

The Influence of Student-Centered Pedagogical Approaches on Learning Engagement and Academic Performance

Dr. Rawf Mohammed Sharif

Ministry of Education, Goran Highschool-Chamchamal, Iraq

Abstract

How teachers teach matters greatly in determining students' learning experiences and academic achievement. Student-centered approaches that encourage active engagement, critical thinking and collaborative learning are increasingly supplementing traditional teacher-centered approaches. This paper examines the effect of student-centred teaching approaches on student engagement and learning outcomes in classroom situations. The study investigates the use of interactive discussions, group collaboration, problem-based learning and formative assessment techniques drawing on classroom observations, practical teaching experiences and the existing educational literature. The results indicate that these techniques increase student motivation, promote a deeper understanding of the content, and help develop communication and problem-solving skills. Moreover, the research highlights the challenges faced by teachers in implementing innovative pedagogical techniques, such as lack of time, varying student capabilities, and scarce educational resources. The paper concludes that student-centered pedagogical practices can result in more inclusive and effective learning environments and suggests that continuous professional development be provided to support teachers in successful implementation of these strategies.

Keywords: Teaching Methods; Student-Centered Learning; Classroom Engagement; Active Learning; Educational Practice; Pedagogy; Academic Achievement