



Digital Literacy as a Prerequisite for Achieving Good Academic Performance

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Introduction

- **Inclusion into the networked participatory society** – strategic goal of nations (only 40% of world population has access to the Internet)
- **Acquisition of digital literacy related skills and knowledge** – as early as possible
- **Education in digital literacy** especially in primary and secondary education institutions
- Higher education institutions are no exception – Croatian universities offering ICT related study programmes

Digital literacy

- Many definitions, many different viewpoints
- **Digital literacy** is generally defined as the ability to use ICT to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information, requiring both cognitive and technical skills (ALA)
- Digital literacy has become a **keystone for civic engagement, educational success, and economic growth and innovation**

Research

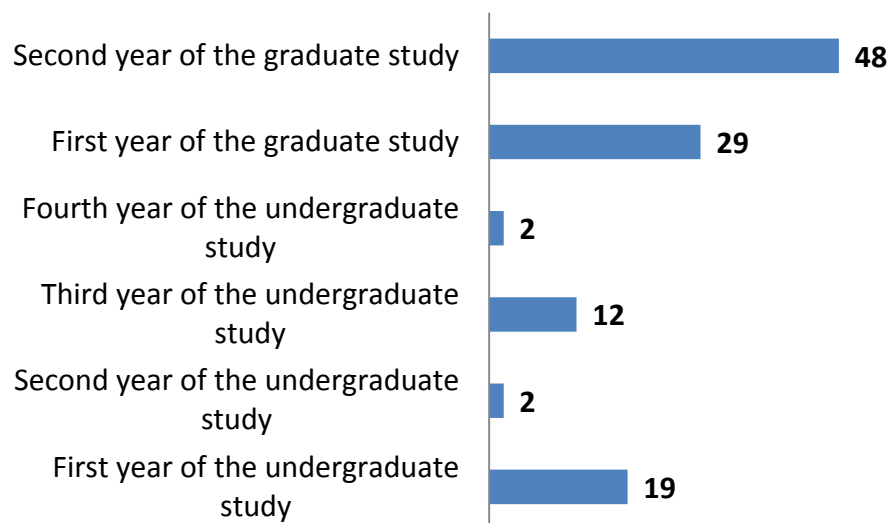
- Focus on university students – future (or present?) decision makers
- Insight into selected aspects of digital literacy of students at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science (FHSS) in Zagreb, Croatia
- The objective of this study was to collect data about understanding of the term of digital literacy and its application and influence in important segments of students' everyday ICT related activities

Research

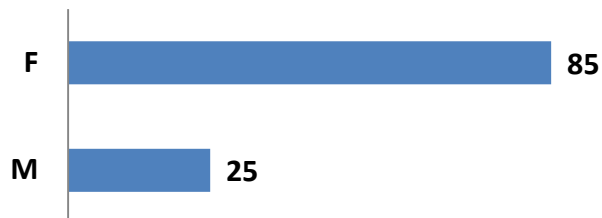
- An online (Web) survey with 15 closed type questions was chosen as a research method
- Research was initiated on June 9th / closed on June 23rd
- Invitations sent by e-mail to mailing lists and freshmen (who are not on the list)
- Total of 112 students who participated in the research

Results (selected)

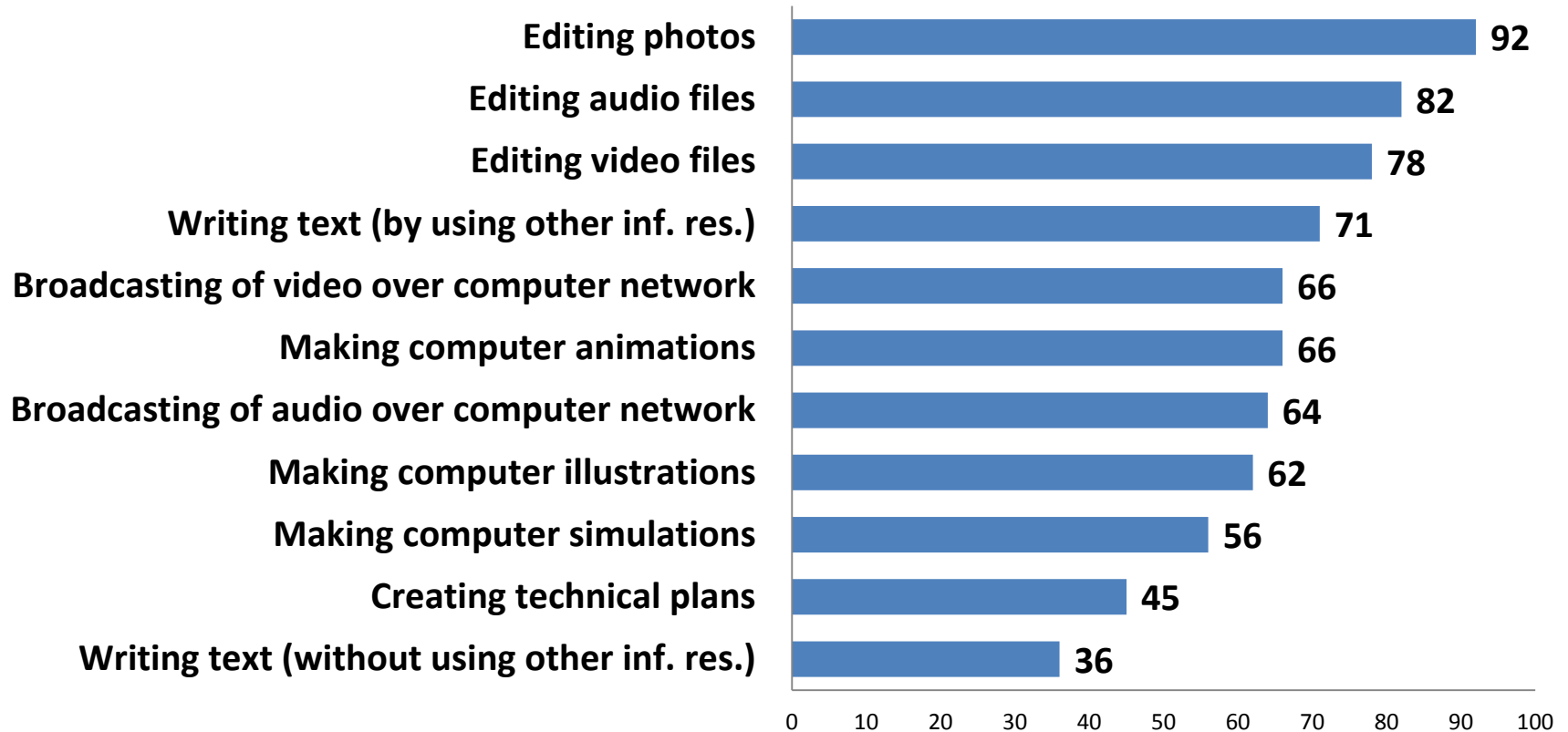
- Year and type of the study (N=112)



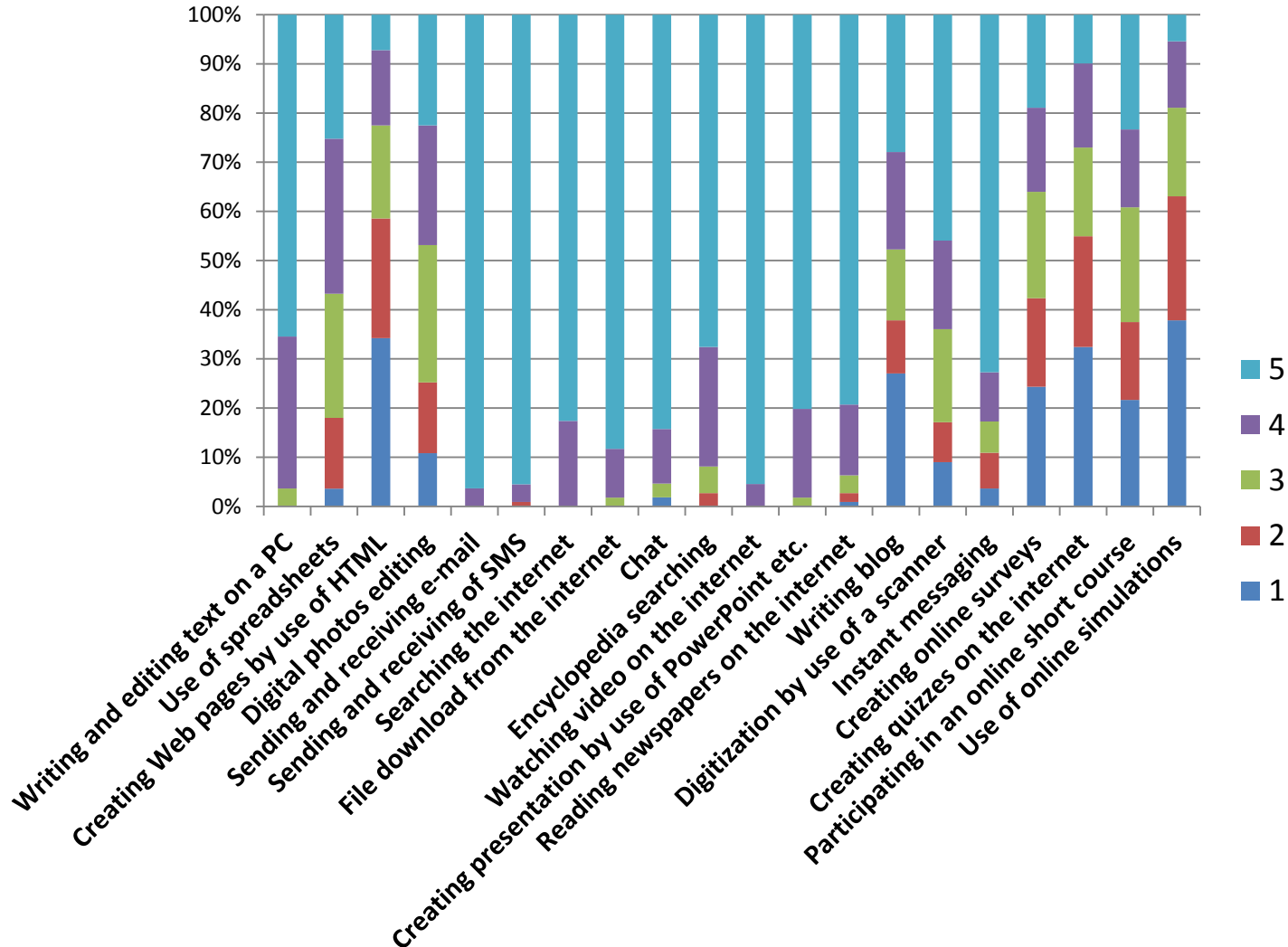
- Sex (N=110)



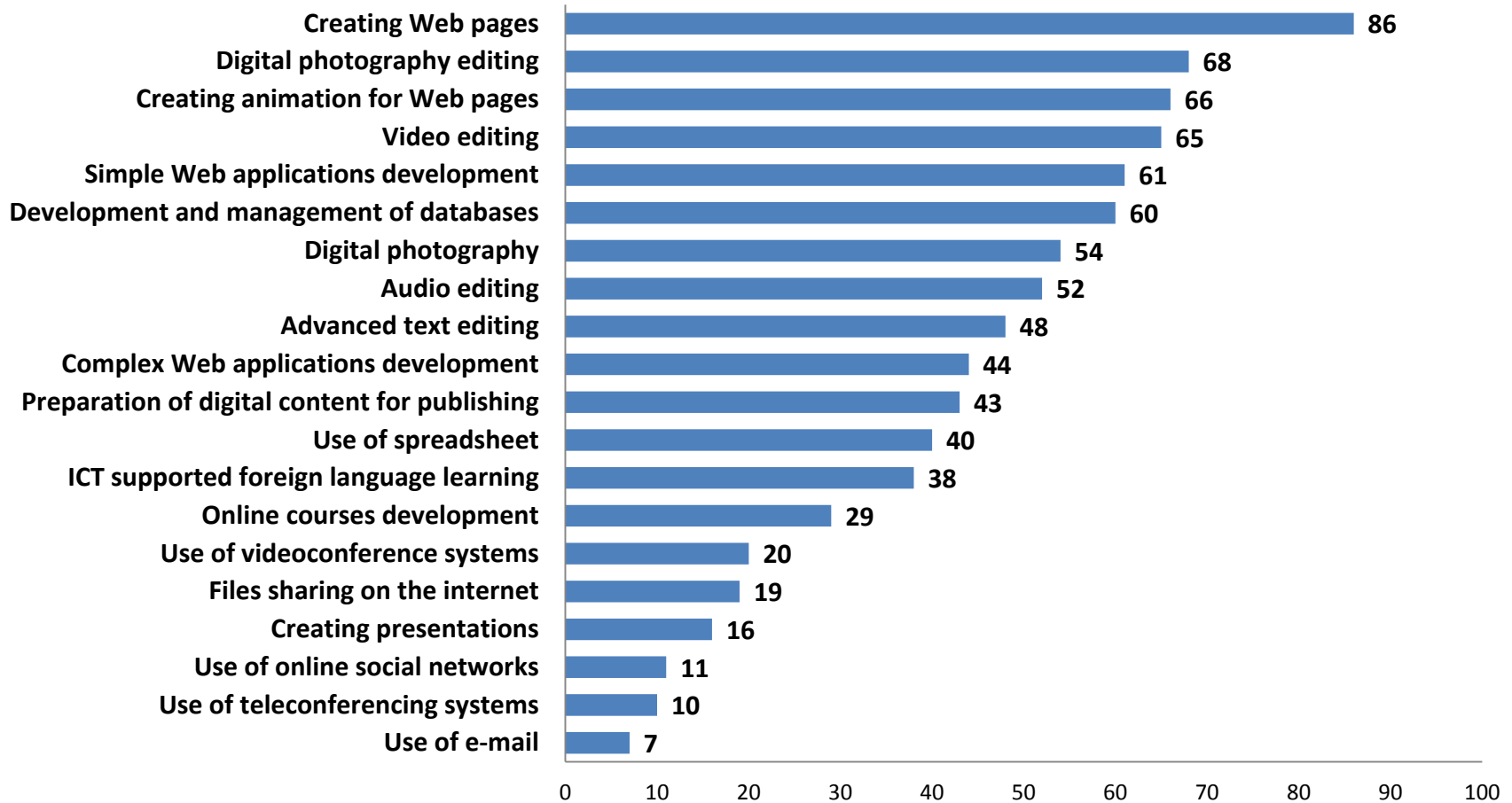
Which of the following activities do you relate to the concept of digital literacy? (N=111)



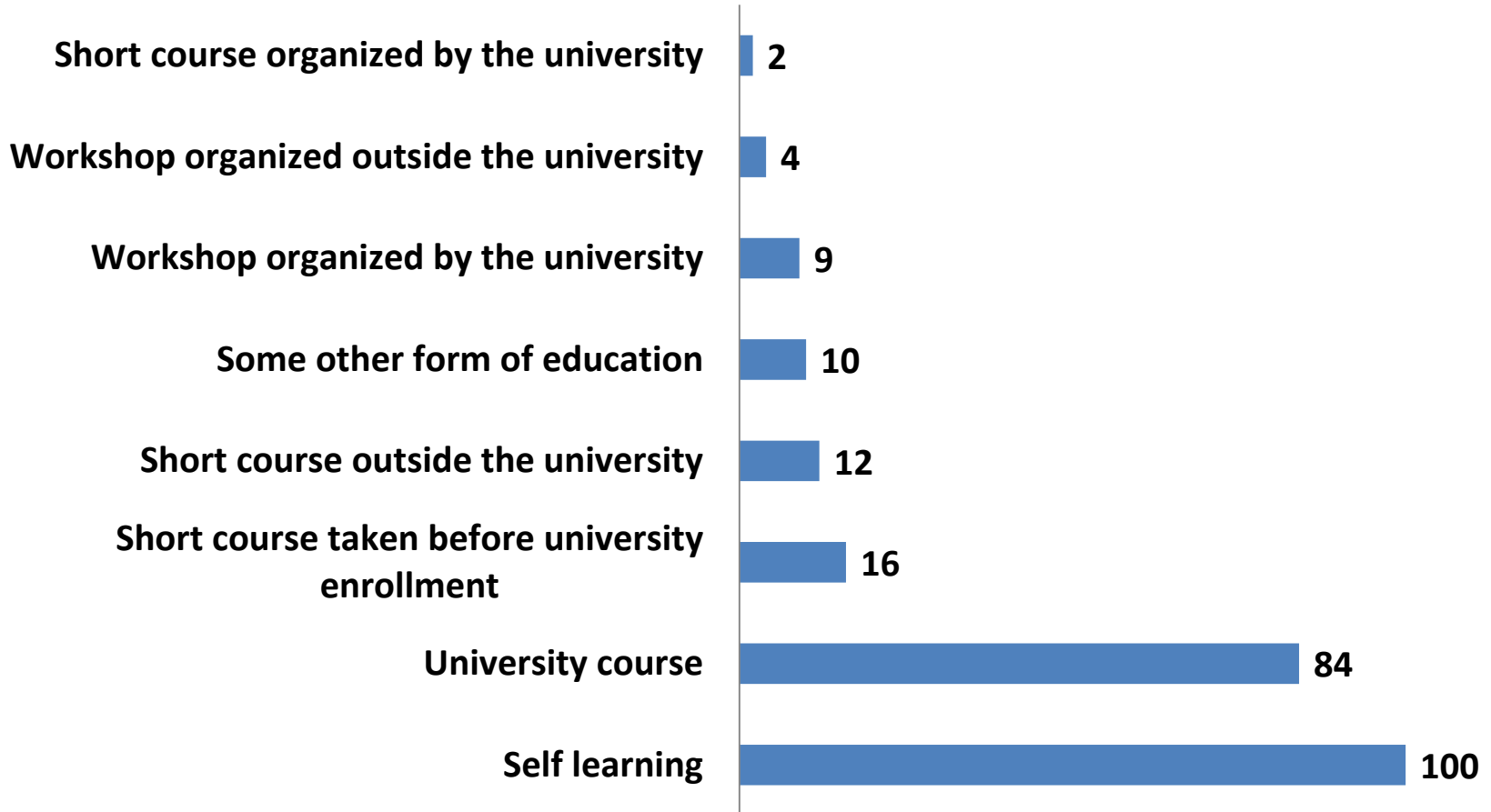
Please, rate your knowledge in doing the following activities (1=without knowledge, 5=excellent knowledge)



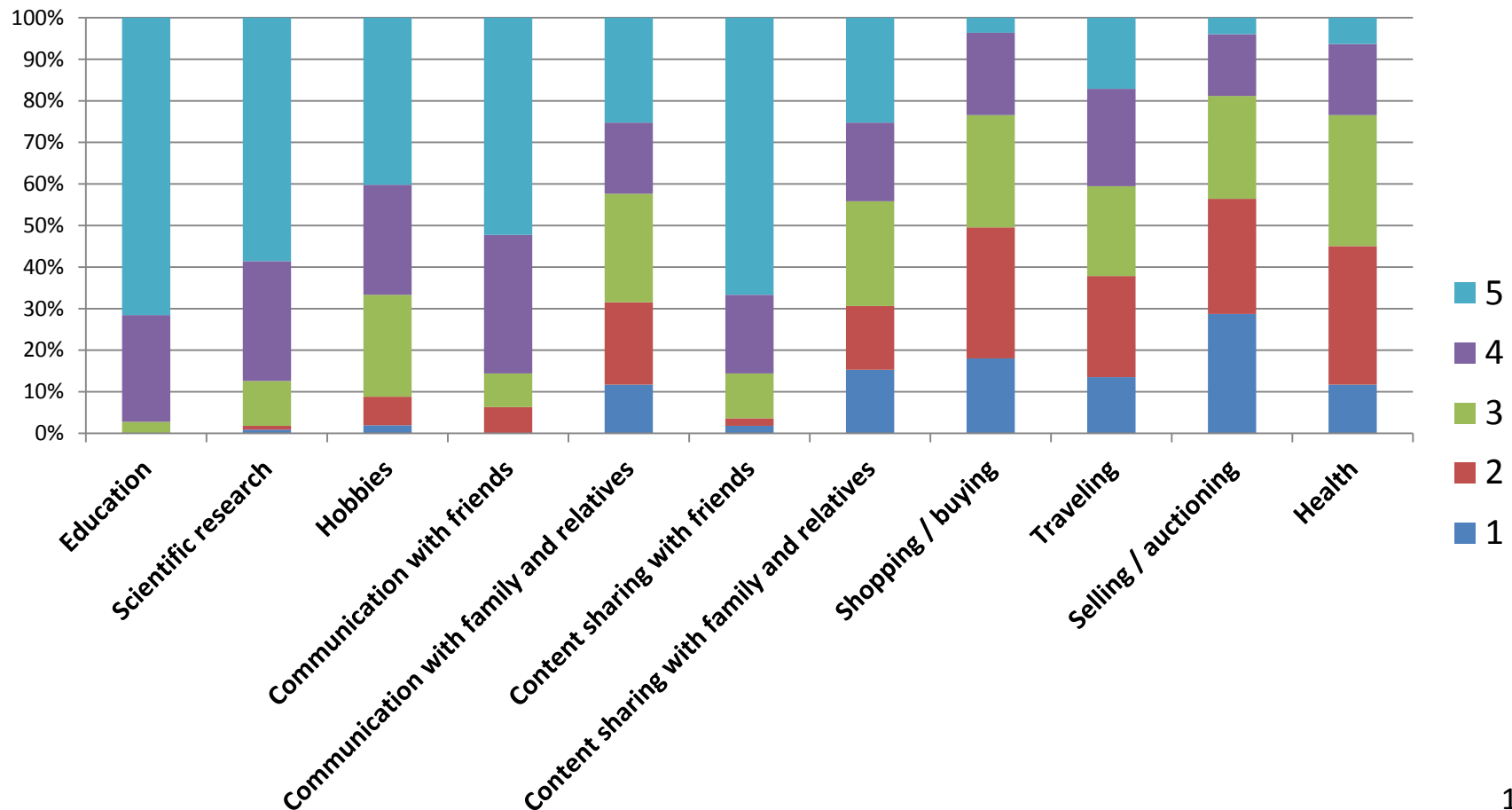
Which of the following areas of knowledge would you like to expand? (multiple answers)(N=111)



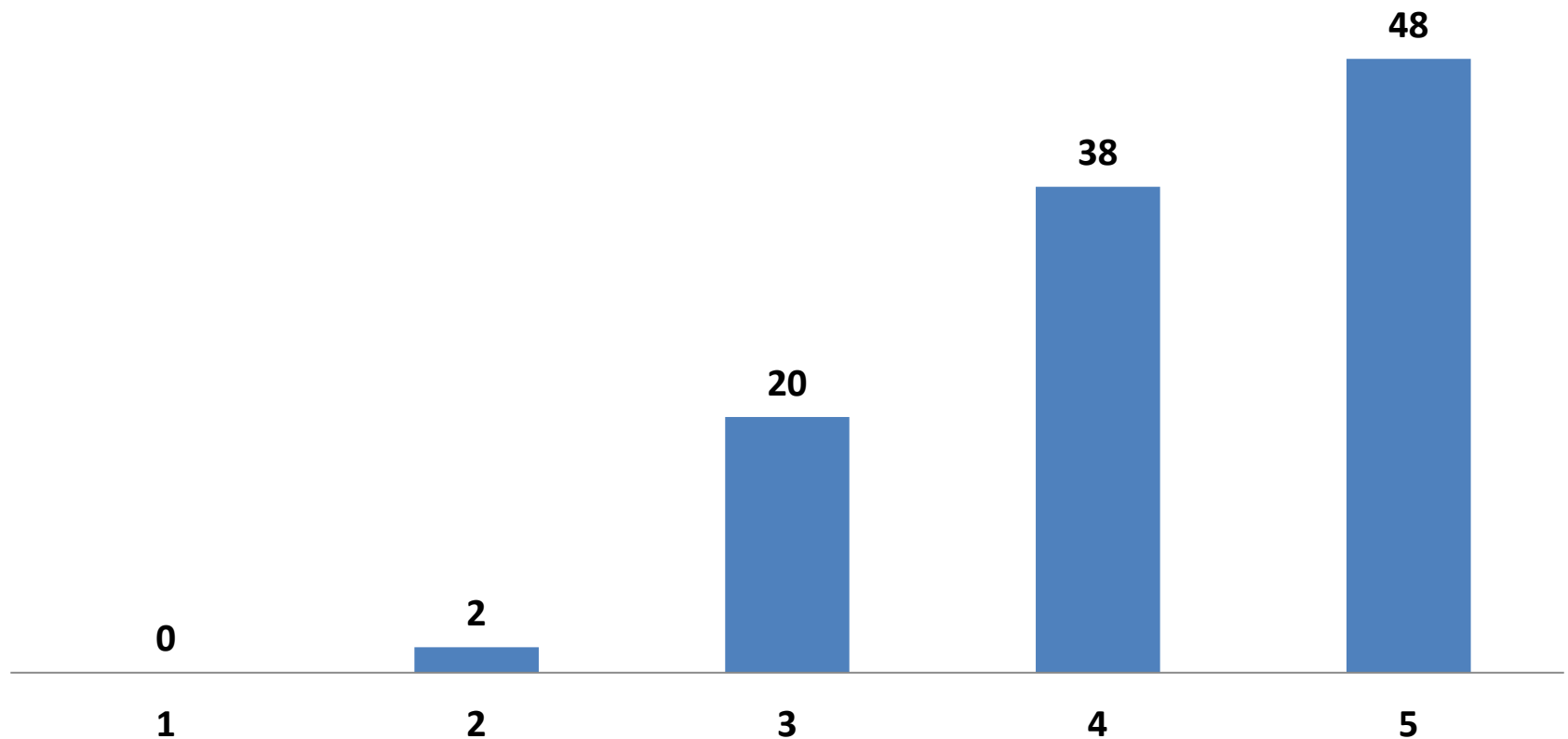
What type of education for use of ICT have you had so far? (multiple answers)(N=111)



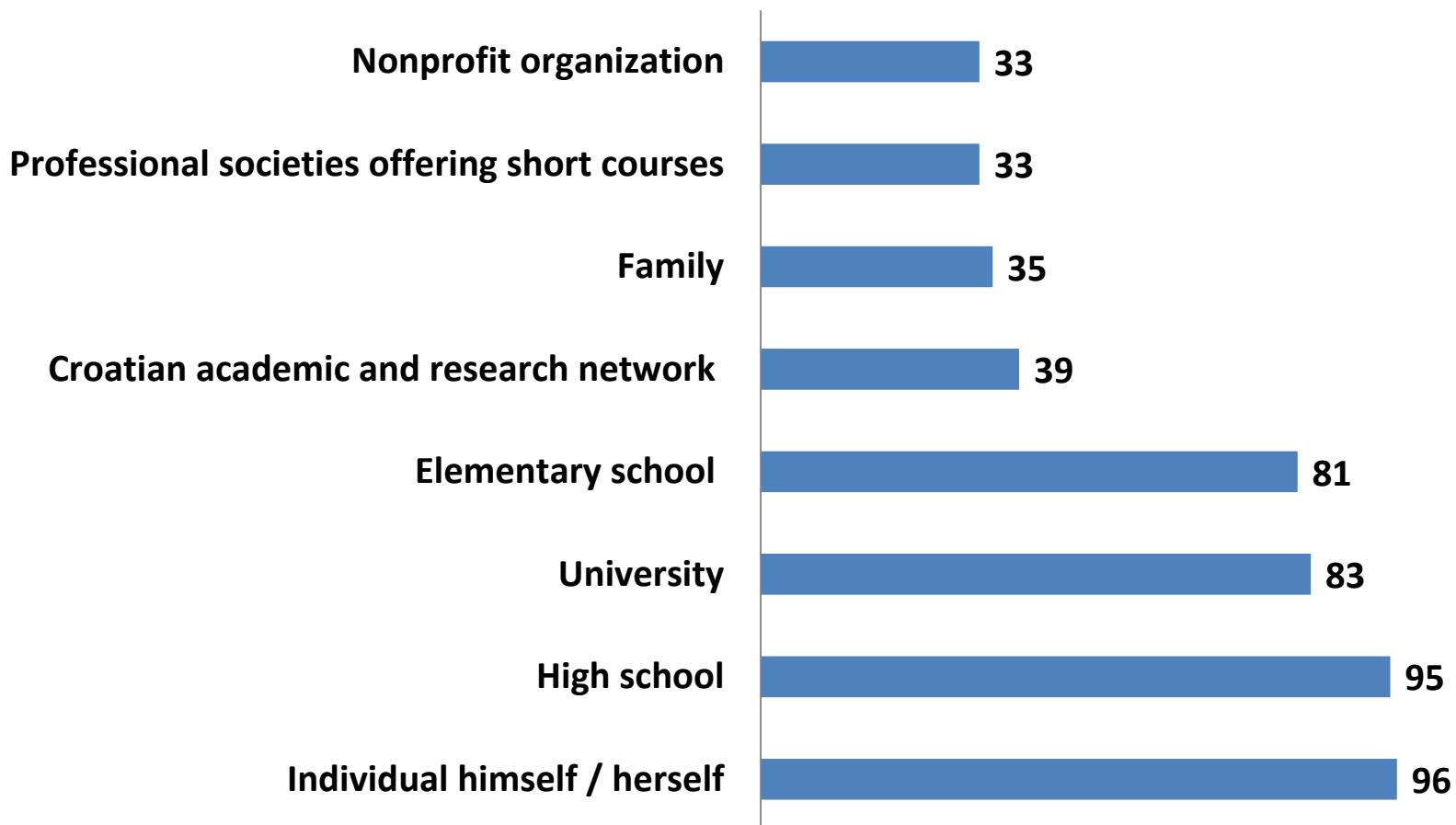
Please, rate the influence of ICT on the following segments of your life (1=without influence, 5=very strong influence)(multiple answers)



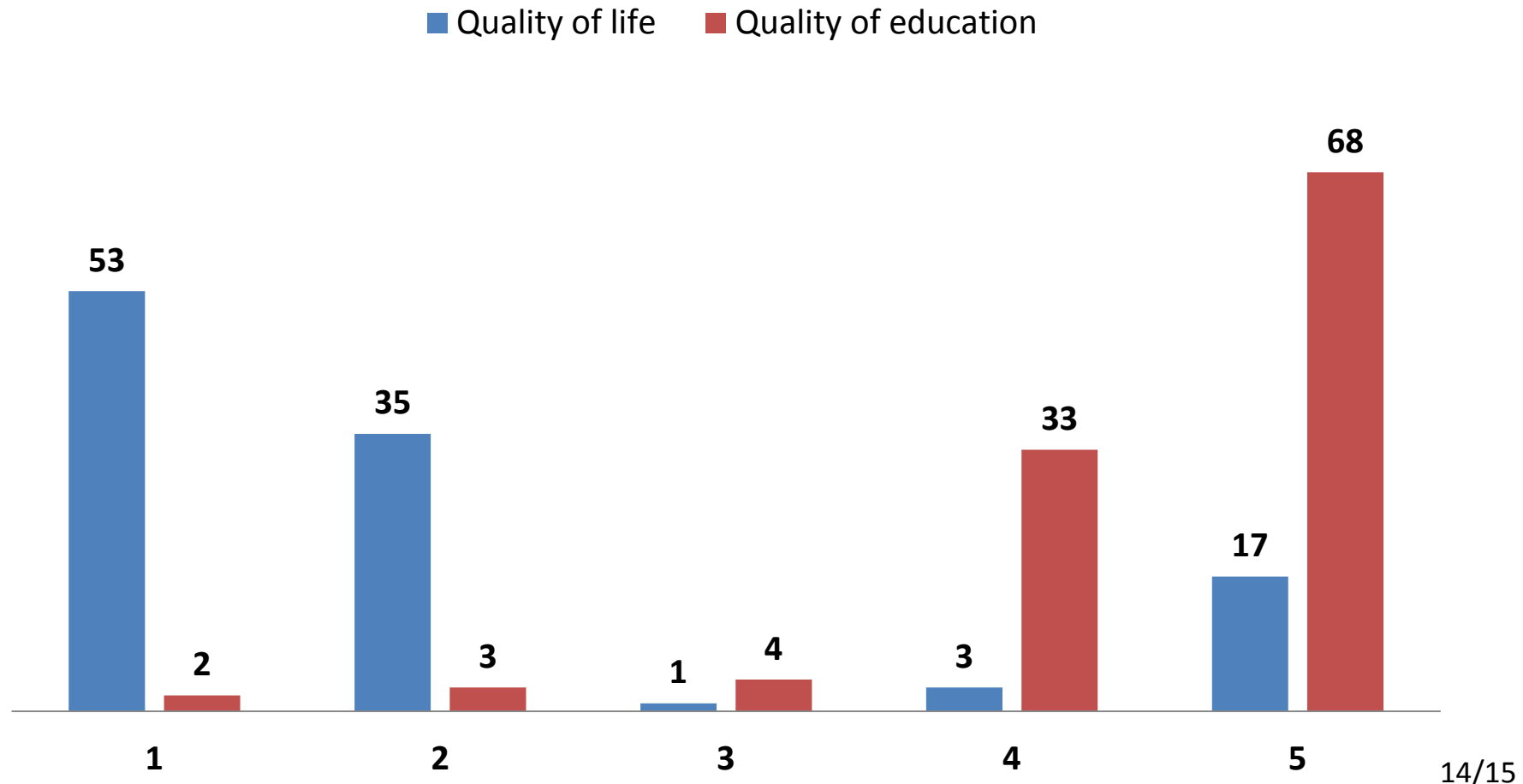
Please, rate the influence of ICT on your academic performance (1= without influence, 5=very strong influence)(N=108)



In your opinion, who is responsible for the development of digital literacy of an individual? (multiple answers)



In your opinion, what influence will digital literacy have on quality of life (in general) and quality of education of an individual (in general)? (1=without influence, 5=very strong influence)(N=109 / N=110)



Conclusion

- Digital literacy important for development of different segments of the networked society
- Student population deeply involved in use of digital technology
- Students reacted faster than the official bodies at the university in charge for development of the study programs
- Inputs for development of new university courses and university policies