

## **AFFECTING HIGHER STUDENTS LEARNING ACTIVITY BY USING WHATSAPP**

**Dr. Hamiyet Sayan**

Üsküdar University

Faculty of Health and Sciences, Child Development Department

### **ABSTRACT**

This Study aimed at investigating effects of students' usage of Whats Up Instant Messaging for learning and improve students' achievement (exam performance). WhatsApp is a smartphone application that operates on nearly all current types of devices and operating systems used by all of higher students and improve their achievement, performance and the amount of information learned and the motivation of preparation with the big or smaller groups. Being in a relatively synchronous group work and having various and instant knowledge make the students motivated and eager to learn and be in the media which suitable and easy to learn. Preparing for the exam by traditional way and instant messaging may differ the achievement scores of their exam. This research provides literature review and experiment and analysis of the data and the findings that lead the new experiments and the implementations. A number of influences can be seen from the findings of this study on the practise of technology into the course programs. Using WhatsApp (technology), pedagogy and course content program, this study offers external activity around student-centered learning for the exam preparation in order to raise their achievement with a small digital tool in their hand. The sample of the study was composed by 92 higher students (teacher candidates) attending Biruni University, Faculty of Education, in the 'Introduction to Educational Sciences Course', in İstanbul, Turkey. Data is collected from 92 students but 32 of the students didnt want to do anything using WahtsApp for the Course. They were supposed into Control Group. Other 60 students admitted to be in the study, and they called as the Experiment Groups. The research was continued from April to May 2015, time which is between the Fall Exam and Final Exam. Students who participated in the study are listed according to their Fall Exam points. The same points from the list put into the groups in order to provide equality. The control group and experiment groups has the same number of students (30-30). While 30 students were studying their lesson in traditional ways as usual; other 60s were studying their lesson by using WhatsApp; messaging text, asking questions and getting answers, sharing materials like pictures, graphs, tables and of course discussing on the course content via the medium.

**Keywords:** WhatsApp, using WhatsApp in education, new technology in higher education, technology use in higher education, WhatsApp in teacher education.