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RESEARCH PROJECT PARTICIPANTS: STUDENTS

The ODLEP questionnaire survey collected 644 responses from University Students across six participating Universities and the results identify statistically significant differences among the personality traits of the female and male participating Students.

ODLEP SURVEY STUDENTS' GENDER AND LEARNING 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**). Table 1 below summarizes the learning preferences of all University Students. Values range from 0-5, and higher values indicate the greater significance of the specific learning style.

| Learning Preference | Gender | Mean |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| I can better discern the material through watching a demonstrative presentation of the information. | | 3,67 |
| | | 3,96 |
| I can understand the material better through listening and oral teaching methods. | | 3,46 |
| I can understand the material better through instening and oral teaching methods. | MALE | 3,63 |
| I can better learn the teaching materials through taking notes and reading the written contexts and texts. | | 3,83 |
| | | 3,62 |
| I can better conceive the instructional material through performing the practical, experimental and | FEMALE | 3,92 |
| object manipulation via something more of a physical process (simulated or real). | MALE | 4,14 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that require creation, formulation, planning of ideas, | FEMALE | 3,44 |
| strategies. I like to decide what to do and how to do it, rather than to be told. | MALE | 3,73 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that provide structure, procedures, or rules to work with, and can serve as guidelines to measure progress. I often prefer to be told what to do, and I will | FEMALE | 3,45 |
| then give it my best shot at doing it well. | MALE | 3,52 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that require evaluation, analysis, comparison– | FEMALE | 3,14 |
| contrast, and judgment of existing ideas, strategies and projects. I tend to like evaluative essays, commenting on other people's ideas, and assessing others' strengths and weaknesses | MALE | 3,35 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that allow focusing fully on one thing or aspect at a | FEMALE | 3,45 |
| time, and staying with that thing until it is complete. | MALE | 3,56 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that allow creation of a hierarchy of goals to fulfill. I | FEMALE | 3,10 |
| will often make lists, and sometimes even lists of lists. | | 3,23 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that allow working with competing approaches, with | FEMALE | 3,09 |
| multiple aspects or goals that are equally important. | MALE | 3,39 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that lend themselves to great flexibility of approaches, and to trying anything when, where, and how I please (work asystematic or even | FEMALE | 3,19 |
| antisystematic). | MALE | 3,50 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that require engagement with specific, concrete details. I tend to enjoy tasks that require to keep track of details and to focus on concrete specifics of a situation. | | 3,26 |
| | | 3,42 |
| I have a preference for tasks, projects, and situations that require engagement with large, global, abstract ideas. I like to deal with big ideas, but sometimes I can lose touch with the details. | | 2,86 |
| | | 2,97 |
| I have a preference for tasks, projects, and situations that allow me to work independently of others. | FEMALE | 3,56 |
| | | 3,64 |
| I have a preference for tasks, projects, and situations that allow working with others in a group or interacting with others at different stages of progress. I do not enjoy working alone. | FEMALE MALE | 2,85 |
| I have a preference for tasks, projects, and situations that involve unfamiliarity, going beyond existing | FEMALE | 3,20 2,98 |
| rules or procedures, and maximization of change. I like new challenges and I thrive on ambiguity. | MALE | 3,18 |
| I have a preference for tasks, projects, and situations that require adherence to and observance of | FEMALE | 3,06 |
| existing rules and procedures. I like to minimize change and avoid ambiguity. | MALE | 3,29 |
| children and procedures, time to minimize change and avoid amongaity. | | 5,49 |

Table 1. Average Scores of Female and Male Students Regarding Learning Preferences

















Optimizing Distance Learning Educational Programs

There is only one case where the average score of female students is greater than males. More specifically, the learning preference with the higher score assigned by female students in comparison to the scores provided by male students is "I can better learn the teaching materials through taking notes and reading the written contexts and texts." An independent-samples t-test was conducted to compare learning preferences scores for students based on scores assigned by female and male survey-participants. The results are presented in detail in the following Tables 2 and 3. Firstly, mean and standard deviation among male and female participants per personality trait attributes are presented. Then follows, data relevant to: "Learning Preferences", "t value", "Degrees of Freedom", and the value of "p" (2-tailed significance). Levene's test for equality of variances has taken place, in order to choose the appropriate data to interpet, based on the validity of the assumption of equal variances.

| Learning Preferences | Equal Variances | Levene's Test for | | t-test for Equality of Means | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| | | F | Sig. | t | df | Significance Two - Sided |
| I can better discern the material through watching a demonstrative presentation of the information. | Assumed | 18,860 | 0,000 | -3,645 | 642 | 0,000 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -3,627 | 611,340 | 0,000 |
| I can understand the material better through listening and oral teaching methods. | Assumed | 11,141 | 0,001 | -2,073 | 642 | 0,039 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -2,065 | 619,436 | 0,039 |
| I can better learn the teaching materials through taking notes and reading the written contexts and texts. | Assumed | 0,278 | 0,598 | 2,539 | 642 | 0,011 |
| | Not Assumed | | | 2,539 | 639,552 | 0,011 |
| 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). | Assumed | 2,273 | 0,132 | -2,811 | 642 | 0,005 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -2,806 | 633,194 | 0,005 |
| 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. | Assumed | 0,035 | 0,852 | -3,269 | 642 | 0,001 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -3,270 | 640,406 | 0,001 |
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that provide structure, procedures, or rules to work with, and can serve as guidelines to measure progress. I often prefer to be told what to do, and I will then give it my best shot at doing it well. | Assumed | 0,585 | 0,444 | -0,957 | 642 | 0,339 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -0,956 | 635,349 | 0,339 |

Table 2. Independent Samples Test Part A















| Learning Preferences | | Levene | 's Test | t-test for | Equality of |
|---|--------------------|--------|---------|------------|-----------------------------|
| I have preference for tasks, projects, and situations that: | Equal Variances | F | Sig. | t | Significance Two - Sided |
| Require evaluation, analysis, comparison-contrast, and | Assumed | 0,003 | 0,960 | -2,418 | 0,016 |
| judgment of existing ideas, strategies and projects. I tend to like evaluative essays, commenting on other people's ideas, and assessing others' strengths and weaknesses | Not Assumed | | | -2,416 | 0,016 |
| Allow focusing fully on one thing or aspect at a time, and staying with that thing until it is complete. | Assumed | 2,813 | 0,094 | -1,366 | 0,173 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -1,362 | 0,174 |
| Allow creation of a hierarchy of goals to fulfill. I will often make lists, and sometimes even lists of lists. | Assumed | 0,474 | 0,491 | -1,345 | 0,179 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -1,342 | 0,180 |
| Allow working with competing approaches, with multiple aspects or goals that are equally important. | Assumed | 0,541 | 0,462 | -3,582 | 0,000 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -3,577 | 0,000 |
| Lend themselves to great flexibility of approaches, and to | Assumed | 1,189 | 0,276 | -3,413 | 0,001 |
| trying anything when, where, and how I please (work asystematic or even antisystematic). | Not Assumed | | | -3,403 | 0,001 |
| Require engagement with specific, concrete details. I tend to | Assumed | 0,802 | 0,371 | -1,959 | 0,051 |
| enjoy tasks that require to keep track of details and to focus on concrete specifics of a situation. | Not Assumed | | | -1,956 | 0,051 |
| Require engagement with large, global, abstract ideas. I like to deal with big ideas, but sometimes I can lose touch with the details. | Assumed | 0,762 | 0,383 | -1,136 | 0,257 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -1,135 | 0,257 |
| Allow me to work independently of others. | Assumed | 2,713 | 0,100 | -0,907 | 0,365 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -0,905 | 0,366 |
| Allow working with others in a group or interacting with others at different stages of progress. I do not enjoy working alone. | Assumed | 2,350 | 0,126 | -3,759 | 0,000 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -3,750 | 0,000 |
| Involve unfamiliarity, going beyond existing rules or procedures, and maximization of change. I like new challenges, and I thrive on ambiguity. | Assumed | 0,996 | 0,319 | -2,255 | 0,024 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -2,250 | 0,025 |
| Require adherence to and observance of existing rules and procedures. I like to minimize change and avoid ambiguity. | Assumed | 7,298 | 0,007 | -2,531 | 0,012 |
| | Not Assumed | | | -2,518 | 0,012 |

Table 3. Independent Samples Test Part B

It is very interesting to note that the majority of the learning preferences exhibit statistically significant differences (learning preferences and numbers in bold) except for a very few of them.













