

Preparatory analyses

We assessed the variables listed in Table 1, to control for any potential influence on the dependent measures. As none of these variables yielded significant differences among the experimental conditions, we did not include any of them in our main analyses.

Table 1. Multivariate ANOVA to test for differences between experimental conditions for participants' Internet-specific epistemological beliefs and demographic variables—along with participants' intrinsic motivation during the reasoning task and their certainty regarding their reported opinions on the topic.

Source	Dependent Variable	Type III Sum of Squares	<i>df</i>	Mean Square	<i>F</i>	<i>p</i>	η^2_{part}
Experimental condition	Use of computer (hrs/wk)	0.89	1	0.89	< 1	.71	< .01
	Use of Internet (hrs/wk)	1.80	1	1.80	< 1	.65	< .01
	Research online for general information (hrs/wk)	0.29	1	0.29	< 1	.72	< .01
	Research online for educational information (hrs/wk)	1.17	1	1.17	< 1	.37	.01
	Prior opinion toward "mobile phone use in classes"	0.51	1	0.51	< 1	.49	< .01
	Prior knowledge about the topic "mobile phone use in classes"	0.85	1	0.85	2.41	.13	.03
	Internet-Specific Epistemological Beliefs (ISEB)	0.40	1	0.40	1.09	.30	.01
	Participants' certainty about their reported opinion after the reasoning task	<.01	1	<.01	< 1	.94	< .01
	Participants' reported intrinsic motivation during the reasoning task, in retrospect	0.22	1	0.22	< 1	.51	< .01

Note. hrs/wk = hours per week.

Table 2. Relative frequencies of selected science-related Web items, among the experimental conditions.

		Experimental condition		Total
		individual reasoning	collaborative reasoning	
Relative frequencies of science-related links within the first four selected Web items	0%	1	0	1
	25%	2	2	4
	50%	5	7	12
	75%	10	21	31
	100%	15	20	35
	Total	33	50	83

Note. 100% means that 4 out of the 4 links were determined to be science-related Web items.