

Collaboration Between Library and Occupational Therapy Department in Problem Based Learning Processes

Kübra ZAYIM GEDIK¹

Zeynep ÇORAKCI²

Talar CILACI²

¹Bezmiâlem Vakif University, Lecturer (Medical Documentation and Secretariat) and Expert Librarian

²Bezmiâlem Vakif University, Department of Occupational Therapy

Background and Aims

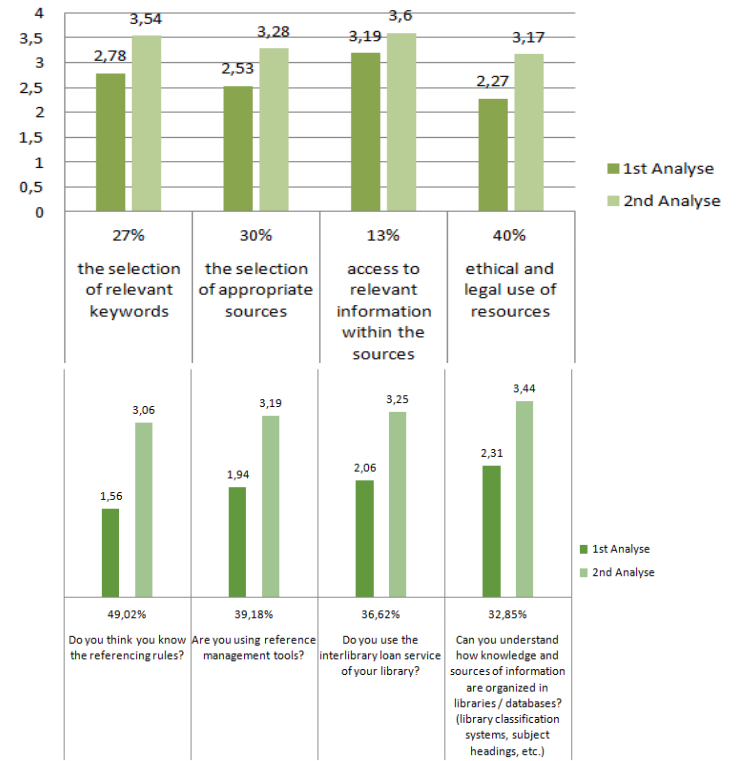
Within the scope of the study, the development of the research skills of the students in PBL (Problem-Based Learning) processes, and the effect of the librarian on the curriculum were measured. It was aimed to provide students with evidence-based learning skills and information literacy skills in PBL stages. The functionality of these skills gained during the course was also followed.

Method

The BVU OT (Occupational Therapy) department is an undergraduate program accepting 15 students every year. PBL includes 14 weeks of course content. As a method of the study, a questionnaire was administered to the students before and after the librarian attends the course and an education program was applied. Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test was used to compare pre and post-education questionnaire results. The significance level was accepted as $p < 0.05$.

Results

The students were asked 25 questions in the research, and the questions were evaluated under 4 factors: the selection of relevant keywords, the selection of appropriate sources, access to relevant information within the sources and the evaluation resources, and the ethical and legal use of resources. The assessment was made with a 5-point Likert scale, 4 showing the highest trouble level and 0 the lowest one. 16 3rd grade students participated in the study and their mean age was 20.13 ± 0.50 ; 14 of the participants were female (87.5%) and 2 were male (12.5%). After the librarian applies "the education program", "the selection of related keywords" ($p=0.001$), "the selection of suitable sources" ($p=0.002$), "access to relevant information within resources and the evaluation of resources" ($p=0.005$), and "the ethical and legal use of resources" ($p=0.01$) were increased statistically significant.



The questions with the most changes at the end of the surveys.

Conclusion

The first scores of the participants indicate that they have some difficulties in resource management. After the education program applied by the librarian, all the factors were increased. Though, multidisciplinary studies are needed to improve PBL course in OT curriculum in universities.

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