

# Online semester & examination during Covid-19 in perception of AIUB students

Section: M

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# Online semester & examination during Covid-19 in perception of AIUB students

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**Abstract**—This research was aimed to find out the perception of AIUB students about online semester & examination during Covid-19. The data has been collected through an online survey with AIUB students. The research shows that students have both good and bad opinions about online semester & examination system. However the majority of students agreed that despite few problems it's still better to do online semester rather than session gap but there are few issues that needs to be considered.

**Index Terms**—Covid-19, online assessment, online class .

## I. INTRODUCTION

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as a global public health emergency of international concern on 30th January 2020 as well as a pandemic on 11th March 2020 [1]. The first two cases of COVID-19 in Bangladesh were confirmed by the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) in Dhaka on 8th March 2020 (Dr. A. S. M. Alamgir, the top science officer of IEDCR) [2]. As of 17th March 2020, the total numbers of cases of COVID-19 in the country were more than 6000 with 0 deaths [3]. In reaction to the COVID-19, Bangladeshi authorities closed all educational institutions across the country on 18th March 2020. As per the orders given by the Government of Bangladesh, the Higher Education Commission (HEC) issued directives to higher education institutions to start preparing for distance learning (DL) modes, reschedule the ongoing exams and assist their students online regularly until the COVID19 crisis remains unchanged [4].

Certainly, like many other aspects of everyday life, COVID-19 has had a serious impact on students, instructors, and educational organizations around the globe. The pandemic caused schools, colleges and universities across the globe to shut down their campuses so that students could follow social distancing measures. That being said, moving smoothly from an environment of conventional education to distance and virtual learning could not happen overnight. This rapid transformation is linked to various obstacles and challenges at this point. But because nobody knows when this pandemic will disappear fully, educational institutions across the globe decided to use the already available technical resources to create online learning material for students of all academic fields. [5]

This was not the first time when conventional education activities were suspended. SARS coronavirus (SARS-CoV) also negatively impacted conventional education activities of a large number of countries around the globe and not just SARS-CoV but H1N1 Flu outbreak also negatively impacted education activities in 2009 [6]. Similarly, Covid-19 compelled academic experts to reconsider the traditional way of face to face learning and they started considering distance learning as a feasible option to fill the classroom void for duration of three to four months, thus reducing the risk of infection for students before conventional activities are resumed. Online courses are provided by hundreds of institutions, American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) also shifted to virtual class as well but two problems exist. First, from a macro viewpoint, very little is established regarding the effects and efficacy of online education. . content of the online course are usually discussed with the relevant course instructor by e-mail, which requires response time. Virtual classes cannot be of interest to students who are tactile learners. Conventional classroom socialization is another major missing in online learning. Students only communicate with their fellows digitally and never see fellow students in person, and thus the real-time sharing of ideas, knowledge and information is partially missing from the digital learning world [7].

The current circumstances are unique; unlike normal digital learning situations, as some might argue, it is more accurately crisis learning. There is a stronger need for academic organizations to improve their curriculum and the usage of new instructional methods and strategies should be of utmost significance. Educational institutions are also the focal points of social activities and interactions. If educational activities are suspended, many children and young people will miss social interaction based activities that are necessary for growth and learning. Students should continue to learn, particularly underprivileged children and young adults, both of whom are impacted by schools suspension, so this is a huge issue to be tackled. While short term closure of academic institutions as a consequence of emergencies is not recent, the global scope and pace of present-day educational instability are sadly unparalleled and, if sustained, may inflict psychological distress and misery at various levels.

Previously many research has been done on online education and assessment system in pandemic (Covid-19) but those are

all about how to improve the online education system to adapt the situation of this corona virus thing. This research is about the online classes and assessment system of AIUB and how the students of the university criticize the system that has been taken for distant learning and avoid session gap.

It has been seen that most of the responses are negative and students want some changes and improvement of the system. Most of them are from engineering students.

## II. METHODOLOGY

This research has been conducted on the basis of primary and secondary data. The primary data has been collected through an online survey. The survey was done by distributing a total 14 questionnaire about online semester & examination and the participants were students from different departments of AIUB. The motive of this survey is to see the perception of AIUB students about online semester & examination during Covid-19. The secondary data has been collected from various websites and similar researches on this type of project. In this survey no personal information has been collected. People participated in this survey voluntarily and the survey was anonymous.

## III. RESULTS

This survey was based on more than 100 AIUB students. They were asked how effective it is to continue an online semester and examination during COVID-19. There were some random questions which were asked to the students. Here there is a documentation about the following survey result.

SELECT YOUR DEPARTMENT

117 responses

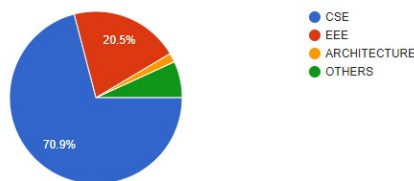


Fig-1

In Fig-1, the following pie chart shows the percentage of the response of students from various department. From the following information it is clear that most of the CSE students' response in this survey. They are almost 71%. EEE students are in the second position that is 20.5%. Except Architecture department others in the third position in response. But the response of architecture students is too low.

Do you think online class /exam is as effective as on campus class/exam?

117 responses

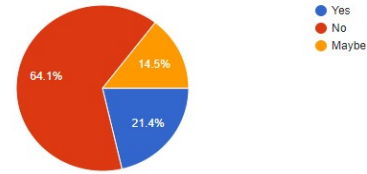


Fig-2

In fig-2, the pie chart shows a comparison between online class/exam and campus class/exam about how much effective they are. 64.1% students give their opinion that online class/exam are not as effective as campus class / exam. Only 21.4% students think that there is no difference between them. But another 14.5% students are confused about this matter and don't willing to give a specific answer.

What kind of problems you face in online class?

117 responses

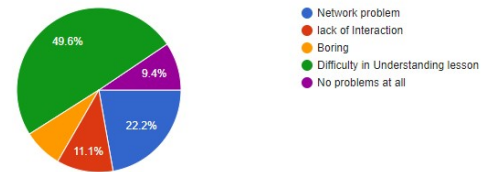


Fig-3

In fig-3, the following pie chart indicate the problems a student face in online class. In this section almost 49.6% students think that they feel difficulties in understanding lesson. 22.2% students face network problem. 11.1% cannot interact with their teacher properly. Only 9.4% cannot feel any problems. But the rests of the students feel bored in online class.

Do you face any technical problem during online class or exam?

117 responses

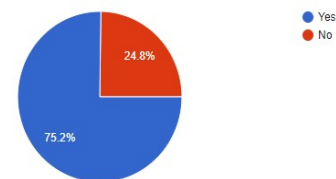


Fig-4

In fig-4, the pie chart shows the technical problem issues during an online class. 75.2% students think they face technical problem during online class. Only 24.8% students do not face such problems of technical issues.

Does your faculty consider technical problems?

117 responses

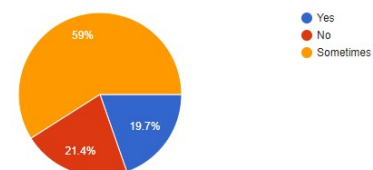


Fig-5

In fig-5, the following chart shows how much consideration shows a faculty on technical problems. According to students opinion 59% students think sometimes faculties show their consideration on that matter. 21.4% student give negative opinion. They think faculties do not consider such problems. Only 19.7% students think faculties always consider these types of problems.

Do you get enough time in online quizzes?

117 responses

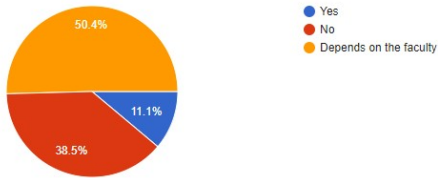


Fig-6

In fig-6, the pie chart shows that the time in online quizzes is sufficient or not. Only 11.1% students think the time is sufficient. 38.5% students don't think the time is enough for quizzes. But a large number that is 50.4% students give their opinion as these term depends on faculties.

Do you think online labs are effective?

117 responses

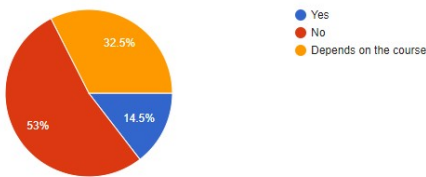


Fig-7

The fig-7 shows the effectiveness of online labs. In this section 53% students thinks online labs are not so effective. Only a small portion of students that is 14.5% thinks online labs are effective. And almost 32.5% students think this term is vary from course to course.

Do you think online exams/assessments are fare enough to justify a students knowledge?

117 responses

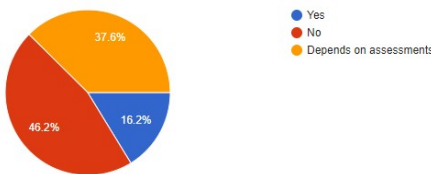


Fig-8

The fig-8 indicates the fairness to justify a student's knowledge through online exams / assessments. 46.2% students give their opinion as it is not a proper way to justify a student. Only 16.2% students thinks online assessments are fair enough to justify students. 37.6% students give a neutral opinion as they think this term depends on assessments.

What advantages you get in online class? (select more than 1 option)

117 responses

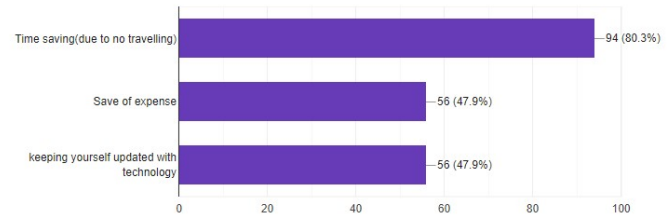


Fig-9

Fig-9 shows the advantages a student get in online class. 80.3% students think it is a time saving process. The rests do not believe in this advantage. And 47.9% of students think this process is a save of expense and also keeping oneself updating with technology.

The platform AIUB using for online class & assessment is it good for students?

117 responses

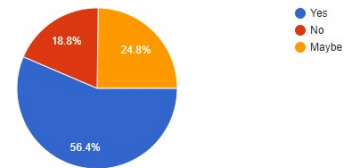


Fig-10

In fig-10, the pie chart shows the effectiveness of the platform AIUB using for online class. 56.4% students think the platform is good enough and 18.8% students think the platform is not so good. The rests 24.8% give their neutral opinion about using this platform.

Do you agree despite few problems its better to do online class rather than session gap?

117 responses

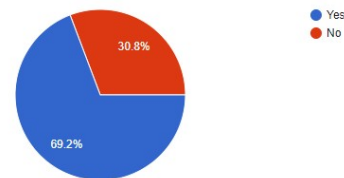


Fig-11

Fig-11 shows the overview of online class as it is better than session gap or not. 69.2% of students prefer online classes rather than session gap. Only 30.8% students do not appreciate online class in comparison to session gap.

What would you rather do?

117 responses

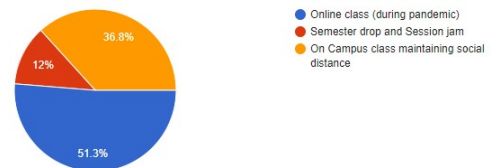


Fig-12

Fig-12 shows the free choice of students during this pandemic. 51.3% of students prefer online classes. 36.8% students thinks it is possible to present on campus class maintaining social

distance. Only 12% students want to drop the course knowing that it causes session jam.

What is your opinion about AIUB online assessments system?  
117 responses

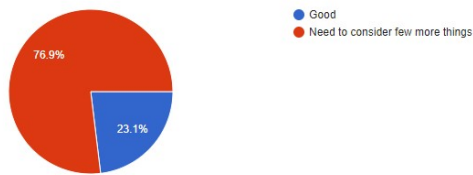


Fig-13

The fig-13 shows the student opinion about AIUB online assessment system. 76.9% students think AIUB need to consider few more things. Only 23.1% students are satisfied with AIUB online assessment system.

There were also some student's suggestion about online class. Some students are satisfied with AIUB online classes and exams. And some students complained about various types of problems like insufficient quiz timing, difficulties in understanding a lesson, some technical issues, faculties, AIUB management systems and so on. Though many students prefer physical classroom they also think it is better to do online class rather than face with session jam.

#### IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The research has been conducted at revealed a current situation about online class and exams at AIUB. With a little demerits it is preferable to students to do online class. But students faced some problems while doing an online class. AIUB authority should pay attention to these kind of problems of students. Though it is questionable to justify a student on this process but it is better than facing session jam. And as it is a technical process, Government should take necessary steps to increase internet facilities to the students.

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