

Implementation of Student-Centered Learning Approach in Building Surveying Course

Authors : Amal A. Abdel-Sattar

Abstract : The curriculum of architecture department in Prince Sultan University includes 'Building Surveying' course which is usually a part of civil engineering courses. As a fundamental requirement of the course, it requires a strong background in mathematics and physics, which are not usually preferred subjects to the architecture students and many of them are not giving the required and necessary attention to these courses during their preparation year before commencing their architectural study. This paper introduces the concept and the methodology of the student-centered learning approach in the course of building surveying for architects. One of the major outcomes is the improvement in the students' involvement in the course and how this will cover and strength their analytical weak points and improve their mathematical skills. The study is conducted through three semesters with a total number of 99 students. The effectiveness of the student-centered learning approach is studied using the student survey at the end of each semester and teacher observations. This survey showed great acceptance of the students for these methods. Also, the teachers observed a great improvement in the students' mathematical abilities and how keener they became in attending the classes which were clearly reflected on the low absence record.

Keywords : architecture, building surveying, student-centered learning, teaching and learning

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