## Optimizing Distance Learning Educational Programs

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RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE
Six institutions across four countries have
dispatched the questionnaire to their
institutions' students.
The questionnaire records:
Students' Learning Preferences
Distance Education Experience
Personality Traits and Facets of
Students
Responses Collected:
Students: 646
Crosstab analysis associated learning
preferences and gender.

## STUDENTS' GENDER AND LEARNING PREFERENCES (Part 1)

The ODLEP project is funded by I.K.Y., the Erasmus+ National Agency in Greece (Erasmus+ Programme Cooperation Partnership in Higher Education Key Action 2, Project reference No: 2022-1-ELO1-KA22O-HED-000089152). The project is focusing on the students' learning preferences. The questionnaire currently is available in two platforms and four languages. In this context, the survey questionnaires are implemented on two platforms, which namely are: Google Forms and Lime survey. 646 responses from students in the partners' countries were collected. Research is still collecting answers. Students have presented their own learning preferences and the study managed to associate the learning preferences with the students' gender.

## STUDENTS' GENDER AND LEARNING PREFERENCES

Towards the effort to optimize distance learning our research project focused on students' attributes and their learning preferences. In this context, questionnaire survey participants, more specifically university students, evaluated various learning styles and preferences. Through the provided answers it became possible to associate the gender of the students with the learning preferences and styles. The crosstab analysis took place for categorical data. A five-point Likert scale was implemented. The replies included: Not at All, Slightly, Moderately, Very, and Completely. The following statements summarize the main findings of the analyses:

- Female students tend to maintain their cameras on during distance education courses, while male students tend to turn their cameras off.
- There exists a correlation among female students and the answer "not at all" towards the statement "I can better discern the material through watching a demonstrative presentation of the information".
- Female students tend to respond with "Slightly" to the statement "I can understand the material better through listening and oral teaching methods", while male students tend to respond to the statement with "Very".
- Female students tend to respond with "Slightly" / "Moderately" to the statement "I can better conceive the instructional material through performing the practical, experimental and object manipulation via something more of a physical process (simulated or real)", while male students tend to respond to the statement with "Completely".
- Female students tend to respond with "Slightly" / "Moderately" to the statement "I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that require creation, formulation, planning of ideas, strategies. I like to decide what to do and how to do it, rather than to be told", while male students tend to respond to the statement with "Completely".


## PROJECT WEBSITE:

https://websites.auth.gr/odlep/about/


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