else is just as good as working through papers.

LEAD

technology-mediated collaboration is increasingly common; feelings about it vary

