

Class-Time Utilization in Business Schools in Tunisia

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Abstract

Tunisian Universities do not adopt any textbooks and rather rely on classrooms as the main learning resource for the students. This study is concerned with observing what is going on inside the classrooms of five business schools. The collected data, relating to 75 randomly selected classes, show that the instructors are utilizing on average less than 55% of the time of the lecture for teaching purposes. From their side, the students recorded an attendance rate lower than 34%. The rate drops to 20% when excluding the students engaged in extraneous activities. These incredible figures raise serious questions about the academic learning of the students..

Keywords

Educational/learning time, time utilization; classroom; developing countries, Tunisia

Biography

Omar Ben-Ayed is Professor of Management in College of Business and Economics at Qatar University. He is also professor of Operations Research and Operations Management at the University of Sfax in Tunisia (2005-2010). He received his MS in Applied Mathematics and PhD in Business Administration from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the USA. His current research interests are mainly in parcel distribution and the applications of quality management to higher education.

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