University of Ljubljana Faculty of Education



# ON-LINE VS. TRADITIONAL PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS' ACHIEVEMENTS IN CHEMISTRY LAB WORK

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#### INTRODUCTION

- The global COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant impact on peoples' everyday lives.
- A lot of adaptations had to be made in order to cope with the pandemic in different areas including teaching in schools and faculties (Ghazi-Saidi, Criffield, Kracl, McKelvey, Obasi, & Vu, 2020).
- While some activities in the faculties, for example lectures and seminars, can easily be transferred into on-line environment, lab work on the other hand requires a more specific approach.
- Moodle and Microsoft Teams can be used to apply chemistry lab activities (Fergus, Botha, & Scott, 2020; Meng, Song, Li, Tan, Yan, & Zhang, 2020).

#### AIM OF THE RESEARCH

- □ To illustrate how the on-line laboratory activities effected students' achievements on the final lab exam in comparison to the traditional face-to-face lab work.
- To find out how the achievements at prelab quizzes implemented in Moodle and the number of experiment videos views also implemented in Moodle, influenced students' overall achievement at the final lab exam.

#### **SAMPLE**

- 31 non-chemistry pre-service lower secondary school biology and home economics teachers (students).
- □ 16 students in 2019/2020 face-to-face course.
- $\square$  15 students in 2020/2021 on-line course.

#### GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

- Obligatory general and inorganic chemistry course Chemistry 1.
  - Lectures (30 hours).
  - Seminars (15 hours).
  - □ Lab work (15 hours).

#### TRADITIONAL LAB WORK

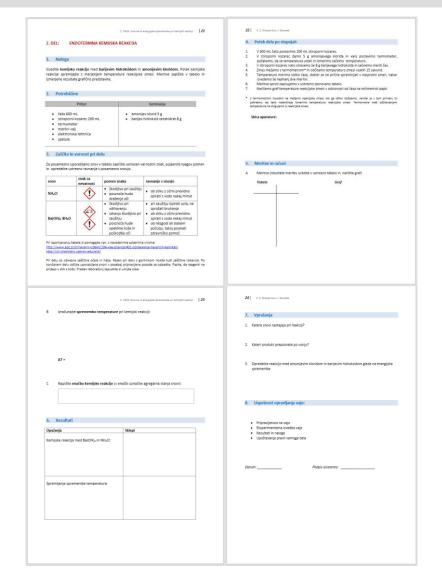
- 7 laboratory lessons covering the topics presented in the lectures.
  - Separation an purification of substances; substance and energy changes in chemical reactions; air and air gasses; water and its properties; acids, bases and salts; redox reactions; reactivity of metals and halogen elements.
- Students perform most of the experiments in pairs.
- Some experiments are demonstrated to students by the lab technician.





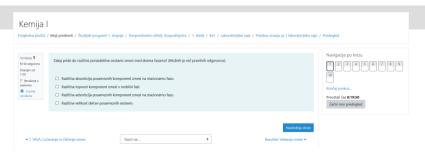
## TRADITIONAL LAB WORK

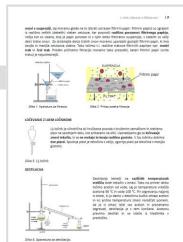
- Laboratory lesson structure:
  - Purpuse of the lesson
  - Accessories and chemicals
  - Safety
  - Work instructions
  - Measurements and calculations
  - Results (observations and conclusions)
  - Questions



## **ON-LINE LAB WORK**

- 7 laboratory lessons
- Pre-lab activity
  - Theory reviw
  - Experiment videos
  - □ Quiz
- Laboratory activities
  - Led by the teaching assistant via MS Teams
  - Experiment videos
  - Writing down main observations and conclusions
  - Discussion and experiment explanation
- Final lab exam
  - □ On-line Exam.net





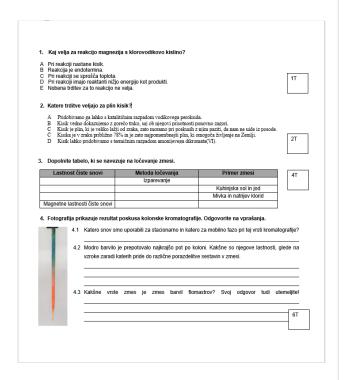


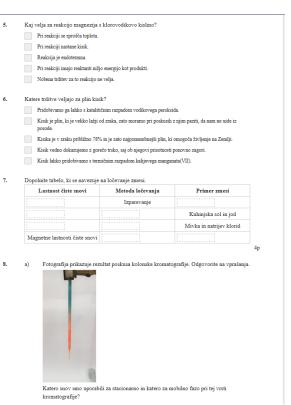
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75	68,1			
90	78,5			
105	82,4			
120	81,6			
135	79,8			



#### **METHOD**

- Data were gathered by analysing and comparing the final lab exam results, prelab quiz results and pre-lab experiment videos views.
- Both the on-line and written final lab exam were comprised of almost identical tasks.





# **RESULTS**

□ There is a difference between on-line vs. traditional students' knowledge based on their results on two final lab exams.

	Traditional students (N = 16)		On-line students (N = 15)	
	1. exam period	2. exam period	1. exam period	2. exam period
Students who passed the exam	4/13	8/10	1/12	5/9
Averrage score [%]	44.8	55.6	36.5	58.5

#### **RESULTS**

There is no significant difference between students who had above average and below average achievements on the pre-lab quizzes and their final lab exam score.

	N*	Mean rank	Mann-Whitney U	P
Below average	4	4.75	0.000	.231
Above average	8	7.38	9.000	

There is also no correlation between students' achievements on pre-lab quizes and their final lab exam score.

N*	Correlation	P
12	.183	.569

<sup>\*3</sup> students did not participate in the final lab exam

# **RESULTS**

There is no signifficant difference between students, who passed the final lab exam and students, who did not and their averrage experiment videos views

	1. exam		2. exam	
	Passed	Didn't pass	Passed	Didn't pass
Averrage experiment video views	30.0	30.3	22.6	17.0

	<b>N</b> *	Mean rank	Mann-Whitney U	P
Didn't pass	6	6.00	15.000	420
Passed	6	7.00	15.000	.630

<sup>\*3</sup> students did not participate in the final lab exam

#### CONCLUSIONS

- In comparison to traditional face-to-face lab work, on-line lab work may cause slightly lower students' achievements on the final lab exam.
- Pre-lab activities (quizes) did not have a positive effect on students' achievements on the final lab exam.
- Pre-lab experiment video views did not have a positive effect on students' achievements on the final lab exam.

#### **REFERENCES**

- □ Ghazi-Saidi, L., Criffield, A., Kracl, C. L., McKelvey, M., Obasi, S. N., & Vu, P. (2020). Moving from face-to-face to remote instruction in a higher education institution during a pandemic: Multiple case studies. *International Journal of Technology in Education and Science*, 4(4), 370-383.
- □ Fergus, S., Botha, M., & Scott, M. (2020). Insights Gained During COVID-19: Refocusing laboratory assessments online. *Journal of Chemical Education*, 97(9), 3106-3109.

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# Thank you for your attention!

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