

A Correlational Study on Hands-on Experience and Students' Success

Pushpa Nilopher*

¹Department of Child Health Nursing, Holy spirit Institute of Nursing Education.

Author Designation: Assistant Professor

*Corresponding author: Pushpa Nilopher

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Abstract:

Introduction: A crucial component of nursing education is hands-on experience, that assists students in bridging the knowledge gap between clinical practice and classroom theory. It is significant in improving academic performance, competence, and confidence. The purpose of the study was to analyse the correlation between hands-on experience and academic performance.

Methodology: A quantitative correlational research design was adopted. The study was conducted at Holy Spirit Institute of Nursing Education with a sample of 80 students from 3rd year B.Sc (N) and GNM nursing students. Participants were selected using a non-probability convenience sampling method. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire using a 5- point Likert-scale, assessing both hands-on exposure and academic performance. Responses were analyzed using descriptive statistics and Pearson's correlation coefficient.

Results and Analysis: The analysis revealed a strong positive correlation between hands-on experience and academic performance, with a Pearson's r value of 0.8303 and a p -value $< .00001$, indicating a statistically significant relationship. Descriptive statistics revealed that 93.42% of students agreed that hands-on experience enhanced their understanding of theoretical concepts, 94.74% understanding of theoretical concepts, and 89.47% noted better exam performance. These high levels of agreement suggest that students perceive practical sessions as highly beneficial to their learning and academic success.

Discussion: According to these results, students who take part in practical sessions report feeling more mentally prepared and competent. The strong correlation suggests that experience learning improves critical thinking and real-world application in addition to supporting theoretical knowledge. The value of practical exposure in influencing academic and professional performance is highlighted by the increased participation of students as a result of hands-on experience.

Key Words: Students, Hands on Experience, Success

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