



The Effectiveness of Online Learning on Psychology Education Courses of Children With Special Needs in Special Education Students

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ABSTRACT

The role of educators is to develop teaching methods in the Psychology of Educational Children with Special Needs lectures so that students gain knowledge, learning experiences, and easy access through online discussion forums during the COVID-19 pandemic. This study aimed to determine the effectiveness of online learning on educational psychology courses for special education students. This research hypothesizes that the online teaching method using WhatsApp is effective for The Educational Psychology of Children with Special Needs course. The research method is a Quasi Experiment. The subjects of this study were students of special education study programs at the University of Lambung Mangkurat, Banjarmasin city. The data collection method used the test method, through pre-test and post-test. The data analysis technique is the t-test technique. The results of the research from pre-test and post-test data using a paired sample-t test showed that the activities of special education students in the educational psychology course for Children with Special Needs using online learning using WhatsApp turned out to be quite effective.

INTRODUCTION

The government's appeal to implement social distancing to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak has limited direct meetings, including in the world of education. Face-to-face teaching and learning activities in the classroom have shifted to online distance education. The Directorate General of Higher Education of the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education stated that 353 universities implement distance learning. This number will continue to grow along with the rampant COVID-19 outbreak, appeals for social distancing, and Large-Scale Social Restrictions. Law on Higher Education number 12 years 2012 article 31 concerning Distance Education explains that it is a teaching and learning process carried out remotely through various communication media (Saphira, 2020).

Regulation of the Minister of Education and Culture Number 109/2013 Article 2, Distance education aims to provide higher education services to community groups who cannot attend face-to-face education and to expand access and facilitate higher education services in learning. Distance Education is an education system with the characteristics of open, independent learning and complete learning by utilizing Technology, Information, and Communication, and/or using other technologies and/or in the form of university-integrated learning (Saphira, 2020).

Distance education must be connected to online learning as a facilitator medium. Online learning allows students to study anytime, anywhere, and with anyone. Online learning is a form of learning method that is perceived to be student-centered. According to Khoirunnisa (2018), the role of educators can be described as active facilitators, namely providing material to be explored for students and guiding students

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