

Project Proposal

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Module:	Statistical Inference	Course ID:	CS5651

Research Question

Predicting critical success factors among students of e-learning in a pandemic situation

During the COVID-19 pandemic, educational institutions had to shut down their physical classroom-oriented knowledge delivery and began providing most of their services online including lectures and assessments via different online platforms with the objective of minimizing the spread of COVID-19.

By definition Critical Success Factors (CSFs) are the characteristics, conditions or variables that when properly sustained, maintained and managed, can have a significant impact on the success of an organization (Leidecker, Bruno, 1984).

Hence, this quantitative study will be designed in predicting and identifying the importance level of the CSFs in the e-learning system from the perspective of undergraduates of Sri Lanka.

Sample Size

It is expected to consider 60 undergraduate responses as the sample, covering the target population of Sri Lankan university undergraduates using e-learning and by considering their split of demographic data such as gender, locality distribution, state or private ownership of the university, current academic year etc.

Sample Data Collection Method

A structured questionnaire will be occupied as the data collection method on this study and to be shared as an online form to the focus group. And it will be composed of two parts;

- Part A – Basic demographic factors of the respondents that can be used to cluster into target groups
- Part B - Questions that support critical measurement of the outcomes of the study.

To obtain valid and reliable student's perspectives in terms of the responses, weighted rating scales will be used in the questionnaire by noting the convenience component.

Analysis Plan

Step 1: Data will be collected from a web-based questionnaire

Step 2: Based on the objective of the study, statistical hypotheses and net scoring mechanism will be created to evaluate the participants' inputs

Step 3: Use of statistical software and tools (descriptive statistics, reliability and validity testing, parametric testing etc.) in analyzing the data comprehensively

Step 4: Based on the statistical results interpret the conclusions of the quantitative study conducted