The COVID-19 Pandemic Impact on Course Grades: A Remote Learning Analysis

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Abstract

During the Spring 2020 semester, universities around the world were forced to make quick decisions and adjustments to their learning environments to offset the COVID-19 pandemic impacts.   This swift conversion of face-to-face and hybrid courses to an online / remote learning environment left higher education institutions in disarray causing them to quickly execute a transition plan that had never been deemed necessary.   While some faculty were pushed into a new and unfamiliar environment, students were left scrambling to acquire trainings and resources to help with their transition. This study analyzed the impact of training and resources provided to students / faculty and how they affected students' final grades.   The researchers distributed a survey at two small mid-Atlantic universities with 139 respondents at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The results of the study were analyzed to understand the overall impact on students' final grades.   The outcome of the study assessed this impact to identify gaps that should be considered to better support student learning.

Keywords: Covid 19, pandemic, remote learning, grading impact, online learning, faculty

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