

The Attitude of Second Year Pharmacy Students towards Lectures, Exams and E-Learning

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Abstract : There is an increasing trend toward student-centred interactive e-learning methods and students' feedback is a valuable tool for improving learning methods. The aim of this study was to explore the attitude of second year pharmacy students at the University of Babylon, Iraq, towards lectures, exams and e-learning. Materials and methods: Ninety pharmacy students were surveyed by paper questionnaire about their preference for lecture format, use of e-files, theoretical lectures versus practical experiments, lecture and lab time. Students were also asked about their predilection for Moodle-based online exams, different types of exam questions, exam time and other extra academic activities. Results: Students prefer to read lectures on paper (73.3%), use of PowerPoint file (76.7%), short lectures of less than 10 pages (94.5%), practical experiments (66.7%), lectures and lab time of less than two hours (89.9% and 96.6 respectively) and intra-lecture discussions (68.9%). Students also like to have paper-based exam (73.3%), short essay (40%) or MCQ (34.4%) questions and also prefer to do extra activities like reports (22.2%), seminars (18.6%) and posters (10.8%). Conclusion: Second year pharmacy students have different attitudes toward traditional and electronic learning and assessment methods. Using multimedia, e-learning and Moodle are increasingly preferred methods among some students.

Keywords : pharmacy, students, lecture, exam, e-learning, Moodle

Conference Title : ICEL 2018 : International Conference on e-Learning

Conference Location : London, United Kingdom

Conference Dates : March 15-16, 2018