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Title

The impact of attendance on first-year study success in problem-based learning / Patrick Bijsmans ; Arjan H. Schakel

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Abstract

The literature on first-year study success has identified a host of factors that may affect a student's chances of succeeding, ranging from personal circumstances to educational environment. One of the factors that often emerges in this context is (non-)attendance of classes, lectures and tutorials.

Intuitively, one would expect this to be all the more important in programmes that employ a student-centred and interactive approach to learning, such as problem-based learning. Interestingly, there is little dedicated research that looks into the importance of (non-)attendance in such a learning environment. This article addresses this gap in the literature by looking at the effect of (non-)attendance on the study success of three cohorts of Maastricht University's Bachelor in European Studies (annual intake of 325–350 students). Controlling for a range of factors, we find that attendance matters for several measures of study success and also for the committed and participating student. (HRK / Abstract übernommen) Bijsmans, Patrick, E-Mail: patrick.bijsmans@maastrichtuniversity.nl