

Optimizing Distance Learning Educational Programs

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RESEARCH PROJECT PARTICIPANTS: UNIVERSITY INSTRUCTORS

The ODLEP questionnaire survey collected 235 responses from University Instructors across six participating Universities and the results identify statistically significant differences among the Teaching Preferences of the female and male participating Educators.

ODLEP SURVEY INSTRUCTORS' GENDER AND TEACHING PREFERENCES: INDEPENDENT SAMPLES TEST

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-EL01-KA220-HED-000089152). Participating Instructors assigned scores on a number of predefined teaching preferences. Table 1 below summarizes the findings of all University Instructors who participated in the survey. Values

range from 0-5, and higher values indicate the most desired teaching preference. Table 1 presents the average scores per gender.

Group Statistics						
Teaching Preferences	Gender	N	Mean			
Instructor that has a preferred way of doing things and does not much like to do things in other ways.	FEMALE	105	2,54			
	MALE	137	3,07			
Instructor that carefully sate priorities and then sticks to them	FEMALE	105	3,72			
Instructor that carefully sets priorities and then sticks to them.	MALE	137	3,84			
Instructor that does not easily allocate class time so that the most important things receive the most coverage.	FEMALE	105	2,48			
	MALE	137	2,66			
Instructor that is not so organized in the teaching style, but is very creative, and sparks creative ideas in his / her students.	FEMALE	105	2,63			
	MALE	137	2,71			
Instructor that tends to be very detail - oriented in lecturing.	FEMALE	105	3,04			
	MALE	137	3,23			
Instructor that tends to be very general in his teaching and concentrate on the big picture rather than the details.	FEMALE	105	2,95			
	MALE	137	3,16			
Instructor that is not so enthusiastic about team teaching and prefer to teach on his / her own.	FEMALE	105	2,40			
	MALE	137	2,99			
Instructor that welcomes team teaching or other opportunities to collaborate with fellow instructors.	FEMALE	105	3,69			
	MALE	137	3,09			
Instructor that likes to teach in new ways and to try new teaching techniques.	FEMALE	105	3,88			
	MALE	137	3,78			
Instructor that likes to teach in traditional ways and is hesitant to try new ways of teaching.	FEMALE	105	2,08			
	MALE	137	2,53			

Table 1. Female and Male instructors' average scores assigned to the teaching preferences

An independent-samples t-test was conducted to compare teaching preferences for Instructors based on scores assigned by female and male university educators participating in the survey. The results are presented in detail in the following Table 2. The findings are very interesting. Male instructors have assigned greater scores in almost all teaching preferences. In only two cases female instructors assigned greater scores. These teaching preferences included the following:

- Instructor that likes to teach in new ways and to try new teaching techniques.
- Instructor that welcomes team teaching or other opportunities to collaborate with fellow instructors.

















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Two critical points stand out: new teaching techniques and team teaching.

The next Table 2 presents Female and Male instructors' independent samples test for the teaching preferences. The table shows that there exist a number of statistically significant differences in the scores assigned by male and female university instructors. These teaching preferences include the following (indicated with bold within the table):

- Instructor that has a preferred way of doing things and does not much like to do things in other ways.
- Instructor that is not so enthusiastic about team teaching and prefer to teach on his / her own.
- Instructor that welcomes team teaching or other opportunities to collaborate with fellow instructors.
- Instructor that likes to teach in traditional ways and is hesitant to try new ways of teaching.

Independent Samples Test						
Teaching Preferences	Equal Variances	Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		Significance		
		F	Sig.	Two - Sided		
Instructor that has a preferred way of doing things and does not much like to do things in other ways.	Assumed	1,178	0,279	0,000		
	Not Assumed			0,000		
Instructor that carefully sets priorities and then sticks to them.	Assumed	3,012	0,084	0,295		
	Not Assumed			0,300		
Instructor that does not easily allocate class time so that the most important things receive the most coverage.	Assumed	0,030	0,864	0,212		
	Not Assumed			0,210		
Instructor that is not so organized in the teaching style, but is very creative, and sparks creative ideas in his / her students.	Assumed	1,041	0,309	0,573		
	Not Assumed			0,569		
Instructor that tends to be very detail - oriented in lecturing.	Assumed	0,014	0,906	0,172		
	Not Assumed			0,174		
Instructor that tends to be very general in his teaching and concentrate on the big picture rather than the details.	Assumed	1,211	0,272	0,112		
	Not Assumed			0,110		
Instructor that is not so enthusiastic about team teaching and prefer to teach on his / her own .	Assumed	0,740	0,391	0,000		
	Not Assumed			0,000		
Instructor that welcomes team teaching or other opportunities to collaborate with fellow instructors.	Assumed	1,085	0,299	0,000		
	Not Assumed			0,000		
Instructor that likes to teach in new ways and to try new teaching techniques.	Assumed	0,280	0,597	0,468		
	Not Assumed			0,470		
Instructor that likes to teach in traditional ways and is hesitant to try new ways of teaching.	Assumed	2,602	0,108	0,001		
	Not Assumed			0,001		

Table 2. Female and Male instructors' independent samples test for the teaching preferences













