

# Google Classroom –A Perception Among Undergraduate Computer Application Students

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## Abstract:

The outbreak of the deadly virus Corona has made significant changes in almost all sectors of the world. Among all, the educational institutions are the most badly affected one as physical classes were all suspended. Educational institutions that followed traditional mode of teaching were forced to follow online teaching pedagogy to teach the students. There are many online tools available and among them Google classroom is chosen as the teaching and learning tool. This paper focuses on the Google classroom- a perception among Undergraduate Computer Application students.

**Keywords: Covid, Online learning, Google classroom**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The pandemic situation made significant changes in education sector globally. The educational institutions suspended physical classes and replaced the traditional teaching and learning style by moving towards digital technology [1]. The face to face mode of teaching was suddenly shifted to online mode. In a very short span of time, COVID-19 forced educational institutions to go for new innovations in online tools for teaching.

There are so many online tools available and among them Google suite for education is one of the powerful tool for teaching and learning. It has Google App tools like Classroom, Drive, Gmail, Docs, Forms, Sheets and Slides, Meet etc [2]. Google Classroom is a new tool introduced in Google Apps for Education in 2014. The GC facilitates teachers to post learning materials, create assignment, conduct test through Google forms and communicate with the students with ease.

The students were new to GC and few didn't know how to access the classroom. The student's perception on Google classroom has

to be known to evaluate the learning process during online classes.

This paper describes perceptions of Google classroom during the Covid-19 Pandemic among the students of undergraduate computer application. Perception is the experience of object, event, and relationship acquired by resuming information and interpreting a message [3]. Once the teacher learns about the student's perception, he/she can change their teaching style, prepare the learning material in a way the students understand better [4]. As stated by [5], the student's perception is crucial for evaluating the teaching effectiveness.

The Google classroom is a portal where the teachers can upload the learning materials in the form of ppt, doc, web links, video/audio etc. Students can view/download the materials whenever they need it. The teachers can give assignment, conduct online test through Google form. Grades can be seen by the students immediately for the assessment conducted. Google classroom is a cost effective

platform because the uploaded files are in the format of ppt, doc and video/audio and there is no way for usage of stationery items. Classes can be conducted virtually with the help of Google meet. In this paper the student’s perception is focussed on perceived ease of use, perceived usefulness and attitude towards usage of GC.

**METHODS**

The researcher used quantitative approach; an online questionnaire tool was prepared with the Google form and distributed to the students through e-mail. A total of 49 final year undergraduate students of computer application were taken as the sample from Women’s university in Coimbatore district and were using the Google classroom for learning computer applications subjects for 2 semesters during 2020-21. The data got from the tool was analyzed to study the perception of student.

**RESULTS**

Constructs	SA %	A %	N %	D %	SD %
Perceived Ease of Use (PEU)	47	51	2.0	-	-
Perceived Usefulness (PU)	40	51.5	4.5	4.0	-
Attitude toward Usage (ATU)	30.2	62.5	4.2	3.1	-

Table 1: Percentage of student’s perception towards Google classroom

Table 1 show that 47% and 51% strongly agreed and agreed to Perceived Ease of Use (PEU) of GC.40% and 51.5% strongly agreed and agreed to Perceived Usefulness (PU) of GC and 30.2% and 62.5% of students have strongly agreed and agreed Attitude toward Usage (ATU) of GC.

In **Perceived Ease of Use** there are 5 items which describes whether the usage of GC is comfortable to the students. Majority of the students (47% and 51%) “Strongly agree and agree” that Google classroom is easy to use. Student felt GC is friendly, flexible and pleasant. Accessing the activities like learning materials, assignment and quiz were easy. They were able to easy download the learning materials, submit assignment, attend quiz.

**Perceived Usefulness** with 4 items mentions how the usage of GC has enhanced the performance of the student. Here also majority of the students (40% and 51.1%) “Strongly agree and agree” that because of GC their performance have enhanced. Only few students 4.5% feel it is Neutral and 4% of the students disagree that GC has not improved their performance. Most of the students have said that GC helped them to achieve well both in continuous internal assessment and also in comprehensive examination. They said that they can submit assignment, attend quiz and download learning materials from anywhere anytime.

**Attitude toward Usage** has 2 items and tells about the interest in using the GC. 30.2% and 62.5% “strongly agree and agree” GC makes the students to realize anywhere and anytime learning. Student’s attitude toward the usage of GC has positive effect because it has all the functions and capabilities required for a learning environment.

**CONCLUSION**

The pandemic situation has made a tremendous change in teaching learning process. When all the physical classes were made to close, online learning was the only way for the students to learn. Google classroom is an effective tool where the students can download the learning materials, submit assignment, attend quiz and also the teacher can handle classes through Google meet by presenting the learning materials. The current study showed that students accepted the new way of online learning and has a positive feeling towards GC. The students agreed that GC is very easy and friendly and also they were able to access it anytime and from anywhere. They were able to access all the activities through one portal. The students were able to improve their academic performance when they learned through GC. Though there were some network/technical issues faced by the student yet they were happy to be connected with Google classroom.

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Table 2: The questionnaire tool

S.No	Questions	SA	A	N	D	SD
<b>Perceived Ease of Use (PEU)</b>						
1	I find GC is easy and friendly to use					
2	Accessing the activities (Assignment, learning materials, Quiz-Google Form, Google Meet) are easy					
3	It is convenient to download learning materials in .ppt, .doc. and .pdf format					
4	Allows to access learning materials as many times as needed					
5	It is convenient to upload assignment as a file in any format (.doc, .pdf and .ppt)					
<b>Perceived Usefulness (PU)</b>						
6	Improves my academic achievement(Internal/External marks)					
7	Learning materials uploaded are available throughout the semester and hence it gives flexibility to learn anytime					
8	Submission of assignment, attending quiz through Google form, downloading learning materials can be done from anywhere					
9	The doubts can be clarified immediately with the teacher in Google Meet which is very useful for learning					
<b>Attitude Toward Usage (ATU)</b>						
10	GC makes me to realize anywhere and anytime learning					
11	GC has all the functions and capabilities required for a learning environment					