

# UW-IT Campus Technology Research

## Hypothesis Pilot Summary (FY 2020-2021: Discussion Tools)

**Date:** 5/5/21

**Tool name:** Hypothesis (<https://web.hypothes.is/>)

**Description:** Collaborative annotation tool that supports shared annotations within a course or sections of the course, discussion in response to annotations, and active reading of text (on the web or pdf). Annotations are formatted in a rich text editor; users can add links, upload images, and embed video in their comments. The Hypothesis LMS LTI is integrated with Assignments and SpeedGrader in Canvas.

**Pilot dates:** Autumn 2020, Winter 2021, Spring 2021

**Recruitment method(s):** Canvas banner; targeted outreach to Foster School, UWB, UWT, Tri-Campus Digital Learning Alliance; word of mouth

**Pilot participants:** 42 instructors, 65 courses, approx. 1800 students

**Data collection method(s):** Quarterly surveys of students and instructors; usage analytics

**User feedback (summary):** Tool rated highly by both instructors and students, especially in regard to its effectiveness in meeting learning goals. Students viewed the tool as primarily social, to be used in a class setting, though it is also available for individual use. (See quarterly survey reports for more information.)

	Instructors (N=31)	Students (N=141)
Overall assessment <i>(scale 1-4: poor, fair, good, great)</i>	3.4/4	3.2/4
Effectiveness in regard to learning goals <i>(scale 1-3: no effect, helped a little, helped a lot; average rating across 7 learning goals)</i>	2.6/3	2.5/3
Ease of use <i>(scale 1-5: very difficult - very easy)</i>	4.1/5	4.0/5
Endorsement (would use again) <i>(scale 1-5: very unlikely - very likely)</i>	4.6/5	3.2/5

**Support burden (during pilot):** Low/Medium/High

**Accessibility review:**

Documentation provided by vendor	<b>Yes/No</b>
AXDD usability review	<b>Yes/No</b>
UW-IT Accessible Technologies review	<b>Yes/No</b>

**Outstanding issues:**

Students want to be able to download a copy of the text with their annotations and to view instructor annotations alone. Course copy requires additional steps for document links to update correctly; we would like to see this become a seamless process.