

Investigation of the Effect of Lecturers' Attributes on Students' Interest in Learning Statistic Ghanaian Tertiary Institutions

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Abstract : The study aims to explore the relational effect of lecturers' personal attribute on student's interest in statistics. In this study personal attributes of lecturers' such as lecturer's dynamism, communication strategies and rapport in the classroom as well as applied knowledge during lecture were examined. Here, exploratory research design was used to establish the effect of lecturer's personal attributes on student's interest. Data were analyzed by means of confirmatory factor analysis and structural equation modeling (SEM) using the SmartPLS 3 program. The study recruited 376 students from the faculty of technical and vocational education of the University of Education Winneba Kumasi campus, and Ghana Technology University College as well as Kwame Nkrumah University of science and Technology. The results revealed that personal attributes of an effective lecturer were lecturer's dynamism, rapport, communication and applied knowledge contribute (52.9%) in explaining students interest in statistics. Our regression analysis and structural equation modeling confirm that lecturers personal attribute contribute effectively by predicting student's interest of 52.9% and 53.7% respectively. The paper concludes that the total effect of a lecturer's attribute on student's interest is moderate and significant. While a lecturer's communication and dynamism were found to contribute positively to students' interest, they were insignificant in predicting students' interest. We further showed that a lecturer's personal attributes such as applied knowledge and rapport have positive and significant effect on tertiary student's interest in statistic, whilst lecturers' communication and dynamism do not significantly affect student interest in statistics; though positively related.

Keywords : student interest, effective teacher, personal attributes, regression and SEM

Conference Title : ICHE 2016 : International Conference on Higher Education

Conference Location : Boston, United States

Conference Dates : April 25-26, 2016