Face to Face Learning vs Blended Learning vs Online Learning (Student Perception of Learning)

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Abstract. The coronavirus covid19 pandemic crisis in Indonesia has caused all lectures to be conducted online (online learning), so that all students have experienced face to face learning, blended learning, and online learning. The purpose of this study is to determine student perceptions of learning, which learning is most preferred by students between face to face learning, blended learning, and online learning. The research method used is descriptive research with a quantitative approach. Respondents were 100 students of Islamic Religious Education study programs. The results showed that face to face learning was the most preferred choice by students of the Islamic Religious Education study Program in IAIN Takengon, which is 78 students or at 78%, while a total of 20 students or 20% of the study was done in blended learning, and only 2 students or 2% who chose online learning.

1. Introduction

The face of education has undergone a drastic change during the covid19 pandemic, learning that is usually done face-to-face in class (face to face learning), by sometimes mixing it with online meetings or what is often referred to as Blended learning, when the covid19 pandemic takes place all lectures are conducted online learning to prevent contact between students which can cause the spread of the covid19 virus. Face-to-face learning is learning in class that relies on the presence of teaching lecturers to teach in class, on face-to-face learning, students are involved in spontaneous verbal communication in a permanent physical environment [1]. Face to face learning or also often referred to as traditional learning, is learning that is centered on lecturers who are a source of knowledge, students have little involvement [2]. Face to face learning at IAIN Takengon is usually carried out with lecture, presentation, discussion methods, so in practice face to face learning is also carried out with various kinds of learning methods which are all carried out in the classroom. The total number of meetings in an ordinary semester is 16 meetings, including midterm and final semester exams.

Blended learning is learning that uses two or more different learning methods, a combination of combinations such as: combining face-to-face learning with online learning, combining online learning with access to trainers or faculty members or combining simulation with structured learning [3]. Blended learning is a combination of different training media (technology, activities, and types of events) to create an optimal training program for a specific audience, the term "mixed" means that training led by traditional instructors is complemented by other electronic formats. Mixed learning
programs use various forms of e-learning, perhaps complemented by instructor-led training and other
direct formats [4]. Blended learning gives students a positive learning experience and results in higher
student achievement [5]. Blended learning at IAIN Takengon is usually done by combining face-to-
face learning with online learning, online learning that is commonly used is also diverse, such as:
whatsapp, e-learning, and google classroom. E-learning using moodle has been developed at IAIN
Takengon, E-learning based Moodle is reliable or has a high level of reliability if it is used in
university [6]

Online learning is the use of the Internet to access learning material; to interact with content,
instructors, and other students; and to get support throughout the learning process, to gain knowledge,
to build personal meaning, and grow from learning experiences [7]. Online learning is more
concerned with communication media created by technology, not the technology products themselves,
for example computer-based communication networks [8]. One semester of online learning in
Takengon IAIN itself has never been implemented, the main cause is the problem of internet
connection that is not yet available properly.

Students' perceptions of learning achievement provide additional insight, which enables
educators to understand student perspectives about learning goals that are being met and which
learning objectives can be improved [9] [10]. Identification of students' perceptions is the most
important part of evaluating the methods used by lecturers, this identification aims to find out what
students need for their learning activities in order to achieve learning objectives [11]. The current
situation is the right time to conduct research on students' perceptions of learning, which learning they
most like, Face to Face Learning or Blended Learning or Online Learning, this will be able to provide
an overview and recommendations on the future learning process as well as improvements needed.

2. Methodology

The research method used is descriptive research with a quantitative approach. Descriptive
research is research that seeks to describe a phenomenon, events, and events that occur at the present
time, in order to photograph the events and events that are the center of attention for further described
as they should [12]. Quantitative research is concerned with measuring and analyzing variables to get
results. This involves the use and analysis of numerical data using specific statistical techniques to
answer questions such as who, how much, what, where, when, how much, and how [13] [14].

The study was conducted on Islamic Religious Education Students at IAIN Takengon. The
time of the study was conducted in April to May 2020. The research sample of 100 Islamic Religious
Education students who actively lectured in the even semester 2019/2020. The research instrument
used was a questionnaire containing questions about students' perceptions of learning. Questionnaire
is distributed using Google form.

Table 1. List of questionnaire questions

| NO | Questions |
|----|-----------|
| 1  | When you are asked to choose between two learning models, which one do you prefer, face to face learning or blended learning? |
| 2  | If you are welcome to choose between 2 learning models, which learning do you prefer, face to face learning or online learning? |
| 3  | If you are welcome to choose between 2 learning models, which learning do you prefer, blended learning or online learning? |
| 4  | If you are welcome to choose, online learning using what media you like the most? |
|     | a. Whatsapp |
|     | b. Youtube |
|     | c. E-learning |
|     | d. Edmodo |
|     | e. Zoom cloud |
|     | f. Google classroom |
| 5  | If you are welcome to choose between 3 learning models, which learning do you prefer, face to face learning or blended learning or online learning? |
Data analysis was performed after all data from the questionnaire results were collected, while the data collected was made in the form of a percentage classification, using the formula:

\[ P = \frac{f}{N} \times 100\% \]

Where P is the percentage symbol, f is the frequency at which answers appear, N is the total number of answers. Data in the form of percentages are then analyzed and the final conclusions will be made based on the percentage of data that has been made.

3. Result and discussion

1) Face to face learning vs blended learning

The survey was also conducted to compare 2 types of learning which students preferred, between learning with face to face learning or blended learning. Here are the results of the survey:

![Figure 1. Face to Face vs Blended Learning](image)

The survey results show that students prefer learning done by face to face learning rather than blended learning, which is as much as 75% versus 25%.

The survey results above differ from the results of research conducted by Balezaiz, this study revealed that students in Blended learning classes experienced conceptual changes and higher performance compared to students in traditional lecture-based classes or face to face learning, these findings offer support for implementing alternative approaches to teaching such as blended learning [15]. But this could have happened because to be able to implement blended learning, one of the determining factors was the existence of a good internet network, in this condition the IAIN Takengon in the Central Aceh region was still not good.

2) Face to face learning vs online learning

The survey was also conducted by comparing learning which students prefer between face to face learning and online learning. The survey results obtained are as follows:

![Figure 2. Face to Face vs Online Learning](image)

From the graph it can be seen that, 95% of students or as many as 95 students choose learning to be done face to face, while only 5 students or 5% who choose learning is done online.

Research conducted by Kemp, which compares student opinions on traditional learning (face to face) with online learning, research shows that students prefer to attend face-to-face learning activities rather than online learning, even though there is no significant difference in test results [16]. By comparing with research conducted at Takengon IAIN, this study has the same results.
3) Blended learning vs online learning
The next survey is conducted a comparison of learning which students prefer between face to face learning with online learning, this survey was conducted because considering that at the moment of the pandemic there is now almost no choice to carry out learning other than online. Survey results show:

From the graph, it is obtained that 96 students or 96% prefer blended learning and the remaining 4 students or 4% choose to study online.
Research conducted by Herodotou, shows that blended learning is more suitable for student involvement and satisfaction [17]. This supports the results of a survey conducted that the majority of students prefer learning in blended learning. Research conducted by Yam shows that learning done in blended learning is more effective than learning that is only done online learning, because students have the advantage of face-to-face learning experience and online environment simultaneously[18].

4) The most preferred learning media
Learning that is being done at this time during lectures in the midst of the pandemic covid19 outbreak in the form of online learning, automatically learning must use learning media as a learning aid tool. The learning media used are various, namely: Whatsapp (WA), Youtube, E-Learning, Edmodo, Zoom Cloud, and Google Classroom. A survey was also conducted to find out which learning media platform most students liked to use.

Table 2. Learning Media Options

| NO | Learning Media     | %  |
|----|-------------------|----|
| 1  | Whatsapp (WA)     | 82 |
| 2  | Youtube           | 1  |
| 3  | E-Learning        | 0  |
| 4  | Edmodo            | 2  |
| 5  | Zoom Cloud        | 8  |
| 6  | Google Classroom  | 7  |

From this data it can be seen that the most chosen learning media by students to use is whatsapp, as much as 82%, youtube 1%, edmodo 2%, zoom cloud 8%, google classroom 7%, while elearning no one chooses. From this it can be concluded that whatsapp is the most preferred learning media to be used by students.

5) Face to face learning vs blended learning vs online learning
The survey conducted on students of their perceptions on which learning is preferred to be carried out in learning, in the first question compares between 3 types of learning, namely face to face learning, blended learning, and online learning. The results of the survey can be seen in the following graph:
The graph above shows that 78 students or 78% like face to face learning, 28 students or 28% like Blended Learning, while 2 students like online learning. From these data it can be concluded that the majority of students prefer learning done face to face.

Research conducted by Novai and Jordan shows that blended learning produces a stronger sense of community among students than traditional learning or fully online learning.

4. Conclusion

Based on the results of research that has been done, the facts about students' perceptions of learning are obtained, namely face to face learning being the most preferred learning for students to use, face to face chosen by 78 students, then 20 students choose learning by blended learning, and only 2 students who choose to study online learning. In the results of this study it appears that face to face learning is very superior compared to blended learning, maybe because blended learning in practice must pay attention to 4 things, (1) combining flexibility, (2) stimulating interaction, (3) facilitating student learning processes, and (4) encourage an effective learning climate.

If learning during the Covid 19 pandemic continues to be carried out online, the recommended learning media to use is WhatsApp.

Implications

Based on the results of research that shows that the majority of students really like learning done with face to face, then after the end of the covid19 pandemic it is hoped that learning will again be done face to face learning.

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