

# Reading habits among medical students: where does the library stand?

**15th European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) Conference**

Sevilla, 10th June 2016

---

Jolanda Elmers  
Mathilde Panes

**Medical Library, Lausanne University Hospital, University of Lausanne**  
Lausanne, Switzerland



UNIL | Université de Lausanne



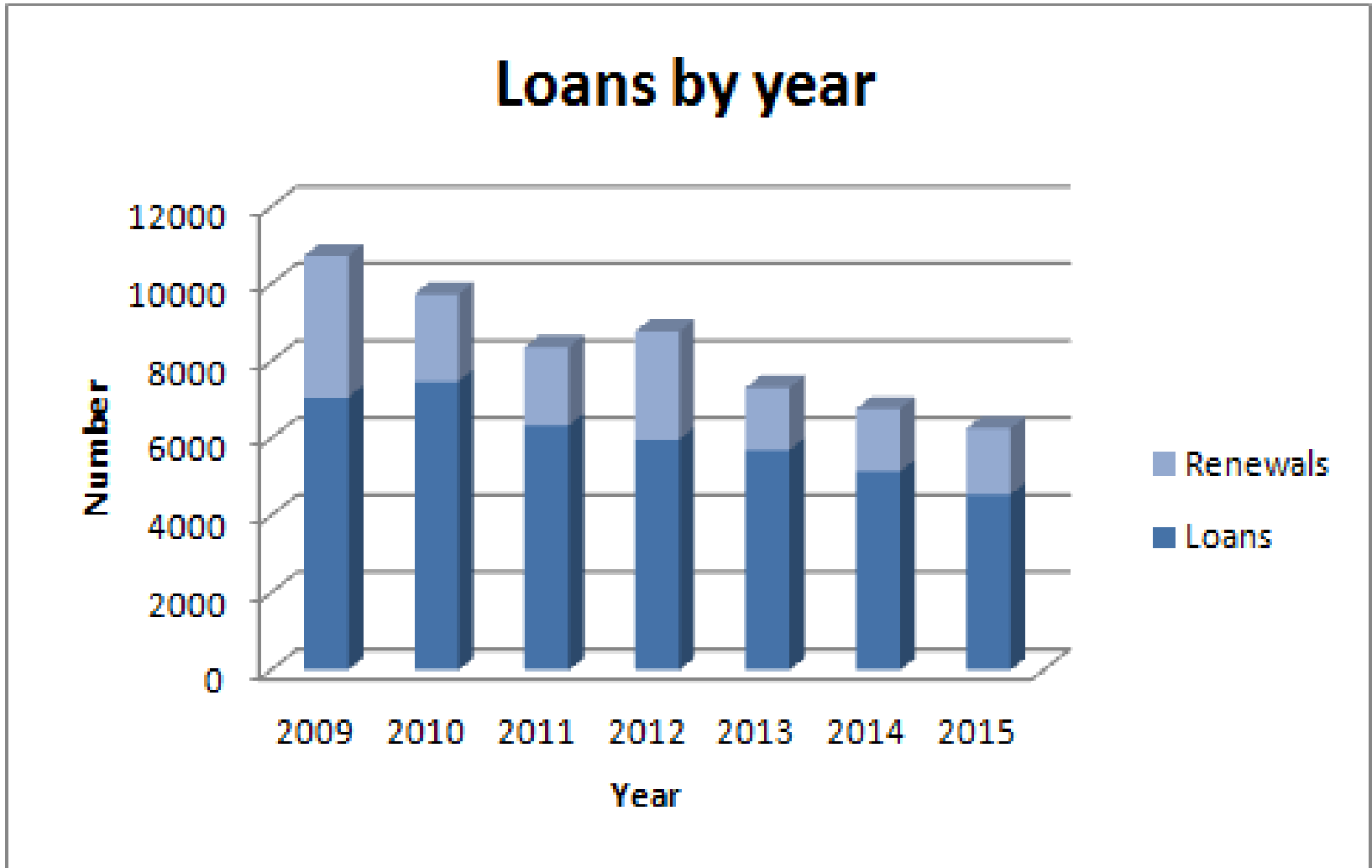


© Margaux Zeender, CEMCAV-CHUV

# Context



# Context



# Research problem

Are students still using books to study or are they using other information carriers?

How can the library fulfil students' needs when it comes to their reading preferences?



# Literature review : methodology

- Students' experience with paper-based reading, compared to onscreen reading
- Recent research in order to capture improvements in technological interfaces



# Literature review : key findings

- Most students still prefer paper over electronic
- Main issues
  - Annotations
  - Interacting with the text
  - Spatiotemporal markers
  - Scrolling through text does not compare to turning pages
- Touching paper and turning pages are needed in the reading and learning process

# Gathering data : methodology

- Online survey
- 1640 students
- 309 answers
- Response rate : 24 %
- Duration : 18 days

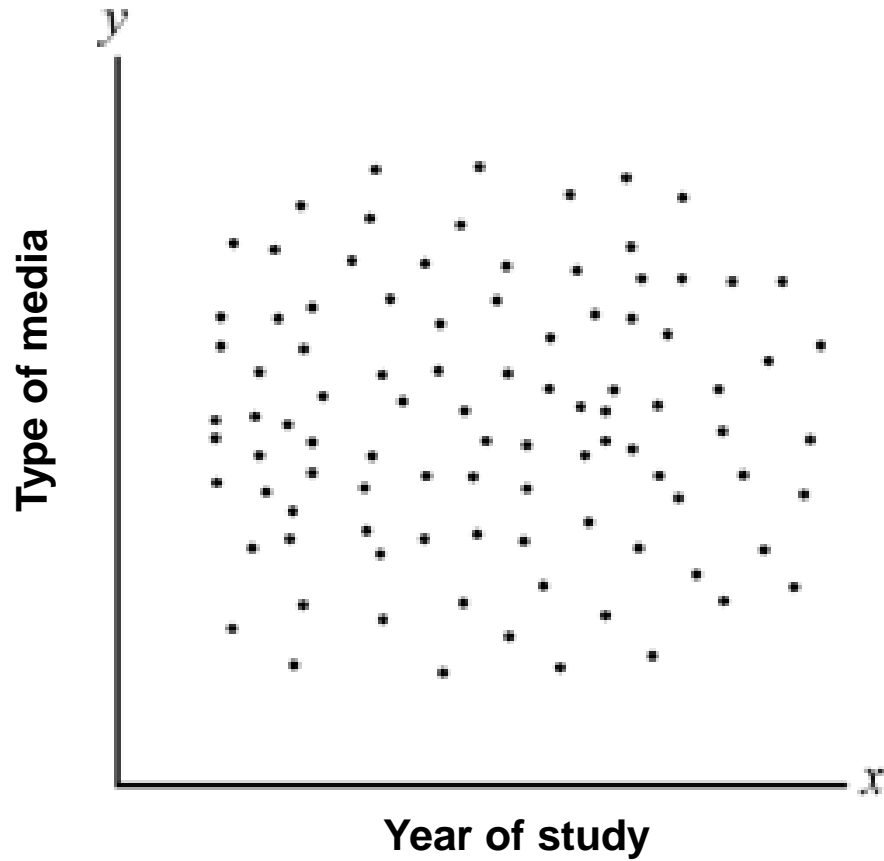




# Gathering data : questions

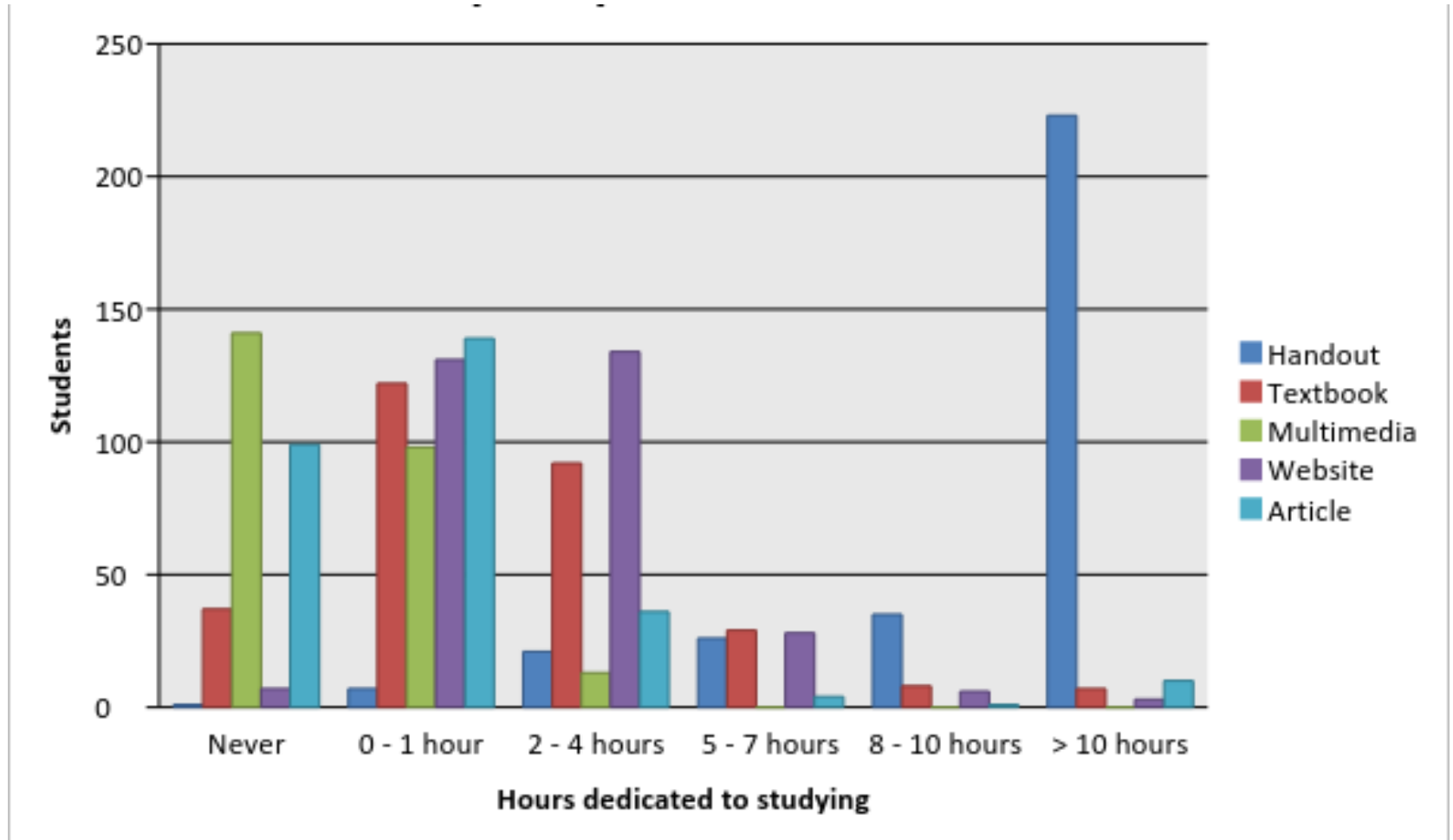
- Type of ressources used
- Time allocated to reading (related to studies)
  - Number of hours
- Information carriers
  - Print
  - Electronic
- Access to information
  - At the library
  - Elsewhere

# Results : Correlation Zero



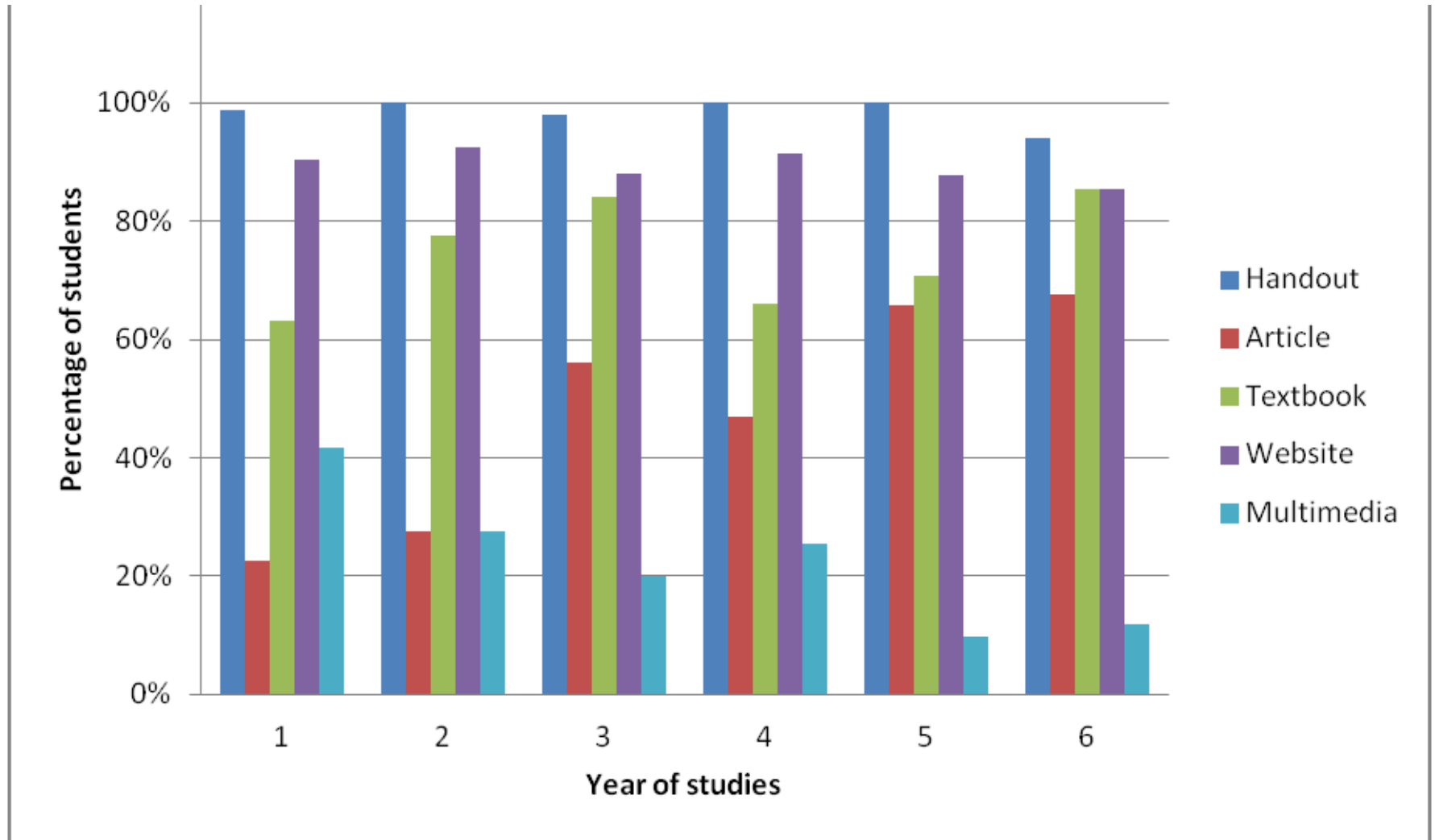
# Results : Document Types

## Hours dedicated to studying by type

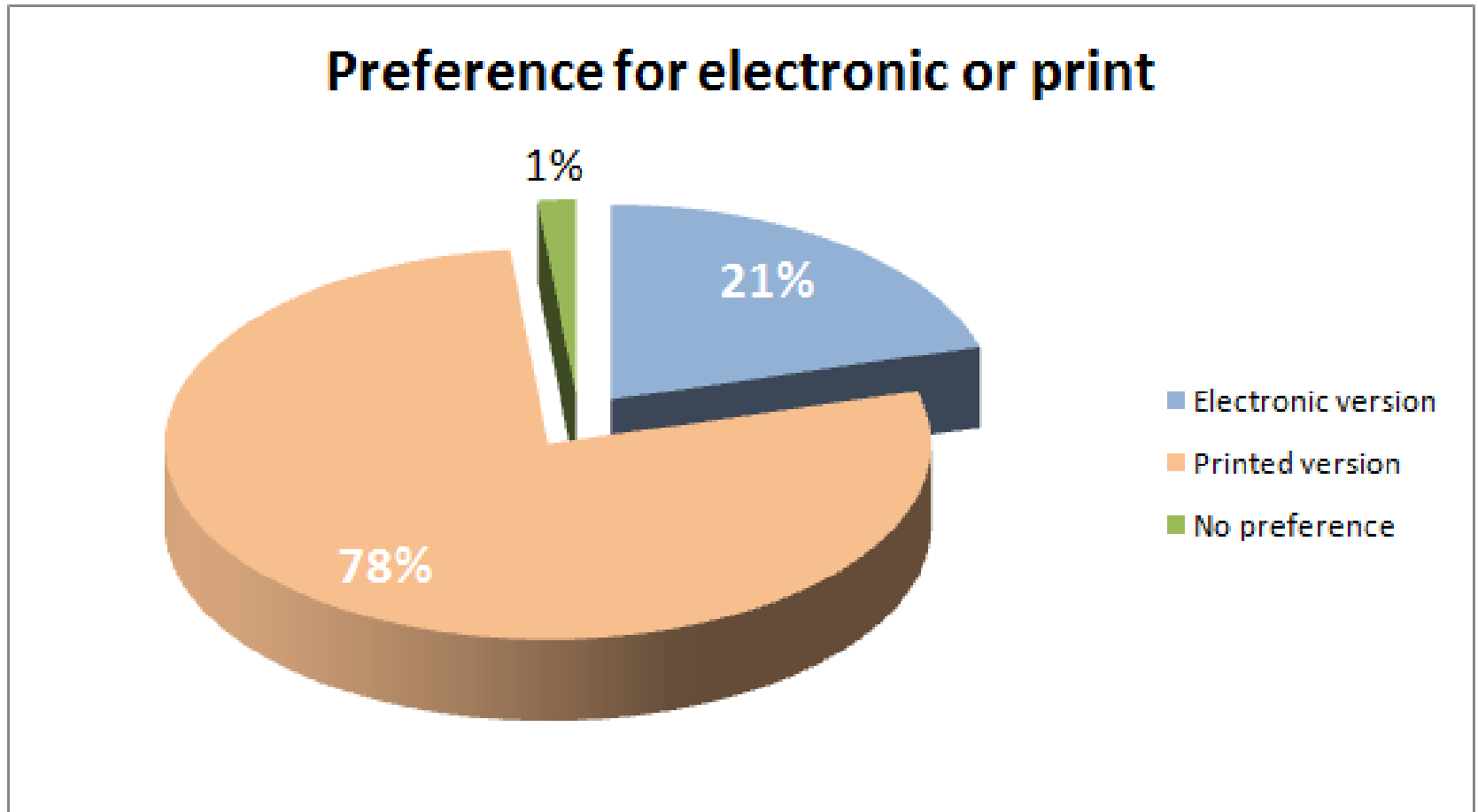


# Results : Document Types

## Usage by year of studies

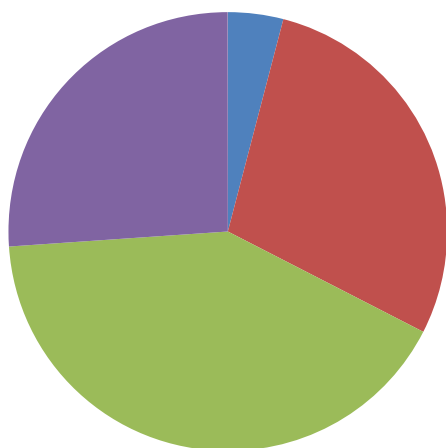


# Results : Print VS Electronic

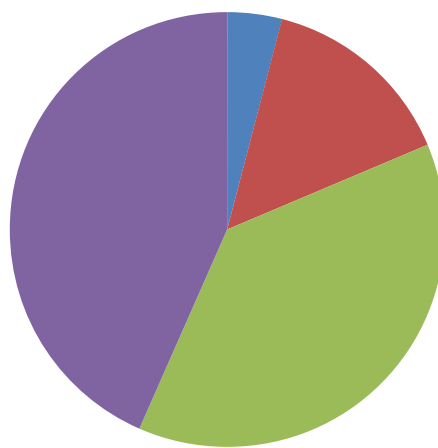


# Results : Access to information

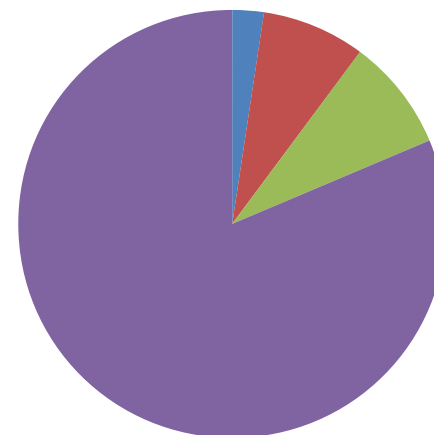
Bought



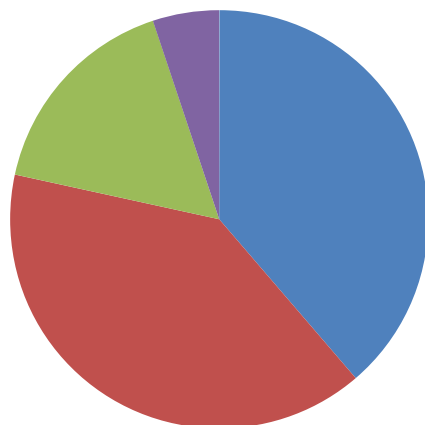
Free Online Access



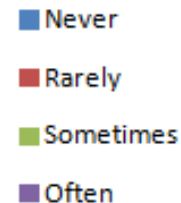
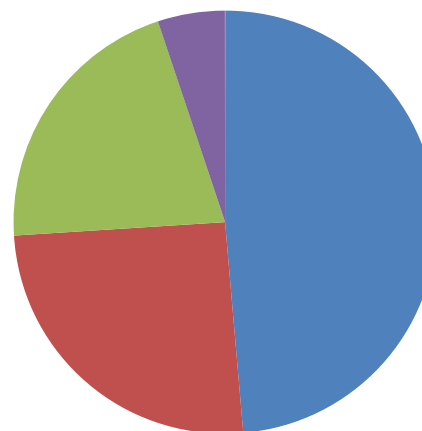
Document given in class



Library



Pirated copy



# Conclusion

- Students are not (yet) ready to shift medium from paper to electronic
- The library is more a place of study than a source of information
- Offer more support in online information assessment

# Prospects

- Project : develop contacts with faculty members
- Repeat the study
- Extend the study :
  - In-depth qualitative data from a specific user group



**Thank you for your attention**