FACTORS THAT ENSURE MOTIVATION IN VIRTUAL LEARNING AMONG COLLEGE OF EDUCATION STUDENTS IN GHANA: THE EMERGENCY REMOTE TEACHING (ERT) DURING COVID'19 PANDEMIC

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted to find out how college of education students can be motivated in virtual teaching and learning (instructions). This became necessary owing to the fact that majority of students were considered to have had low interest in virtual learnings. This was associated to the numerous challenges students face with regards to the emergency remote instructions during the wake of COVID '19 in Ghana. A sample of 768 students from six (6) colleges of education under one mentor university in Ghana constituted the population. The study employed a mixed method approach with the sequential exploratory strategy to collect data using document review and a questionnaire. The qualitative data analysis involved document analysis whereas the quantitative data analysis involved multiple statistical procedures; frequency counts, simple percentages, and standard deviation. The findings revealed factors that could stimulate students' motivation in virtual instruction. The factors ranged from virtual pedagogical strategies to institutional support. A good number (66.7%) of the participants indicated that the use of common and uniform virtual platforms enhance their motivation in virtual instructions (1.54 SD=.85) with majority (83.3%) of the participants also indicating that active and effective communication (1.25 SD=.60) promotes their interest in virtual instructions. Additionally, among other factors, the use of personal multimedia devices (1.71 SD=.89), high internet speed with low cost of internet data, immediate feedbacks were identified as some of the key factors that could ensure motivation among college of education students in virtual instructions. It is therefore recommended that the government, institutions, and facilitators should consider and ensure the effective implementation of these factors to motivate students' motivation in virtual learnings.

Keywords: Emergency remote instruction, COVID '19, college of education students, motivation.