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Online teaching and learning in postgraduate Nursing colleges and programmes: The future online education trend after the COVID-19 pandemic

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Online teaching and learning has become one of the popular education trends over the past few decades. Although many colleges and universities have already established online postgraduate programmes in nursing, students tended to attend traditional face-to-face programmes to gain knowledge from peer-to-peer interactions and hands-on experiences from their instructors. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, almost all postgraduate courses and programmes have moved online to meet the needs of the social distancing recommendation. In line with the Social Cognitive Career and Motivation Theory, this study aims to understand the experiences, decision-making processes, and feedback from a group of postgraduate students who decide to complete their Master of Science in Nursing degree online during the COVID-19 pandemic. The purposive sampling strategy was employed to recruit five postgraduate students (N=5). Based on the qualitative research method and general inductive approach, semi-structured interview sessions, focus group activity, and member checking interview sessions were employed. The finding and results indicated that: 1) the same level of academic rigorousness, 2) university should establish online-based courses for postgraduate students, and 3) balanced schedule, were the top-three themes from the participants. The outcomes of this study provide recommendations and feedback to university leaders, department heads, university lecturers, government departments, and policymakers for the potential developments in online teaching, online degree, and online education for non-traditional, returning, evening, adult (NTREA), and postgraduate students who cannot attend the traditional face-to-face courses during the day time.

Biography

Dr. Dos Santos, Luis Miguel is an Assistant Professor at Woosong University, South Korea. He completed his doctorate at Northeastern University, United States. His research interests include career development, decision-making process, foreign language teaching and learning, online education, lived stories, narrative studies, human resources management, workforce shortage, public health development, nursing, technology teaching, qualitative research, social cognitive career and motivation theory. He has published more than 120 academic works in journals, book chapters, monographs, and conferences.

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