UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

A STUDY ON THE ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT LEARNING STYLE AND THE PERFORMANCE OF THE FIRST YEAR AND FOURTH YEAR PHARMACY STUDENTS AT UITM PUNCAK ALAM

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ABSTRACT

Each of the students has their own preferable type of learning style. By knowing about their own learning style, it can help them to study better. The objective of this study is to identify the most preferable type of learning style among the first year and the fourth year pharmacy students at UiTM Puncak Alam and also to know its relationship with the student's performance. The questionnaire that had been used in this study was Learning Style Questionnaire (LSQ) made by Peter Honey and Alan Mumford. It has been distributed to all the first year and the fourth year pharmacy students (n = 365) in UiTM Puncak Alam, Malaysia. This LSQ covered about four different types of learning styles which are theorist, pragmatist, activist and reflector. For this study, reflector was the most preferable type of learning styles among the respondents (47.5%), followed by pragmatist (14.8%), theorist (10.5%) and activist (0.8%). Besides that, there were also some groups of student who had mixed type of learning style (26.5%). The preferred learning style which was reflector has no significant difference with all the demographic variables which include gender, age, current year of study and also current Grade Point Average (GPA) of the respondents except for highest education level. A variety method of teaching and learning activities has to be made to give a better learning process among pharmacy students that can be matched with their various kind of learning style.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background of Study.

Life in the university is quite different compared with school time. Usually, majority of the first year students will face the most stressful experience once they got entered into university (Dyson & Renk, 2006). Besides that, many of them will fail in almost all subjects during their first year session (McInnis et al., 2000). Mainly, it is due to not being able to adapt with university life and also the different approaches in which lecturers teach them. Meanwhile, for final year students, it is important for them to put in a lot of effort to excel in their examinations because they only have about one year left in the university before they graduated (Phil, 2000). Thus, both these two groups of students need to know their effective learning styles in order to be successful in their studies.

Learning style is a learning preference in which the learners can cooperate well with their learning environment (Giuliano et al., 2014). It is also can be described to show the preferable and differences in the way of people learns (Zoriah Aziz

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