

## [PEGEGOG] Article Review Request



**From** Pegem Eğitim ve Öğretim Dergisi <editor@pegegog.net>  
**To** Furtasan Ali Yusuf <fay@binabangsa.ac.id>  
**Date** 2022-09-21 19:08

Dear Furtasan Ali Yusuf :

I believe that you would serve as an excellent reviewer of the manuscript, "STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON ONLINE CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PRIZREN DURING THE COVID19 LOCKDOWN," which has been submitted to Pegem Journal of Education and Instruction. The submission's abstract is inserted below, and I hope that you will consider undertaking this important task for us.

Please log into the journal web site by 2022-10-05 to indicate whether you will undertake the review or not, as well as to access the submission and to record your review and recommendation.

The review itself is due 2022-10-19.

Submission URL: <https://www.pegegog.net/index.php/pegegog/reviewer/submission?submissionId=2026&reviewId=2616&key=hz8H2r>

Thank you for considering this request.

Pegem Eğitim ve Öğretim Dergisi  
editor@pegegog.net

"STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON ONLINE CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PRIZREN DURING THE COVID19 LOCKDOWN "

We are witnessing a radical transformation and rapid technological development in all spheres of life. The teaching and learning process could not be overlooked by this development and technology has become an integral part. When COVID19 pandemic is taken into account then no option remained open, educational institutions including those of higher education had to adapt to the new reality in a record time. The University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" (UPZ) faced this reality as well, although in the first decade of its establishment, UPZ had to adapt the teaching process to the new conditions and reality. This publication presents the effectiveness of the online teaching learning process from the students' perspective during the COVID19 lockdown. How well teachers and students have adapted to this reality, and whether this practice should be offered to some extent as an option in the future. A total of 159 responses to a questionnaire have been analyzed and a focused group interview has been conducted with a group of English Language and Literature students. The learning process at UPZ during the period as it was organized through virtual platforms resulted not satisfactory. Main challenges were found out to be virtual classrooms, internet network, computer equipment.

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# **STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON ONLINE CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PRIZREN DURING THE COVID19 LOCKDOWN**

We are witnessing a radical transformation and rapid technological development in all spheres of life. The teaching and learning process could not be overlooked by this development and technology has become an integral part. When COVID19 pandemic is taken into account then no option remained open, educational institutions including those of higher education had to adapt to the new reality in a record time. The University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" (UPZ) faced this reality as well, although in the first decade of its establishment, UPZ had to adapt the teaching process to the new conditions and reality. This publication presents the effectiveness of the online teaching learning process from the students' perspective during the COVID19 lockdown. How well teachers and students have adapted to this reality, and whether this practice should be offered to some extent as an option in the future. A total of 159 responses to a questionnaire have been analyzed and a focused group interview has been conducted with a group of English Language and Literature students. The learning process at UPZ during the period as it was organized through virtual platforms resulted not satisfactory. Main challenges were found out to be virtual classrooms, internet network, computer equipment.

Keywords:, University of Prizren, effectiveness of online learning, COVID19, teaching online, students' perception.

## **Introduction**

The rapid digital revolution of 2020 was further accelerated by the pandemic especially when it comes to the digitalization of teaching and lecturing on online platforms (Coulthard, 2020). The pandemic has forced most governments to take tough measures that limit human rights, but save lives (Klapkiv, Y., & Dluhopolska, T.(2020). Lili Ding, Zhongchao Zhao & Lei Wang believe that China has been forced to take this measures mainly due to public health and to protect the young generations from being affected by the coronavirus, (Lili Ding, Zhongchao Zhao & Lei Wang (2022).

Given the situation created, educational institutions of all levels in the Republic of Kosovo began to adapt to the new reality. However, taking in consideration that all of public higher education institution in Kosovo, have only offered education in classical form, it was more difficult for them to adapt to the new reality (Hortz 2020). Virtual platforms have proven to be of a key role in teaching online. Teaching material had to be adopted to the new reality, also it was necessary to conduct training of teachers regarding the teaching methodology and the use of virtual platforms. Suddenly we could see numerous teaching platforms online which were rapidly developing in order to offer beat online teaching/learning experience. Organizing online education is not the same for all subjects. Various tools should therefore be created to demonstrate effective teaching by teachers. This development differs radically from traditional teaching. Hui Yu points out that conventional teaching methods are far from meeting the requirements of the modern century and he adds that it is mainly because of the rapid increase in awareness and rapid technological growth. (Hui Yu 2021)

Teachers as well as pupils/students also had to adapt to this rapid change which could affect their efficiency and success in one or another way. Lili Ding, Zhongchao Zhao & Lei Wang agree that this imbalance between online teaching strategies and teaching development may affect teaching performance, which is detrimental to students' innovation capacities and comprehensive quality." (Lili Ding, Zhongchao Zhao & Lei Wang (2022). Zhou Fen points out that the learning environment changed radically if comparing face to face classes with the virtual teaching/learning reality and he believes that learners need an autonomous learning environment, and the combination of the Internet and teaching just provides a new learning environment that is not restricted by time and place (Zhou Fen, 2021). Offering learning on virtual platforms is not the same. It is necessary to create suitable modules for online teaching. Zhou Fen confirms that large training institutions have gradually introduced English online learning and training models. Moreover, they began to develop a variety of network databases to manage the teaching content and use a variety of tools to assist in learning and teaching activities" (Zhou Fen, 2021). Given that the pandemic is not over yet and the pandemic situation is different from state to state, it remains to be seen after studies and analyzes what the consequences of the pandemic will be, how effective and successful the virtual learning has been. In the future we may face similar situations and higher education institutions should take advantage of technological opportunities and be more prepared. Hui Yu believes that the mode of online teaching might also become diverse with the introduction of 5G live class, ultra HD video interaction, holographic live, VR live, and AI teacher (Hui Yu, 2021).

### **Objectives of the research paper**

- Evaluate the effectiveness of the teaching/learning process at the University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" from the students' perspective.
- Find out about the challenges that the newly established university faced during this extraordinary situation
- Feedback and recommendations for further development of the university in terms of organizing virtual classes in the future

### **Significance of the study**

The study offers a clear picture of effectiveness of online teaching/learning process from the student's perspective during the COVID19 period. Primarily it is significant for the target university, University of Prizren to plan its further development in terms of organizing teaching/learning online. The study can serve also for the higher education in Kosovo and other forms of education aiming to offer classes online. Stakeholders including international organizations aiming to support education in Kosovo with a focus in higher education can also use the information for further support of education in our country.

### **Methodology**

Quantitative and analytical method have been used to conduct this research paper. These cross-sectional design enabled complementation and data assurance. The questionnaire was eligible for students who have had online classes and have been students of University of Prizren. A total of 153 students have responded to the online questionnaire. The link of the questionnaire was sent to students to their official university emails. The questionnaire was designed using survey monkey which is quite user friendly and could generate satisfactory data analysis for the research.

Questionnaire was designed to generate data on effectiveness of the online teaching and learning process. To the best of my knowledge this was the first study of this kind conducted on the effectiveness of online teaching during the CORONA period at our university. Questionnaire was user friendly and easy to answer. Students could submit their answers by using any digital device including their smart phone, computer, tablet. Questionnaires were anonymous which were self-analyzed by the survey application.

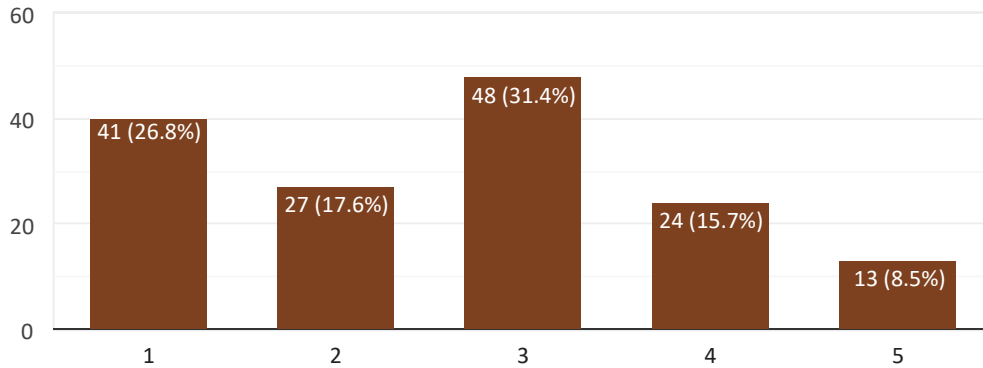
It was designed and get information on practicality and functionality of the platform that was used by the university, the possibility of students to join virtual classes. The questionnaire also generated data on interactivity of classes and the teaching methodology that was used by professors. At the very end students are asked to give their opinion if they would like to be offered online classes in the future.

### **Discussion and Interpretation of results**

Based on students' responses on effectiveness of attending online lectures, a lower number of them rate online learning as very effective or about 8.5%. Most students think that teaching is not effective or 26.8% as completely ineffective 17.6%. If we focus on the graph presented, the evaluation is almost average in terms of the effectiveness of attending online learning. This fact is worrying because this form of lecturing at UPZ has lasted for a long period, almost two years, and has directly affected students' professional development.

### 1. How effective was online teaching/learning process?

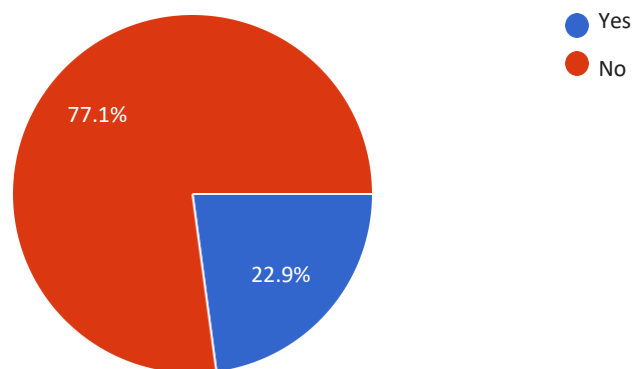
153 responses



When asked if students want online learning to continue to be offered as an option even after the pandemic is over and they return to normal, the vast majority of students or 77.1% of them do not want to. This is to be expected, as most students feel that the form of online learning offered to them is not effective and of course that providing this form would result in their academic and intellectual stagnation and development.

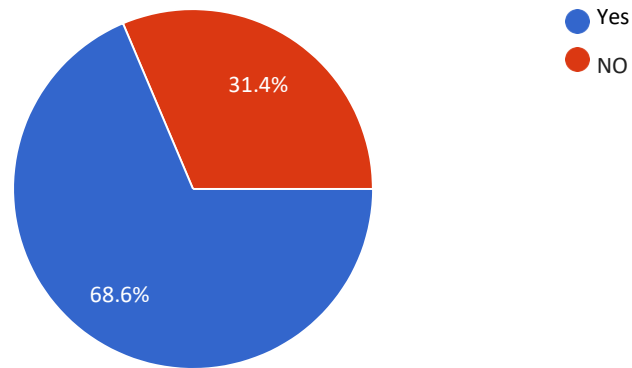
I want online learning to be offered as an option in the future even after the pandemic.

153 responses



I face difficulties in catching up while taking classes online.

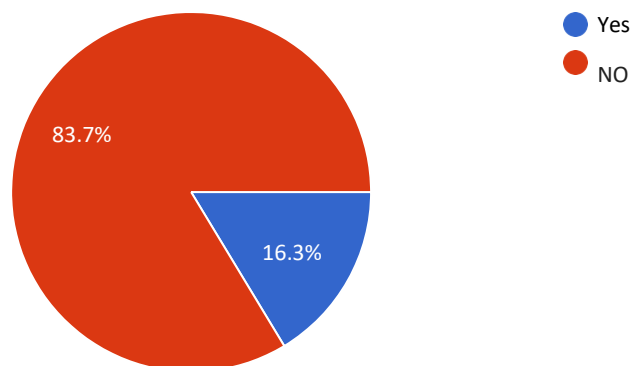
153 responses



The vast majority of students stated that they face difficulties in catching up while taking classes online. This could be due to many factors. The vast majority of students have encountered difficulties in connecting to the platform and this may be due to the electronic devices they use, network, platform speed, overload as a result of too many students connecting at the same time, etc. Only 26.1% of students stated that they did not face difficulties in catching up while taking classes online.

Online classes are more practical than face to face classes.

153 responses



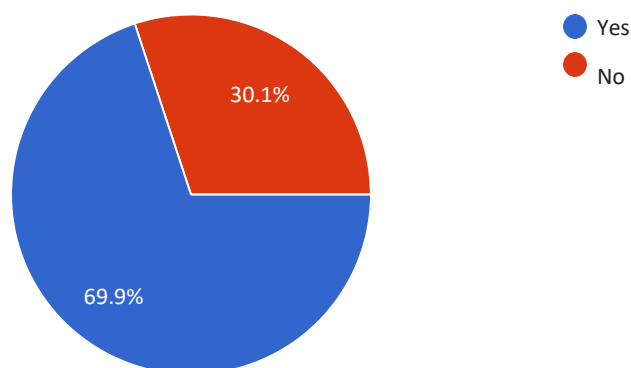
On the question: Do you find online learning practical? Absolut majority or 83.7% do not share this opinion, and this is really worrying and shows that the learning process has stalled in many aspects. Considering unprecedented technological and communication development, when many people have established their home offices and offer services and work from home, when meetings conferences, presentations are held online on different meeting platforms, UPZ should make an in-depth analysis of the process and must necessarily offer this opportunity and choice.

The learning platform is one of the main issues that needs to be advanced. A user-friendly platform, which provides all the necessary tools and easy to use would create a more enjoyable study atmosphere and consequently the learning process would be more efficient. About half of the students found it impossible to express their opinion during the lectures. All this led almost 70% of students to think that offering the opportunity of online learning should not exist, which is an absurdity of its own kind considering the time in which we live.

In regard to teaching methodology, majority of students or around 70% think that professors have used adequate forms and techniques in lecturing. This is quite surprising taking in consideration that the time to adapt to this new reality was very short. It would be interesting to have a closer look at the factors that have impacted a satisfactory performance of teachers during this state of emergency. The use of ICT tools in the classroom and information technology devices on daily basis can be indicators in the use of appropriate teaching methodology by the academic staff at UPZ.

### 3. Teachers use adequate methodology in organizing classes online.

153 responses



## Conclusion and discussions

COVID19 pandemic shocked the world. People had to adapt to the new reality so did the UPZ. For most professors this would be the first time they would lecture remotely and see their students through cameras in their home environment. This will greatly affect the learning process sometimes in positive and sometimes in negative way. After the data analyses in this research it can be concluded that the learning process at UPZ during the period as it was organized through virtual platforms resulted not satisfactory. One of the clear reasons appears to be of the technical character including, information technology devices, internet connection, digital platform. Most students are reserved about having classes online in the future. Surprisingly and despite the fact that most professors have faced such a situation for the first time, they were able to adjust their teaching methodology accordingly. Given the trends in the development of the learning process in the world, UPZ should necessarily offer online learning as an option. The university should focus on developing a sustainable learning platform which will meet all the needs of the time for providing online learning. Academic staff should be continuously trained on the use of technology in teaching.

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## [PEGEGOG] Article Review Acknowledgement



**From** Pegem Eğitim ve Öğretim Dergisi <editor@pegegog.net>  
**To** Furtasan Ali Yusuf <fay@binabangsa.ac.id>  
**Date** 2022-10-03 19:30

Dear Furtasan Ali Yusuf:

Thank you for completing the review of the submission, "STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON ONLINE CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PRIZREN DURING THE COVID19 LOCKDOWN," for Pegem Journal of Education and Instruction.

We appreciate your contribution to the quality of the work that we publish.

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# PEGEM JOURNAL OF EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION (PEGEGOG)

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## LETTER OF REVIEWER

*To whom this may concern,*

Furtasan Ali Yusuf has reviewed the manuscript titled; "*Self-Awareness and Expectations for the Future of Adolescents in Juvenile Detention Centres*" for PEGEM JOURNAL OF EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION (PEGEGOG) <https://www.pegegog.net/index.php/pegegog>.

We appreciate the contribution to the quality of the work that we publish.

Kind regards.

Best regards,

Prof. Dr. Ismail Hakki Mirici

Editor in Chief

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