





Riga State Technical School coordinate Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership project "Blended teaching and learning in VET schools", Co-funded by the Erasmus + Programme of the European Union

"Blended teaching and learning in VET schools"

Analysis of the results of the students' survey Epimorfotiki Kilkis Greece

Nikolaos Georgiadis







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RESULTS OF THE SURVEY FOR STUDENTS

1. Introduction

The survey was conducted among students from the 1st Kilkis VET SCHOOL (1st EPAL) from 23 to 30 November 2021 and from the 2nd Kilkis VET SCHOOL (2nd EPAL), from 1 to 8 October 2021, as a part of the "Blended teaching and learning in VET schools" project (No.2020-1-LV01-KA226-VET094501).

In the survey participated a total of 81 students who completed the questionnaire during classes. Of the students, 10 studied in the 1st Kilkis VET SCHOOL (1st EPAL) and 71 in the 2nd Kilkis VET SCHOOL (2nd EPAL). 10% were girls, and 90% were boys, aged 15 to 19 years.

98% of the students studied in professional specialties with a duration of 3 years, and 2% of the students studied in professional specialties with a duration of 4 years. The professional specialties are agriculture, engineering, electrical engineering, food technology, refrigeration technician, nurse assistant, medical and biological laboratory assistant.

The questionnaires were distributed to the students personally, in paper version, and after collecting them, the answers were registered electronically. The questionnaire questions referred to the acquisition of knowledge during their vocational education at the secondary-vocational and vocational-technical level.

2. Analysis of responses

2.1. To the question "In your opinion, do the teaching and learning process in education institutions advance the development of the following competencies?", the students had to choose from a scale of 4 choices: I disagree (red), I rather disagree (orange), I rather agree (light blue) and I agree (dark blue), and marked the following (Figure 1):

According to the students, the competencies they acquire to a high extent are the following: daily communication in the national language (82,7%) and daily application of mathematics (63%).

The students declared that the knowledge/competencies they acquire to a sufficient extent (55,6%) are the following: application of industry-specific technologies, ability to use life situations for learning new things, cooperation with different people.

It's worth mentioning that according to the students, the knowledge/competencies they acquire to a lower extent (below 30%) are the following: application of information technologies, time management and ability to take up an initiative. The ability they acquire to the lowest extent is cultural awareness (14,9%).





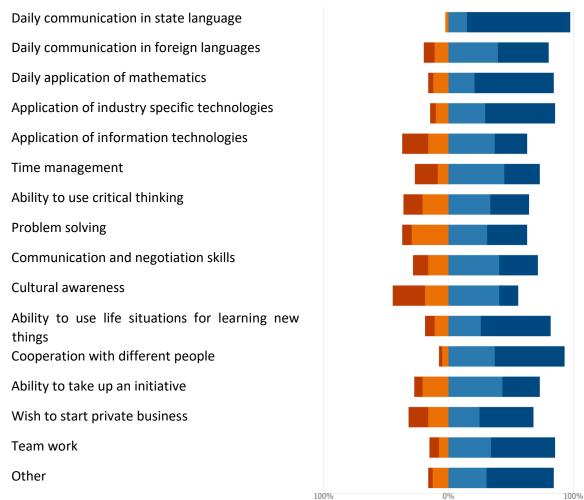


Figure 1: Answers to the question "In your opinion, do the teaching and learning process in education institutions advance the development of the following competencies?"







Competencies	I Disagree (%)	I Rather disagree (%)	I Rather agree (%)	I Agree (%)
Daily communication in state language	0	2,5	14,8	82,7
Daily communication in foreign languages	8,6	11,1	39,5	40,8
Daily application of mathematics	3,7	12,3	21	63
Application of industry specific technologies	4,9	9,9	29,6	55,6
Application of information technologies	21	16	37	26
Time management	18,5	8,6	44,4	28,5
Ability to use critical thinking	14,8	21	33,3	30,9
Problem solving	7,4	29,6	30,9	32,1
Communication and negotiation skills	12,3	16	40,7	31
Cultural awareness	25,9	18,5	40,7	14,9
Ability to use life situations for				
learning new things	7,4	11,1	25,9	55,6
Cooperation with different people	2,5	4,9	37	55,6
Ability to take up an initiative	6,2	21	43,2	29,6
Wish to start private business	16	16	24,8	43,2
Team work	7,5	7,5	33,8	51,2

2.2. To the question: "Do skills and competencies gained during studies improve professional background?", the students (58 of them) answered the following:

- 91,38 % of the students answered YES: They considered that they learn everything necessary to practice their profession. The majority finds it very important that they have not only theoretical knowledge, but also practical training because, with practice, they gain experience that will help them in their professional life.
- 1,62% of the students answered PROPABLY and
- 7% of the students answered NO: Mainly because the schools were closed for a long time due to COVID-19. The lessons conducted remotely didn't allow them to acquire skills and abilities to enhance their professional lives.

2.3. To the question: "What was the most important subject/ benefit for them during the vocational training programme?", the students (44 of them) answered the following:

Among the knowledg/competencies that they have not yet acquired, but which they find important for the performance of their profession, students marked, more than one, of the following knowledge/competencies (See Figure 2):

- ICT information technology (39 answers);
- Critical thinking (38 answers);
- Professional skills and knowledge (35 answers).







- Foreign language skills (34 answers);
- Time management (32 answers);

Among the knowledge/competencies that they have not acquired during their schooling in sufficient extent, students chose communication skills and mathematics. Students who answered "other" (25 answers) did not state what knowledge/competence they had in mind.

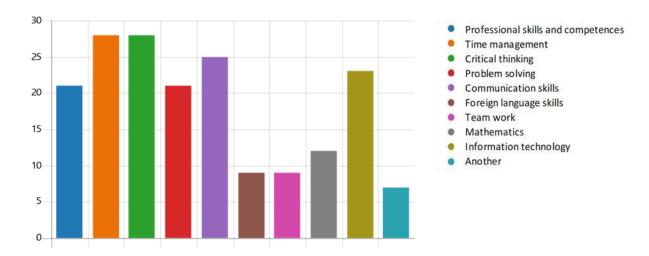


Figure 2: Answer to the question: "What professional skills and competencies that you did not learn in the study process yet needed for working in your profession?"

Professional skills and competencies	Students' responses
Professional skills and competencies	35
Time management	32
Critical thinking	38
Problem solving	31
Communication skills	25
Foreign language skills	34
Team work	28
Mathematics	23
Information technology	39
Another	25







3. Conclusion

From the answers of students in the survey we may conclude:

Students are able to critically assess the necessary knowledge/competencies to perform the profession;
The vast majority of students are satisfied with the acquired knowledge for performing the profession, mainly thanks to the practical lessons during regular curriculum;
Consideration should be given to the possibility of increasing the emphasis on acquiring knowledge/competencies that students have identified as important but not addressed sufficiently.