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DIGITAL SKILLS AND RESEARCH METHODS(BMSW4003_LON)

THE VIRTUAL LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The virtual learning environment is all the learning environment do since a modern platform using any kind of software and hardware like a computer phone or a model or a video platform, online dictionary...Is not really clear when all this start but was in 1953 in the university of Houston where was offered the first televised class and now you can see the different methods and the evolution of this ones.

The VLE is used nowadays for almost all the education institutions and is introduced in most of the new business and stages of the learning and working, been the VLE a necessary tool, and you can see this one right now, where a global pandemic close all the schools, college, universities... but thanks to the improvement do it in VLE we could still giving the classes and imparting knowledge.

Proponents of VLEs argued that they can potentially eliminate the barriers while providing increased convenience, flexibility, currency of material, student retention, individualized learning, and feedback over traditional classrooms (Massy & Zemsky 1995; Hack Barth 1996; Kiser 1999).

BACKGROUND

In this questionnaire I am going to ask about the VLE, and I am going to do a research about how important is that in the format of the studies that we are using right now, as well I want to know how important is for the students, if they are doing a proper use of them, if they see all the potential that have the virtual learning environment, if they have the tools necessities for use it and if they think as well that the teachers are doing a good use of the system.

The virtual learning environment is the most important advance in the education system, is an open source where everyone can enter and all are in the same level as well *"What is specific to virtual environments compared to any information space is that it is populated"* (Dieberger, 1999).

"While spaces take their sense from configuration of brick, mortar, wood and glass, places take their sense from configurations of social actions. Places provide what we call appropriate behavioural framing" (Dourish, 1999) being that places *"settings in which people interact"*. (Munro, Höök & Benyon, 1999). With this definition we can see the importance of the VLE, where thanks to him now all the students can have the same book without the necessity of going to the library, now they can only download all the information with only one link, being like this easier to the students research with more information from different points.

Also we need to see the importance of the good use of this platforms and that every part of the teaching, the lecture and the student, know how to use it, this is important because if one student doesn't know how to use it is in clear disadvantage while the other students and can easily lose the way of the term and the becoming this VLE against him.

For that one is as well important lose one lesson or at least one or two hours in the first moments of the term to explain this tools and leave to the students clear how to use it, and as well to the lecture is important to know all the precedents of this platforms to be able to get the most out of it.

The most important features of the virtual learning environment are:

-Does not matter how far are the students that always, if having the hardware and software necessities, will be able to stay in the class, then the VLE eliminates the physical barriers.

- give an easier way to locate and find the information thanks to the net and to all the articles that are upload every day.

- we can represent a social space, like knowing how was in a page or who is right know, uploading and showing what we are doing... creating a "social navigation".

There are more positive staff of VLE but as well there are barriers or problems that can do of VLE a not joinable practice, some lectures think that the VLE do a more lazy student or that they don't use it properly, or that not everyone has the tools for join in.

For that one I am going to do a questioner to understand how the people see the Virtual Learning Environment.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In this questioner I want to do a research about the knowledge that the students have about the online platforms, how often they use it, if they learned how to use it alone or they had a training, if they see the importance of the VLE, if they see that the lectures do a proper use of the system, if they have all the hardware and software necessities to use this tools properly, and I want to ask to the students what they think that it can be improved for this part and for the part of the lectures.

METHOD

In this report I will study the vision of the VLE in different aspects collecting data of primary sources, I am going to ask to my partners from here and for different parts of London and Spain, the way that I am going to collect all the data will be through a questionnaire of 12 questions related whit all the date that I want to know.

These 12 questions will have different formats to have a better report, I will do this one with the help of google forms and will be sent via mail or giving the URL for the different message apps. I would like to have more than 15.

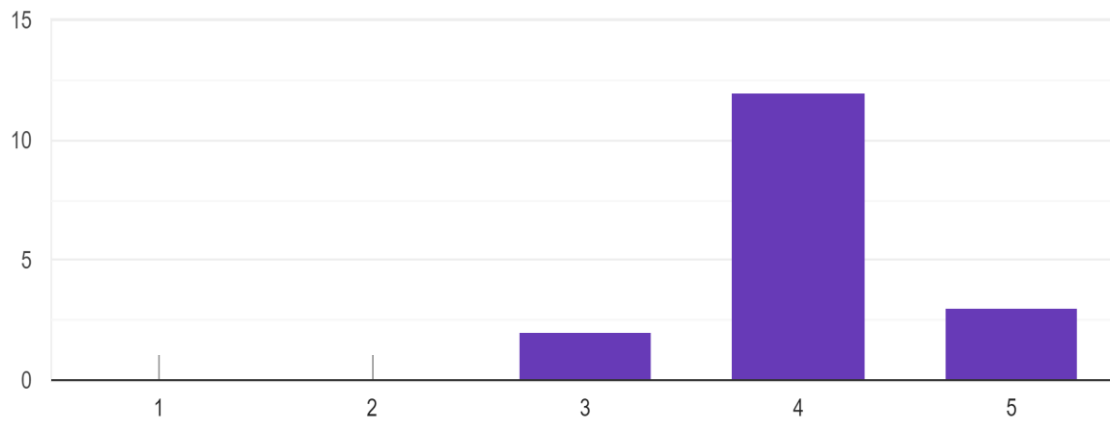
All the people that I will send the formulary had been or is in the university and also has used any tool related whit virtual learning environment, the age average is between 19-30 years taken people that has born with this concept and people that had it in the half of his studies.

In order to understand the task, I was doing research reading to different kinds of articles and journals to know more about the VLE and know what questions I need to do, I was swimming in the web looking for that ones.

RESULTS

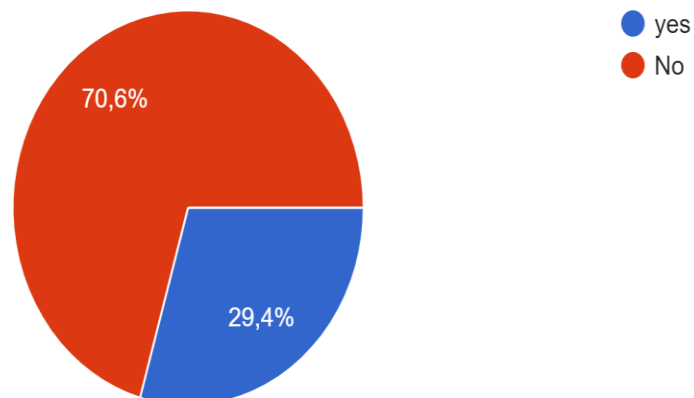
Q1.How important do you think is the VLE in order to achieve all the information for your studies

17 respuestas



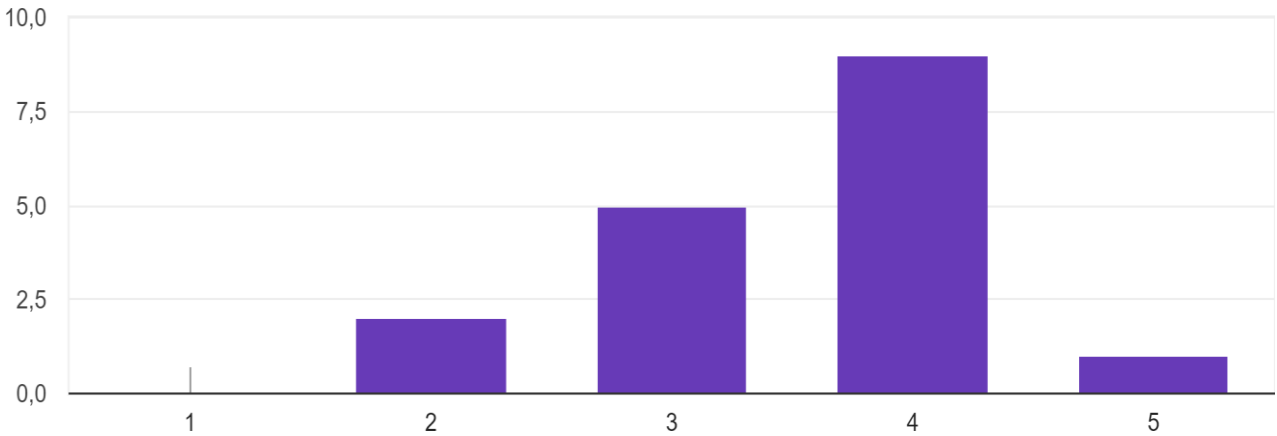
Q2.Did you have any kind of training to learn how to use the moodle?

17 respuestas



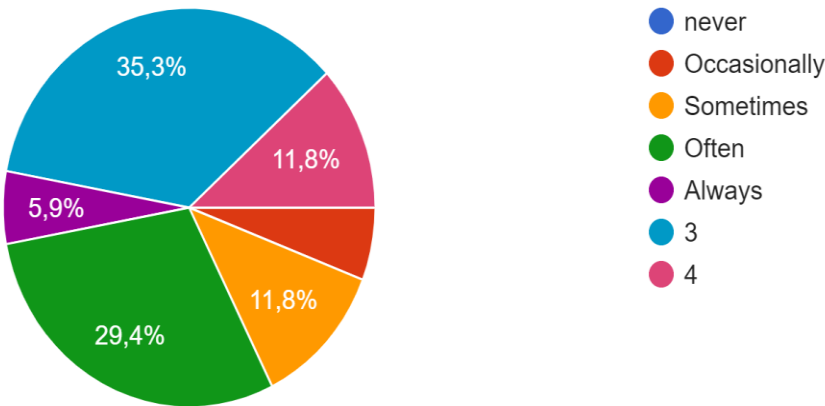
Q3.How difficult do you find the use of the software realated to VLE.

17 respuestas



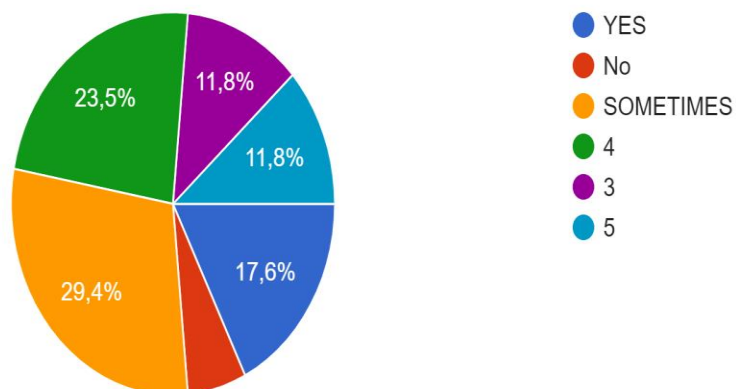
Q4.Do you find the information related of the class in the moodle?

17 respuestas



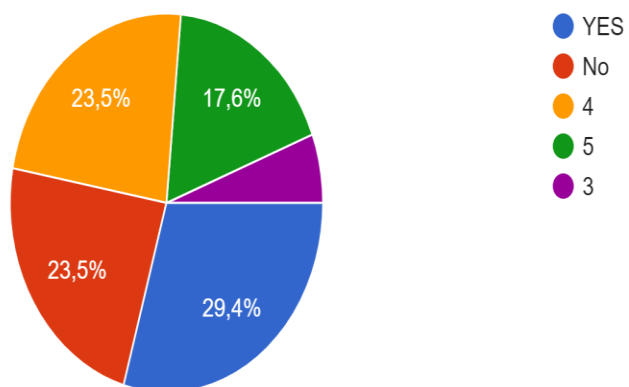
Q5.Do you have all the hardware and software necessary for can have properly use of the VLE?

17 respuestas



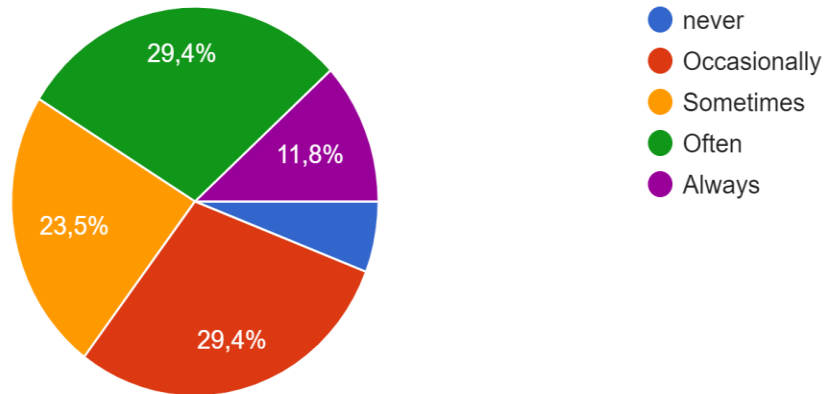
Q6.Do you think that whitout the VLE it would had been imposible can still whit the studies during the COVID-19?

17 respuestas



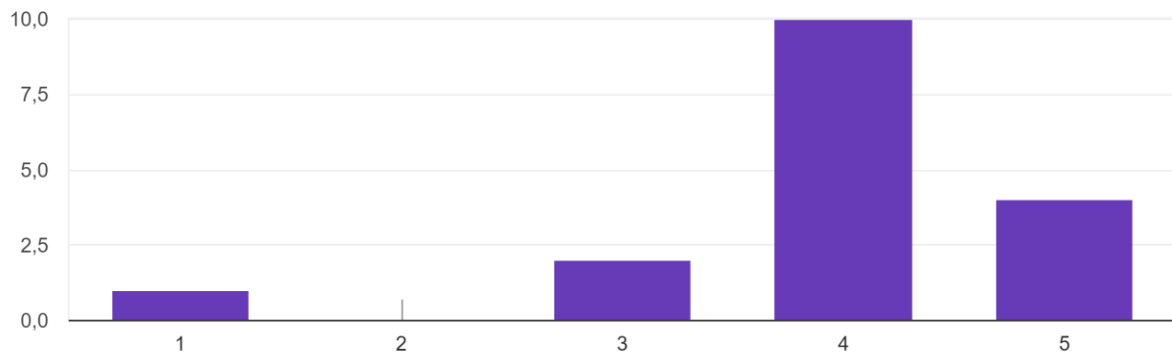
Q7.How often do you check the moodle per day?

17 respuestas



Q10.Do you think that the lectors should improve the use of the VLE?

17 respuestas



Q11.What do you think that the students should do to improve the VLE?

more participation required

using more time

More participation

Focus

Teachers should explain how to use in one or two hours

Participation

Ask the teacher to help you out with a class to learn how everything works in the moodle.

participate in

need more involvement and training should be provided

Explore more

They need more time to get used to it

Check It more often

Yes, Get previous training.

Q12.What do you think that the lectures should do to improve the VLE?

more digital resources need to be used

Force students to turn the camera on to make sure we're paying attention

More motivation to brings the student into motivation

Push hard

They have to spend some time trying to understand the VLE

Interaction

They should do a lesson in the beginning of the year of how to use it and then the students will be comfortable in using it.

To explain more and give more activities

training should be provided for all the lecturers

Give clearer instructions, maybe even videos

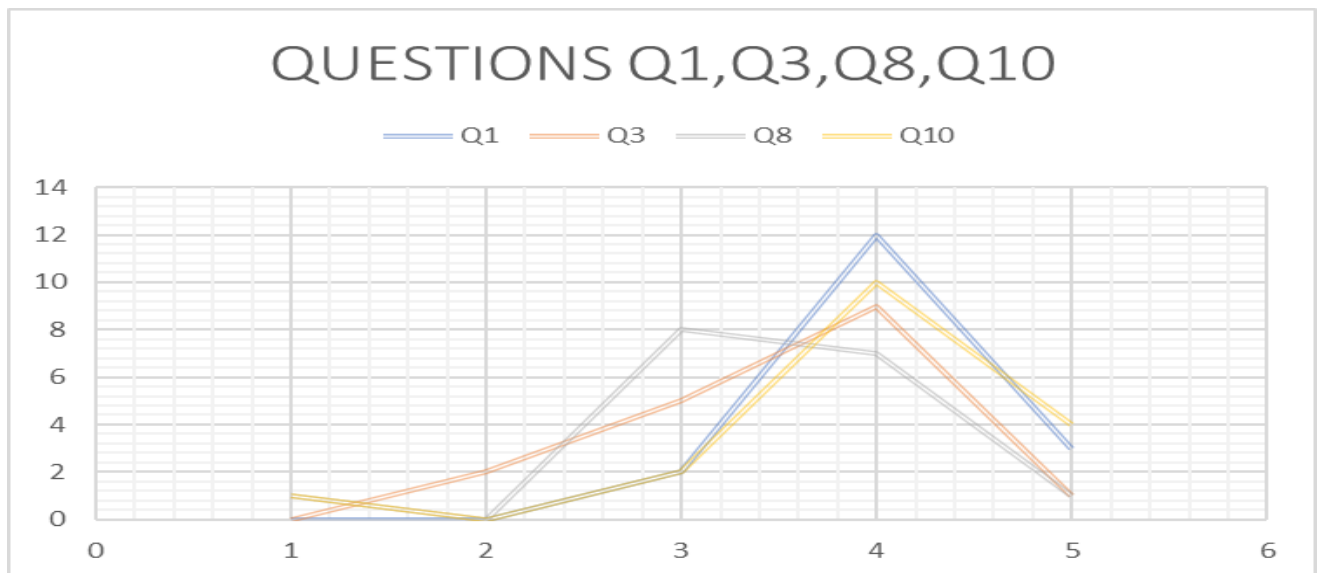
Maybe they should do more courses about this kind of thinks to improve

Use It more and properly

Some of the lecturers more engagement.

RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONS Q1, Q3, Q8, Q10

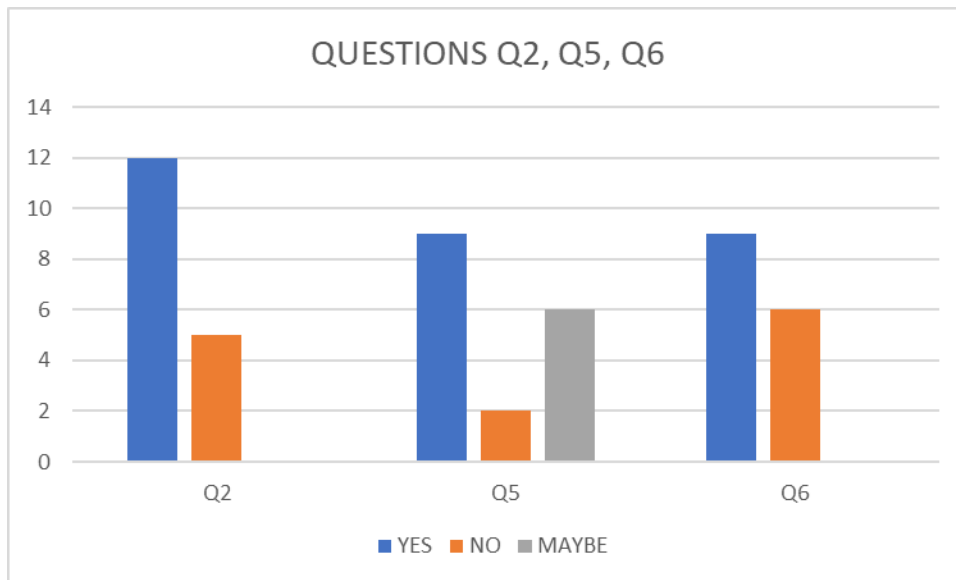
QUESTIONS	1	2	3	4	5
Q1	0	0	2	12	3
Q3	0	2	5	9	1
Q8	1	0	8	7	1
Q10	1	0	2	10	4



In Q1 been since not important to important the people was closer to valorate the afirmation important. In Q3, difficult to easy, is between them, and the people is between the middle and the high. In Q8 is been between agree and disagree, they answer more for the option between them. In Q10 disagree to agree they show their agreement but not completly.

RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONS Q2, Q5, Q6

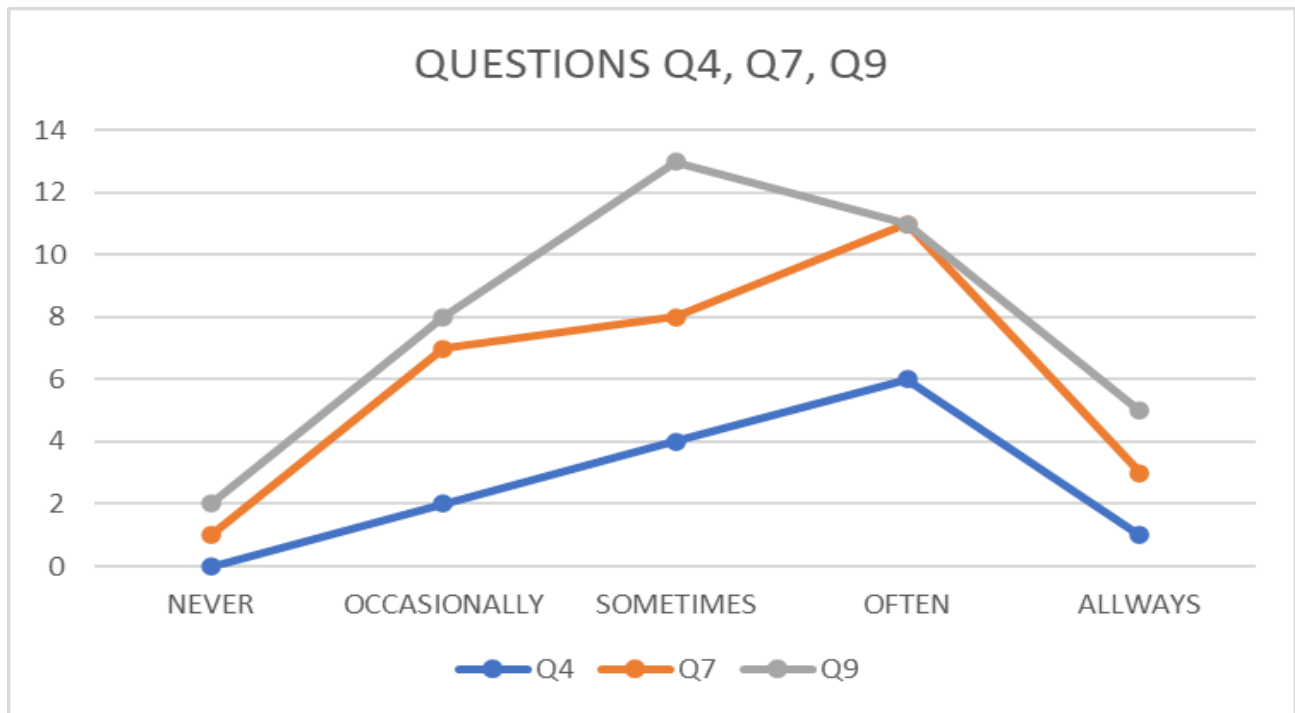
QUESTIONS	YES	NO	MAYBE
Q2	12	5	
Q5	9	2	6
Q6	9	6	



In this questions we can see a majority for the yes in Q2, a balance between yes and maybe in Q5 and also a balance in Q6

RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONS Q4,Q7, Q9

QUESTIONS	NEVER	OCCASIONALLY	SOMETIMES	OFTEN	ALLWAYS
Q4	0	2	4	6	1
Q7	1	5	4	5	2
Q9	1	1	5	0	2



In this table we can see that in the three questions there aren't extremes, all the answers flow between occasionally and often.

DISCUSSION

In this part I'm going to analyse the answers that the interviewed have been given in the questionnaire, and I am going to give my vision and opinion about the situation helped for the answers and my researchs.

In first instance the fact that I notice is that seeing the **Q2** I can say that only the 29% of the people has been trained to use the VLE and this is one of the principal problems that we can see and the easier to solve due to as well seeing the **Q11** and **Q12** that the students as well think that they should have a day or a season of training for having a proper knowledge of the platforms for avoid the lack of knowledge due to this.

Related with the importance of the training we can see in the **Q3** and **Q9** that not every one find easily the information in moodle doing for them difficult its use, and as well there are people that find difficult the use of the software related whit the VLE. Is true that looking the results shows than more of the half of the people could learn themselves how to use it, whitout need the training, but the rest is in clear disadvantage.

Also another disadvantage, maybe more difficult to supply, is the lack of the software and hardware that has some people as we can see in **Q5** being 2 out of 17 who only have this problem, but a big problem that can do impossible for them to follow the class.

As well in **Q11** and **Q12** I can see how the people thinks that the lectures should also try to improve the general experience of the use of the VLE having comments like use it more and properly, more engagement, give clear instructions and expend more the time for trying to understand all the tools and platforms that the VLE has. We can see this, sometimes and some of them, in the moodle when a student try to find information related to the class and he cant find allmost allways like show us **Q4** where only the 5% don't have problems for find the information posted for the lecture.

Also thanks to the **Q1** I can see that the students think that the VLE is important and necessary for their studies, and aswell I can see that the majority of the people saw that was essential for can still with his courses during the quarantine time(**Q6**), but also I can see that telling everyone the importance of it, not every one checks the moodle everyday and even there are persons that never check it(**Q7**), here the lecture, like some students said, should use more the platforms to give to know to the students that is important to enter there because if he didt use often the students they are not going to enter, too he needs to do the class more intertactive when he is using platforms as Microsoft Teams, and ask to the people to put on their camera if not they can't focus as we can see for the answers of **Q9**.

The last thinks that we can see thanks to this questionarie is that realted whit VLE the teachers and students should push more, spend more time trying to understand the tools and interact more.

CONCLUSION

Then I can said that I learned a lot of new staff here, like the data collection, primary recourses and was excited do a questionarie and look how the people answer to them, and looking more points of view of the, in this case, VLE where I could like this has a better idea of him, and not only that I had with my research.

And for all this I can say that we should learn and take more in consideration the VLE because is a great way to learn and the most sure the way of the future.

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APPENDIX

Preguntas

Respuestas

17

THE VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Hi my name is Antonio Tornero and I'm doing some resesarch about the VLE, and here comes some questions that are going to help me to understand the vision of the virtual learning in the university community.

Dirección de correo electrónico *

Dirección de correo electrónico válida

Este formulario recopila las direcciones de correo electrónico. [Cambiar configuración](#)

Q1.How important do you think is the VLE in order to achive all the information for your studies *

Not important 1 2 3 4 5 Important

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Q2.Did you have any kind of training to learn how to use the moodle? *

☐ yes

☐ No

Q3.How difficult do you find the use of the software realated to VLE. *

Difficult 1 2 3 4 5 Eassy

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Q4.Do you find the information related of the class in the moodle? *

- ☐ never
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Always

...

Q5.Do you have all the hardware and software necesary for can have properly use of the VLE? *

- ☐ YES
- ☐ No
- ☐ SOMETIMES

Q6.Do you think that whitout the VLE it would had been imposible can still whit the studies during the COVID-19? *

- ☐ YES
- ☐ No

Q7.How often do you check the moodle per day? *

- ☐ never
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Always

...

Q8.Do you find easy the research of information in the moodle? *

- | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| desagree | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | agree |

Q9.Do you used to lost the concentration during the seasons of microsoft team? *

- ☐ never
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Always

...

Q10.Do you think that the lectors should improve the use of the VLE? *

	1	2	3	4	5	
desagree	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	agree

Q11.What do you think that the sudents should do to improve the VLE?

Texto de respuesta larga

Q12.What do you think that the lectures should do to improve the VLE?

Texto de respuesta larga
