ERASMUS+ CBHE PROJECT # 585760-EPP-1-2017-1-AM-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

"Change in Classroom: Promoting Innovative Teaching & Learning to Enhance Student Learning Experience in Eastern Partnership Countries", PRINTeL

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS' FEEDBACK AND FOLLOW-UP

ACADEMIC AND TEACHING STAFF DEVELOPMENT CENTER

ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY

TBILISI, 2020

Mission:

The mission of Ilia State University is to Provide students with a modern and quality education, therefore, in the frame of PRINTeL Project the Teaching Staff Development Centre (TSDC) is to enhance the quality of academic education and research by providing teaching and research staff of Ilia State University with opportunities for professional development that targets their academic program management (design, development and assessment), instruction (i.e. classroom teaching, learning and assessment) and research skills, in full compliance with the strategic goals of IliaUni Strategic Plan. The mission of the Teaching Staff Development Centre is also to plan and offer various types of training courses to university academic and teaching staff; To identify needs for professional development based on the results of the surveys among academic staff, teachers and students; To attract qualified trainers to the TSDC and evaluate and monitor the quality of trainings conducted within the center

General Information

The Teaching Staff Development Centre (TSDC) is a new structural unit at Ilia State University, which is created due to the needs, which are identified based on student and teaching staff surveys delivered by HR and Quality Assurance Office (2017 and 2018), assessments by QA offices of program managers/administrators at faculty/school levels (2018), and external reviews of academic programs by local and international experts (2018).

Main Activities

In Spring, 2019, in the frame of PRINTeL Project, the employees of Teaching staff development center conducted 15 TT Trainings for IliaUni academic personnel and teaching staff. Almost 200 members of IliaUni team were trained in innovative teaching and learning methods in following subjects:

1. Active Learning and ICT-enhanced teaching: M-learning and gamification
2. Video as a Learning tool for teachers and students
3. Active Learning in the Flipped Classroom
4. Active Learning: Technology Enhanced Collaborative Learning
5. Hybrid/Blended Teaching and Learning

In Fall 2019, the half-time employees of the center have attended the TOT training and workshop on the Development of Open Educational Resources (OER) in KU Leuven, after training they had to improve/optimize their TT courses and conduct new modified trainings for IliaUni teaching staff members.

From October 2019 to December 2019, 6 modified in-house 10 hour trainings were conducted by following trainers: 1. Levan Tsagareli – Professor, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; 2. Aleksandre Ergeshidze – Associate Professor - Faculty of Business, Technology and Education; 3. Tamar

Magalashvili – Associate Profesor - Faculty of Business, Technology and Education; 4. Elene Zhuravliova – Associate Professor - Faculty of Natural Sciences and Medicine; 5. Archil Abashidze – Associate Professor – Faculty of Arts and Sciences and 6. Giga Khositashvili – Invited Lecturer – Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

More than 60 teachers have attended the training course in fall, 2019. Also the TSDC trainers have used the innovative teaching and learning methods during their regular courses in fall semester and after the end of the semester, Based on their experience, our TT trainers developed questionnaires for students that would allow them to evaluate the effectiveness of used methods in their courses. This process is quite dynamic and students' feedback allows lecturers to focus on the problems and challenges emerged during the teaching semester. The questionnaire is based on the identified needs. As the TT trainers work on the different faculties of IliaUni, the courses they have modified in line with the innovative teaching and learning methods, were quite different.

The survey included following questions:

1. My expectations were met at the end of the course

2. The lecturer was using innovative teaching methods while teaching (e.g Moodle, Turnitin Feedback Studio, Mentimeter, Sli.do, Polleverywhere, Google Forms, Trello, Kahoot, Padlet, Answering questions by mobile phone, etc.)

3. Methods and activities the teacher was using while lecturing was interesting and stimulating learners.

4. During the seminars I had opportunity to work on practical activities.

5. I could ask questions and express my opinions freely during the lectures.

6. I will be able to use theoretical and practical knowledge gained during the lectures and seminars in the future.

7. Would you recommend this subject to your friends?

8. My overall attitude to this subject

9. In your opinion, how useful is application of electronic tools in teaching together with classical methods?

10. Do electronic platforms/tools increase students' motivation?

11. Video-lectures lead to better results (than lectures in the auditorium, since it is possible to re-watch them later)

12. Platforms for online teaching and learning (Padlet, Trello, Kahoot, etc.) are convenient and easy to apply

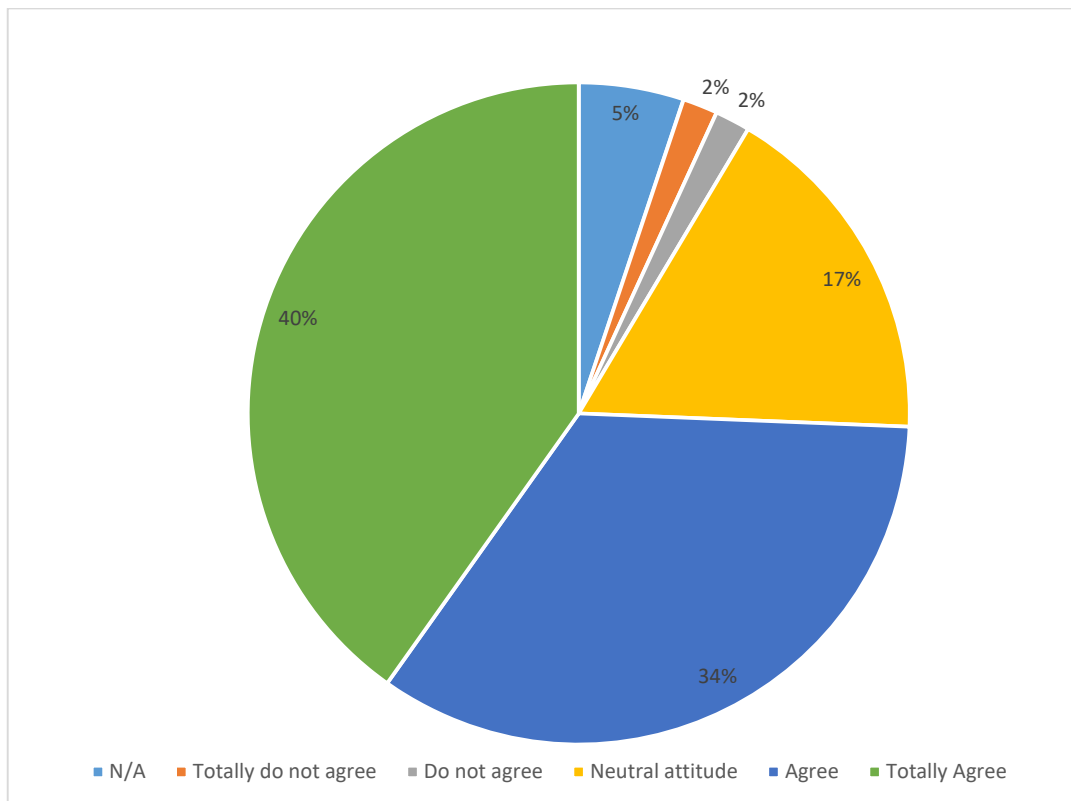13. I wish all lecturers would apply electronic tools/methods in all courses

Results of Students follow-up

Most of the students took part in the survey with enthusiasm, some saw the need for this in the teaching process, but there were a number of students who were not involved in the process. Mostly student satisfaction was high, but for some it did not seem interesting.
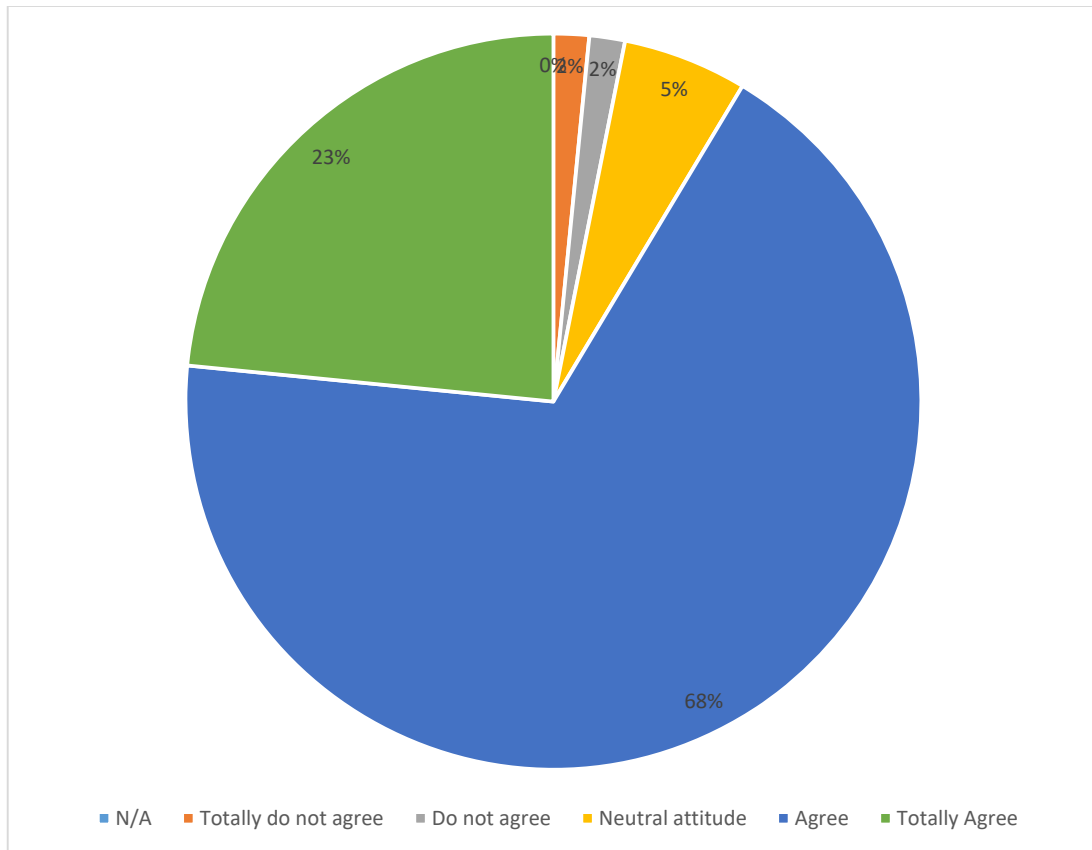
Number of students – 277
Results by questions:
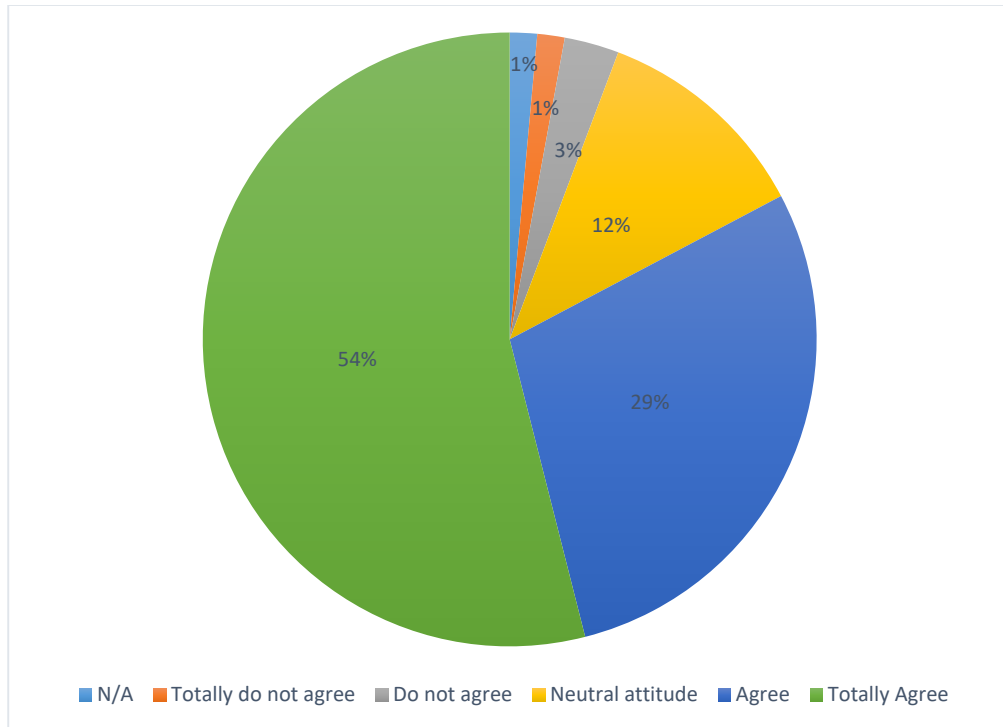
My expectations were met at the end of the course

40% of students checked that their expectations totally met at the end of the course, 37% of them agrees with the above-mentioned question, 17% has a neutral attitude, 5 % of them has no answer and 4% in total do not agree with this issue.

The lecturer was using innovative teaching methods while teaching (e.g Moodle, Turnitin Feedback Studio, Mentimeter, Sli.do, Poll everywhere, Google Forms, Trello, Kahoot, Padlet, Answering questions by mobile phone, etc.)
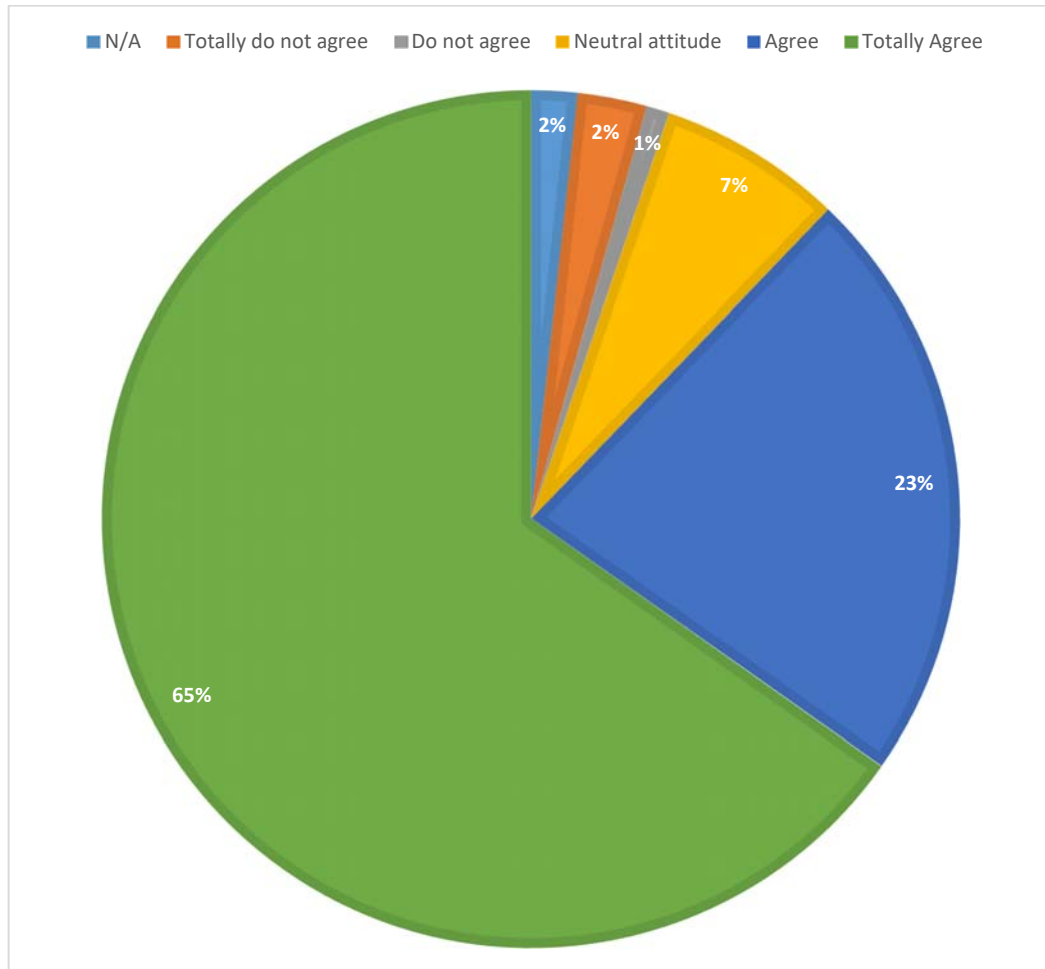

91% of students totally agrees/agrees that the lecturer was using innovative teaching methods while teaching, 5% of them has neutral attitude about this issue and only 4% do not agree to the above-mentioned opinion.

Methods and activities the teacher was using while lecturing were interesting and stimulating learners

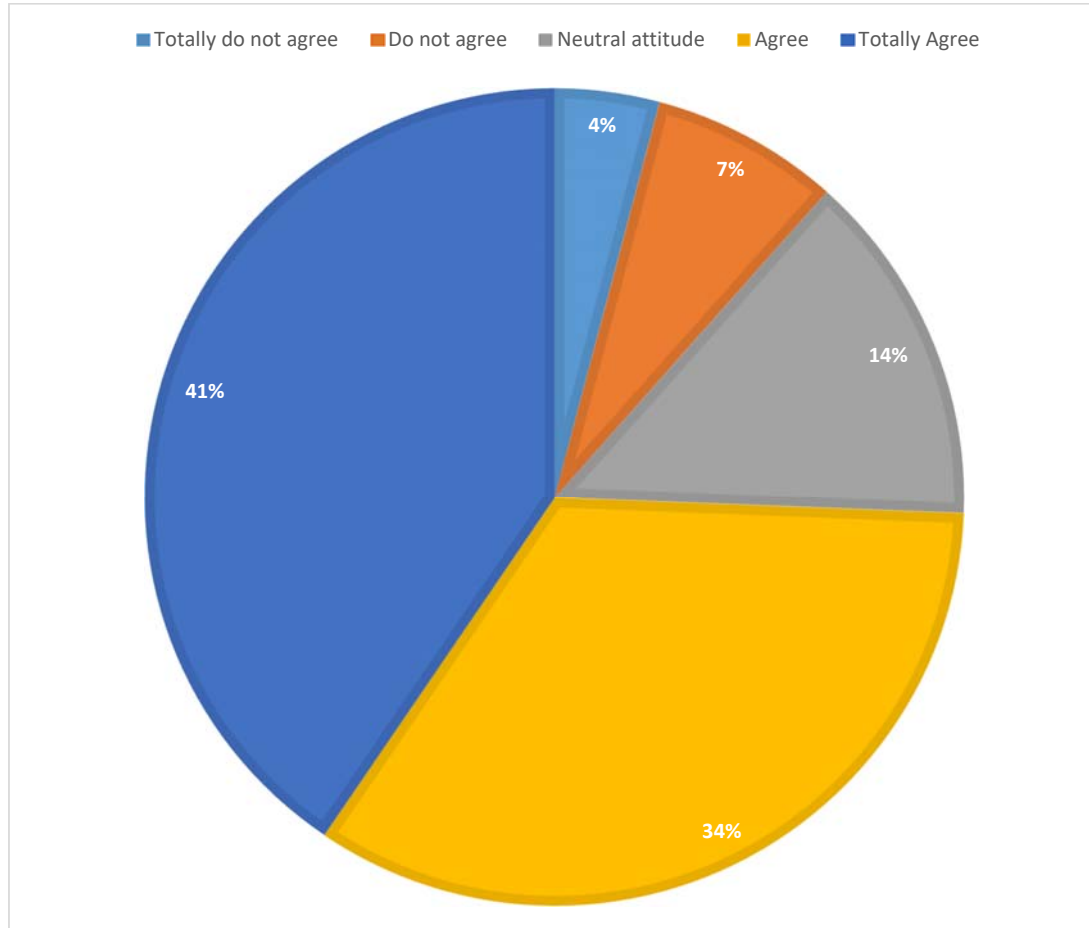N/A ■ Totally do not agree ■ Do not agree ■ Neutral attitude ■ Agree ■ Totally Agree

83% of Surveyed students thinks that Methods and activities the teacher was using while lecturing were interesting and stimulating learners, 12% has a neutral attitude and 4% do not agree about this issue.

During the seminars I had opportunity to work on practical activities
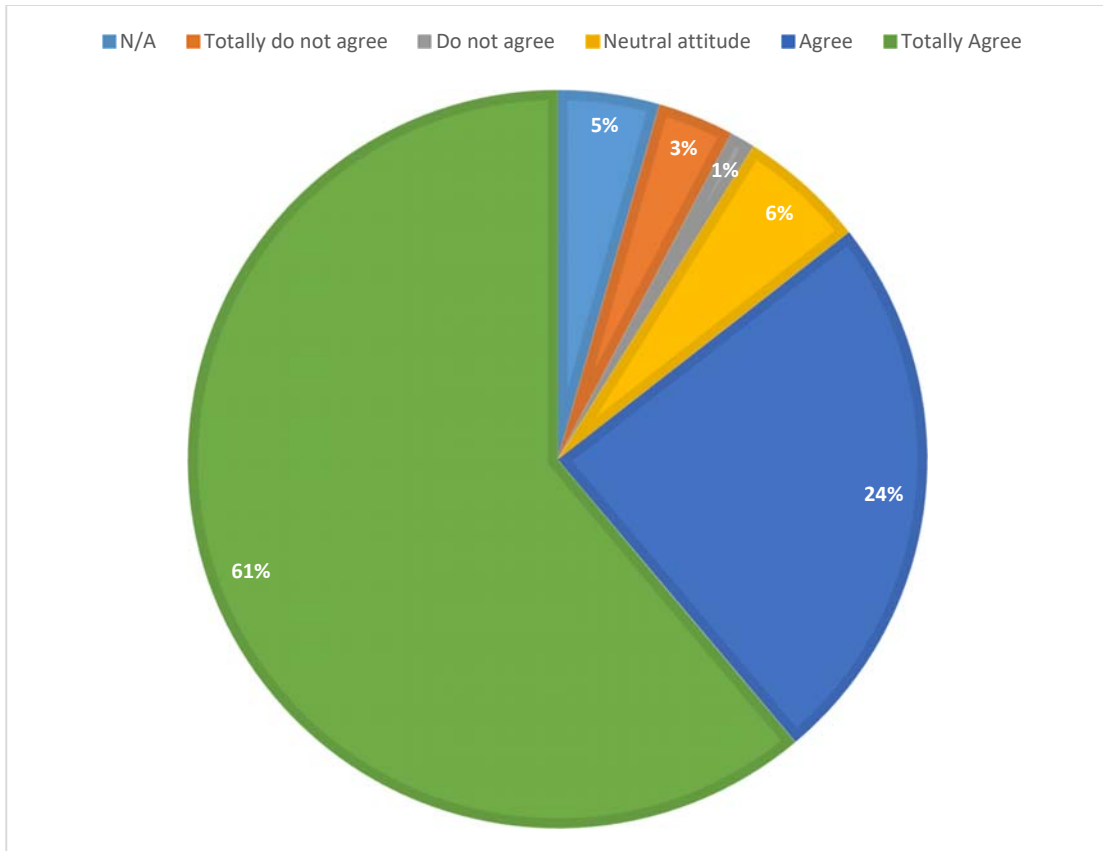

88% of students totally agrees/agrees that during the seminars they had an opportunity to work on practical activities, 7% of them has a neutral attitude, 3% totally do not agree/do not agree and 2% has no answer.

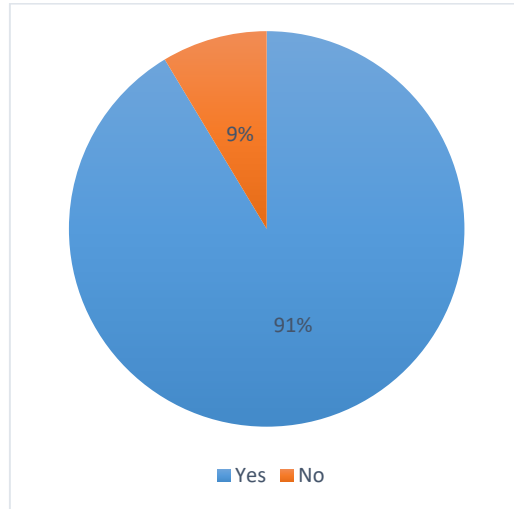**I could ask questions and express my opinions freely during the lectures**

75% of students totally agrees/agrees that they could ask questions and express their opinions freely during the lectures, 14% of them has neutral attitude about this issue and 11% totally do not agree/do not agree to the above mentioned opinion.

I will be able to use theoretical and practical knowledge gained during the lectures and seminars in the future

85% of students think that they will be able to use theoretical and practical knowledge gained during the lectures and seminars in the future, 6% has a neutral attitude, 4% do not agree to this issue and 5% has no answer to this opinion.
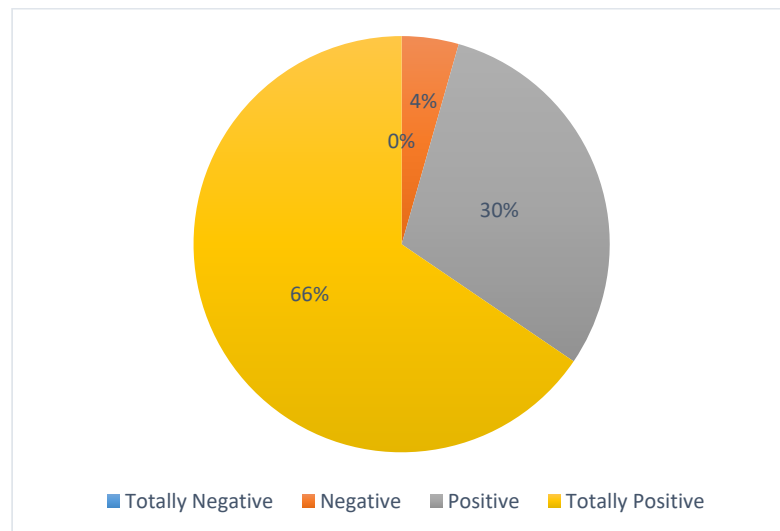
Would you recommend this subject to your friends?

91% of survey participants will recommend the learned course to their friends and only 9% does not agree to this question.
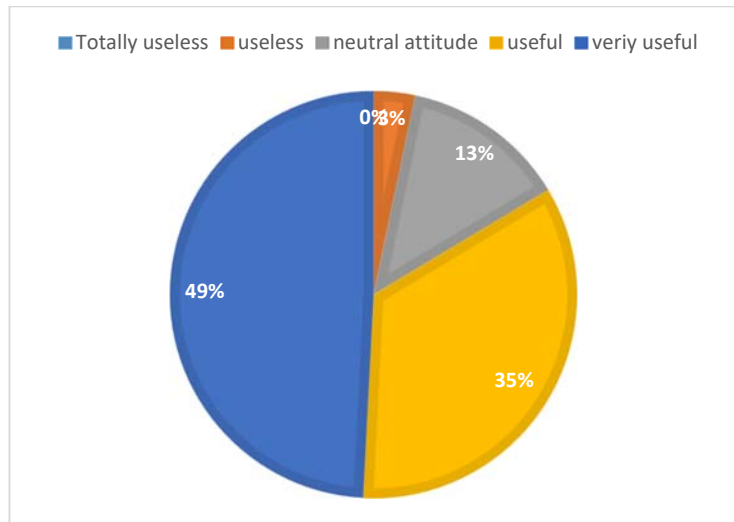
My overall attitude to this subject

Overall attitude of the students to learned subjects are Totally positive/positive (96%) and only 4% has a neutral attitude to this case
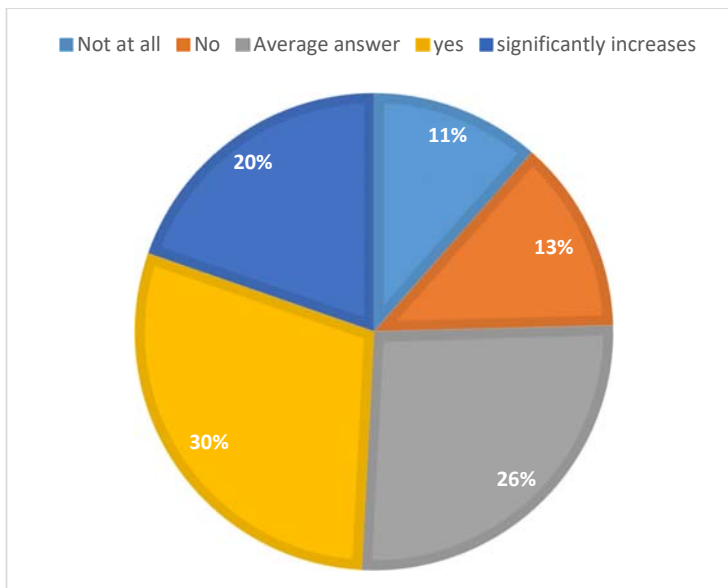
In your opinion, how useful is application of electronic tools in teaching together with classical methods?

For 86% of students the application of electronic tools is very useful/useful in teaching together with classical methods, only for 3% it is useless and 13% has a neutral attitude about this issue.
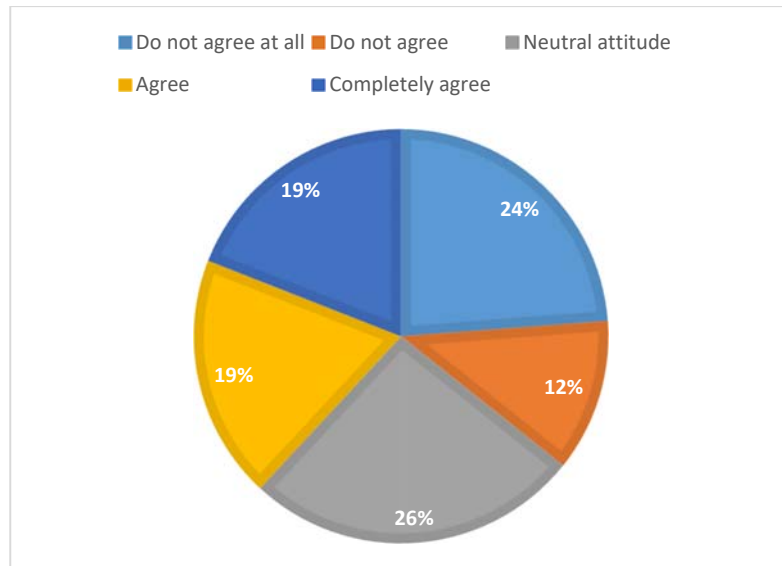

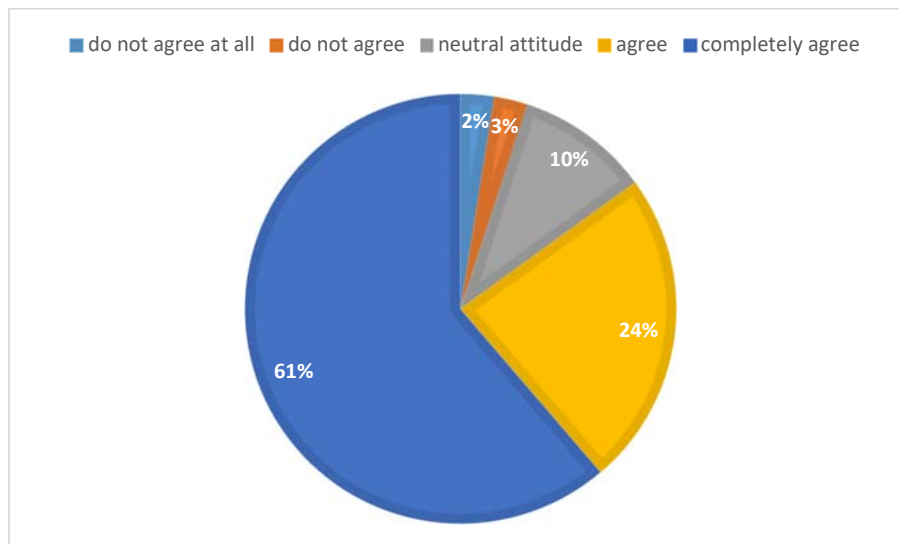**Do electronic platforms/tools increase students' motivation?**

50% of students think that electronic platforms significantly increases/increases students' motivation, 26% has an average attitude and 24% do not agree to this opinion.

Video-lectures lead to better results (than lectures in the auditorium, since it is possible to re-watch them later)

38% of surveyed students think that Video-lectures lead to better results in studying while 31% do not agree with this statement and 26% has a neutral attitude to this issue.
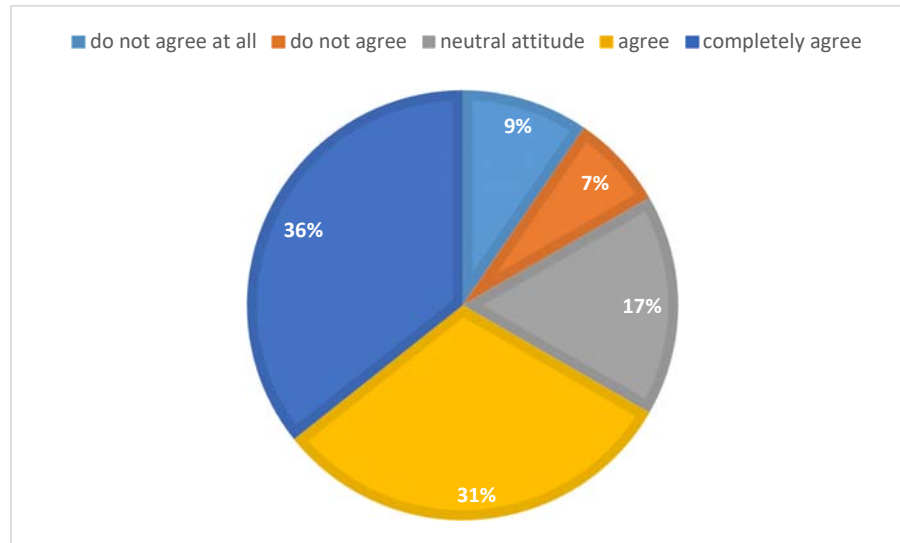
Platforms for online teaching and learning (PADLET, Trello, Kahoot, etc.) are convenient and easy to apply

For 85% of students Platforms for online teaching and learning are convenient and easy to apply, only for 5% it is not convenient, 10% has neutral attitude to this mention.

And finally, 71% of students wish that all lecturers would apply electronic tools/methods in all courses and 17% has a neutral attitude to the electronic methods of teaching and learning.

All lecturers would apply electronic tools/methods in all courses

To summarize:

77% of students think that their expectations met at the end of the course, the lecturers were using innovative teaching methods in the process of teaching (e.g Moodle, Turnitin Feedback Studio, Mentimeter, Sli.do, Poll everywhere, Google Forms, Trello, Kahoot, Padlet, Answering questions by mobile phone, etc.) for 91%; For 86% of students the application of electronic tools is very useful/useful in teaching together with classical methods. For the majority of survey participants Methods and activities the teacher was using while lecturing, was interesting and stimulating learners and they had an opportunity to work on practical activities during the seminars. 75% of students agrees that they could ask questions and express their opinions freely during the studying process. 85% of students think that they will be able to use theoretical and practical knowledge gained during the lectures and seminars in the future and, therefore they will recommend the learned course to their friends. Overall attitude of the students to learned subjects is Totally positive/positive (96%). Nearly the half of participants thinks that electronic platforms significantly increases student's motivation, however, the video lecturing does not lead to better results in studying (56%). For the majority of survey participants (85%), platforms for online teaching and learning are convenient and easy to use.

Based on the results obtained, we can say that for most of the students distance learning and online teaching with innovative methods is quite acceptable and comfortable. The results of this challenge will become more tangible at the end of the spring semester 2020.

Conclusion

Since February 2020, the world has faced the biggest challenge due to global spread of pandemic. This challenge has affected all areas of human activity, including our higher education system. Switching to distance learning was not an easy process, especially for countries that have no such experience. The team of Ilia State University used all the available resources to maintain the quality of teaching. The TT trainings within the frame of PRINTeL Project played an important role in this success. Our TT Trainers shared their experience to ISU teaching staff and students in short videos:

https://www.facebook.com/Iliauni/videos/256312568744383/
https://www.facebook.com/Iliauni/videos/898526167240409/
https://www.facebook.com/Iliauni/videos/667174600716429/

Our trainers provided practical advices on how to effectively provide distance learning, what the specific methods and tools are that will make it easier for both lecturers and students.

For the exact results of this challenge will be very interesting to see after the end of the spring semester 2020.

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May, 2020