

Use of Project based Learning

Prof. Mitali M. Bansode¹

¹R.I.T, Sakharale, Maharashtra.

¹mitali.bansode@ritindia.edu

Abstract:- Every teacher wants to use innovative teaching methods. But sometimes it creates challenges for a teacher to engage and keep continuous student interest in one hour session. By considering this some teachers are using combination of different teaching methods. Project based learning is an effective and enjoyable teaching method which helps teacher to create competencies among students. Project based learning is one of the excellent method to teach management subjects also, because it is effective, participative and enjoyable method to satisfy academic outcomes. This paper focuses on Project based learning as teaching model. For the study MBA II 30 HR specialization students were selected and results taken on basis of student learning and understanding.

Key Words- Project based learning, coordination, involvement, and understanding.

1. Introduction-

Project based learning is one of the cooperative learning method. This study gives opportunity to students to work cooperatively and autonomously. For the study researcher has selected 30 MBA II HR specialization students. For this students were given to identify reasons behind acquisition of Sun pharma and Ranbaxy pharmaceuticals.

2. Review of the relevant literature-

1. According to summary of research on PBL conducted by University of Indianapolis, centre of excellence in leadership of learning, student learn more in PBL classes as compare to traditional classes. It was also observed that a student with low verbal ability learns more in PBL classes. PBL gives high level of student engagement, increase critical thinking, and problem solving skills among students.
2. According to John R. Mergendoller Buck Institute of Education, California and John W. Thomas Mill Valley, California, in paper on Managing Project Based Learning – Principles from the field. Teachers in the learner-centred classroom requires more

management than traditional classroom. PBL classroom instruction and management required to share by teachers and students. For PBL teachers need large number of planning, monitoring, adjusting troubleshooting strategies.

3. According to John W. Thomas, A review of research on project based learning (march 2000) PBL is relatively challenge to plan and enact because it requires prior experience. Students found difficulties working on complex projects, so teacher need to help students learn how to learn. Effectiveness of PBL is enhanced when it is incorporated into whole school change efforts.

4. According to Nichola Harmer and Alison Stokes, The benefits and challenges of Project based learning A review of literature, a book published in November 2014 by Plymouth university. PBL interest is increased in worldwide educational institutions. It has given main advantage to educators to work on conflict and free- riding in a group work, it requires training for teachers to address potential difficulties. PBL needs explanation to students about process, assessment, support, extra resources.

5. According to David Hutchison, Brock University, a research monograph published in September 2015, Project based learning – Drawing on Best Practices in Project Management. PBL empowers learners to understand 21st century's habits of minds from communication to critical thinking. For implementing PBL in class room practice requires PBL centric climate, sufficient time for project planning, managing effectively time and scope of project.

3. Objectives-

- To study student involvement and learning through project based learning.

4. Scope of the study- Scope of the study is restricted to MBA II, 30 HR specialization students .

5. Benefits of PBL

- Improves students learning and innovation skills.
- Students learn more deeply because they apply knowledge to real world problems.
- It helps to increase student participation, engagement and coordination.
- Improves academic performances of students
- It connects students with real world situations.

5. Project Based Learning:-

Project based learning or Project learning is a teaching method where students learn by working on different projects. John Dewey introduced PBL, in 1897, he wrote a book 'My Pedagogical Creed' with concept of learning by doing. PBL methods help teachers to engage students with complex problems and challenging situations. This is student centred and student driven teaching method which gives exposure to students to understand real critical situations faced by the companies and learn thorough working on different projects.

Buck Institute for Education (BIE) has worked with other and started Gold Standard Project Based Learning. BIE provides quality PBL instructional services to teachers and schools.

Andrew Miller is a consultant of BIE has recently written a blog on writing effective driving questions for project based learning.

6. Implemented process of project based learning

a) Designed and planned project idea for students –

- Students were involved in designing and planning project idea for active participation.
- Project idea was designed on the basis of identifying current issues related to Sun Pharma & Ranbaxy case and ex- Ranbaxy Medical Representatives salary issues.

b) Prepared list and Schedule of PBL -

- For the study 30 students were divided in 5 different groups, each group containing 6 students.
- All 6 members of one group were selected by identifying active, bright, slow learners, and less confidence students in class.

- Students were informed about project topic in detail, process of collecting and sharing information, assessment criteria, rules of participation and presentation, time constraint (month time for presentation) .

c) Directions and follow up –

- Initiated first part of project by giving directions, hints to motivate students for better outcomes. Different resource materials related to the case were provided to the students.
- Identified accessibility and availability of resource materials to the students.

d) Monitored student's progress-

- Identified free riders in the group and handled them very carefully, and helped them to understand importance of project learning
- Students were encouraged to work collectively and give equal contribution.
- Continuous follow up were taken to identify student learning, involvement and coordination.

e) Assessed outcome of project and student learning on the basis of group presentations.

f) Shared feedback with students.

7. Result

- This method helped to increase student confidence and participation in project.
- This activity helped to increase student learning and involvement.
- Students identified and understood different issues of the project.
- Students came up with different solutions for the employee salary issues.
- This method helped to remove free ridership behaviour of students
- Students learned about employee needs from the company

- Student understood importance of bonding between company and employees.
- Student identified practical aspects of the company situations
- This activity gave equal contribution from all members

8. Conclusion – Project based learning is one of the appropriate method to increase Student efficiency. This method also increases effective class room learning, critical thinking, and problem solving approach, self direction, coordination and motivation among students. But for effective implementation of PBL in classroom, requires training to the teachers

and students. For better results teachers needs to educate students about process of PBL, assessment methods, and quality resources.

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