

Effects of Remote Learning on Relationships with Classmates and Professors

Abstract:

We conducted a confidential survey in which we asked other University of Delaware students about their personal experience with remote learning and how it has impacted their relationships with their professors and classmates. Our data suggests our peers find that forming relationships with their professors and classmates is challenging during this non- traditional learning time.

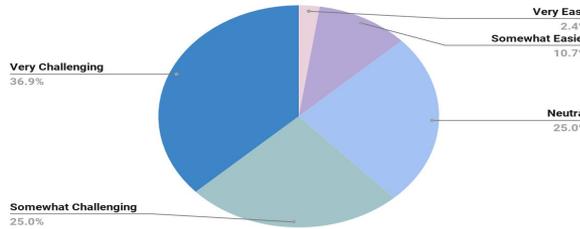
Background:

Many aspects of our lives have changed as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. Among the many things that have been affected by the pandemic is schooling. School has gone from being held in- person, daily, to being held online, and sometimes only a few days a week. For this survey, 84 University of Delaware students shared how this change has influenced their experience with their professors and classmates.

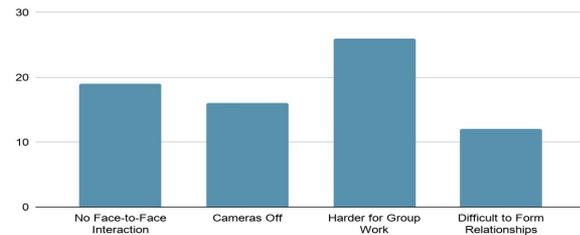
Methods:

Survey questions were created in a google form, and the form link was emailed to all of our classmates. The demographic of our survey was male and female freshman - seniors in college (with one 5th year student). 84 total responses were recorded in the survey to provide the data. After all data was collected, we created charts by analyzing the quantitative responses and coding the qualitative responses using google sheets. Graphs and charts were compiled from the results in google slides.

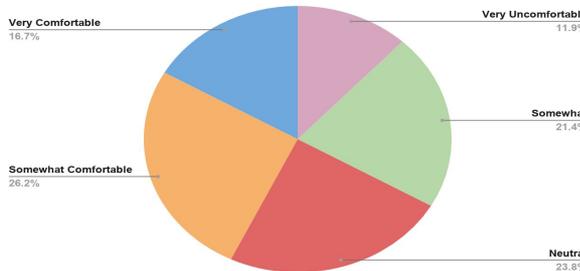
Working with Classmates Online is More Challenging than In-Person



Reasons Students Provided For How Online Classes Have Made Getting to Know Classmates More Challenging



Students Level of Comfortability Working With Classmates Online



Results:

- When looking at the first graph, it is easy to see that a majority of students find it very hard to work with others online (36.9%).
- The second graph shows that about 27% of students feel that they are unsuccessful working in groups, and around 20% said it is because there is no face-to-face interaction.
- The third graph shows us that there were 3 answers that most students picked about how comfortable they are working with students in an online format, somewhat comfortable (26.2%), somewhat uncomfortable (21.4%), and neutral (23.8%). This shows that there is no real way to tell the exact level of comfortability between college students working online because of how varied the answers are.

Conclusion:

The data does support that relationships during this virtual learning time have been difficult for students with establishing a relationship between their classmates and professors. This was due to students having their cameras off, no face to face interaction, and challenges with working in groups.

Questions will continue to arise as our educational delivery continues to be done virtually: How will this affect students when they come back to face-to-face instruction?