

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PATTERN OF STUDY AND CREATIVITY ON STUDENTS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN BORNO STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNSELLING

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### Abstract

*This is a correlational study designed to determine the relationship between pattern of study and creativity on students' academic achievement in Colleges of Education in Borno State. The study set two research objectives and tested two research hypotheses. It used conceptual framework and cognitive approaches; this study is unique because Njidda (1994) investigated the relationship between study habits and performance of Diploma students in Faculty of Education University of Maiduguri while this study investigated the relationship between pattern of study and creativity on students' academic achievement in Borno State College of Education. The target population for this study was 4,517 students who have registered in NCE awarding institutions in Borno State. Purposive sampling technique was used to select two Colleges of Education in Borno State, the stratified random sampling procedure was also employed to select (322) participants 186 students from 351 NCE III students' from Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri and 136 students from 210 NCE III students from Umar Ibn Ibrahim College of Education, Science and Technology, Bama. Students' Pattern of Study Inventory (SPSI) and Students' Creativity Test (SCT) was used by the researchers. Pearson 'r' was used to test the hypotheses raised in this study. The results indicated that there is very low and positive relationship between creativity and patterns of study among students of Colleges of Education and indicated a high and positive relationship between the two variables. Based on the results the study recommended for College of Education counsellors to give more encouragement to the students to improve their pattern of study and use of some designed study time tables to improve outcome of their studies. There is also the need for College counsellors to give advice to the students to sustain their effort since the results revealed high and significant relationship between students' pattern of study and creativity.*

### Background to the Study

The process of study poses problems to students in various forms. Some of them have the eagerness to study but many do not know the strategies to study effectively. Students can benefit if an effective study programme is organized in the schools. A planned programme of study is a good strategy to motivate students explore, ask questions and solve problems that confront them. Among the objectives of education in Nigeria, a particular clause states "the need to help the individual to develop his/her full potentials". This cannot be achieved without a proper planning to make students develop positive attitudes towards learning, one of the reasons for having a good study programme in the school. Providing a study programme is an important strategy for school management.

In the Nigerian educational circle no question has been more topical in recent years, than students' poor pattern of study, attitude and academic performance in schools, especially the higher institutions of learning. Public awareness and concern about student's academic performance have grown to such a dimension that it has become a subject of constant commentary in the mass media.

Adolescent stage is a turbulent stage of growth and students are prone to make a lot of mistakes if they are not guided. A good plan for studies is necessary and students should learn to use their time profitably for the benefit of the school and themselves. A planned study programme gives students the freedom which leads to the development of their personalities, during the study period, individuality is developed and recognized.

The significance of maintaining regular and constant pattern of study and attitudes to success in academic performance cannot be over emphasized. It involves series of rigorous labour on the part of the students in order to achieve academic excellence. Ozigi (1991) states that one of the primary aims in studying is to impact our understanding and to be able to apply knowledge gained by making what we have learned meaningful so that it can be applied in any situation. Freeman (1991) posits that learning is something that differs from person to person and as a result everyone has a pattern of study that is correct because some students learn through self-study while some read examples and explanations before going through the main problems of the study.

Good pattern of study is a major pillar in our educational system, most especially in the higher institution of learning, because most successful students in the world today will always attribute their success to the pattern of study they adopted during their educational career. Oni (1994) states: "a well dedicated and devoted student will not wait for exams period to start studying, to acquire necessary knowledge and skills to face impending examination". Therefore the more you study the better the possibility of gaining self-confidence and not being scared by any examination.

There is the strong belief that no two people study the same way, and it is a near certainty that what works for one person may not work for another. However, there are some general techniques that seem to produce good results. No one would argue that every subject that you have to take is going to be so interesting to study. Everyone is different, and for some students, studying and being motivated to learn comes naturally. The results of poor study skills are wasted time, frustration, and low or failing grades.

Students of colleges of education should not only think of good studying pattern but also must put good studying into practice. There are some patterns of studies students should follow to succeed in their academics. The patterns include schedule for studying, allocations of hours, when to study, revising of schedule and thinking skills. Others include SQ3R technique, taking lecture notes and taking examination. Scheduling of studying is a study strategy allocating time and place for all study activities. Well planned study keeps a student away from wandering off course. For students to study the 24 hours of the day is allocated to various activities. If the students' study period is before the lecture they should make their notes on the topic and after the lecture ask those items which were not clear to them; Depending on how the student conceives the learning material he/she might decide to change the schedule. That schedule should not be considered as supreme and not changeable. Time and place of the study plan may be changed to suit the present condition.

Creativity is fundamental to self-reliance, the more self-reliance a person becomes, the better the quality of his/her life, family, community and society at large. Creativity enables human beings to get the most out of life experiences and resources. Creativity produces actionable ideas, new concepts, new designs and new opportunities, while innovations add values to new product in line with this, students with high sense of creativity always achieved his/her educational goals and aspirations. According to Akinboye (2003), without creativity, a person will not be able to access the fullness of information and resources available but is locked up in old habit, structure, patterns, concepts and perceptions. This is why creativity is referred to as general perception, constructive and design thinking plus innovation should form the basis of any education for suitable development.

### **Statement of Problem**

The problem of poor academic performance of students at the tertiary level of education, and particularly among the Nigerian Certificate of Education (NCE) students is a matter of serious concern to all stakeholders in the society. This is because the NCE graduates are employed to teach at the primary and junior secondary school levels of education. In addition if the NCE students are performing badly there is the possibility that those taught by these students will perform badly too. The quality of education provided in any society and the nature of change effected by education are both dependent on the quality of teachers and by the effectiveness of their teaching.

They have inadequate orientation on note taking, reading note, organizing group discussions, planning personal timetable, attending class, participating in classroom discussion. Not only that they do not have the skills to manipulate computers to obtain facts and ideas from the internet, most of them lack the habit of meeting their subject lecturers to clarify more on points they are not clear due to lack of good rapport between the students and the teachers.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study were to determine if there is any relationship between:

- i. Pattern of study and creativity of students in Colleges of Education in Borno State
- ii. Pattern of study and academic achievement of students in Colleges of Education in Borno State

### **Research Questions**

The following research questions were set in this study to find out:

- i. If there is any relationship between pattern of study and creativity of students in Colleges of Education in Borno State
- ii. If there is any relationship between pattern of study and academic achievement of students in Colleges of Education in Borno State



### Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were tested in this study:

Ho<sub>1</sub>: There is no significant relationship between pattern of study and creativity of students in Colleges of Education in Borno State

Ho<sub>2</sub>: There is no significant relationship between pattern of study and academic achievement of Colleges of Education in Borno State

### Methodology

The research design for this study was correlational. Correlational design is a research design widely used to measure relationships between two or more variables Tilley,(1994); Mallim& Birch, (1997) and Cohen & Morrison (2000) reported that correlation allows for the study of behaviors in realistic settings and is suitable in predictive studies, correlations are related not only to the correlation of the independent with the dependent variable but also to the inter correlations between the independent variable. The target population for this study was 4,517 students who have registered in NCE awarding institutions in Borno State. Purposive sampling technique was used to select two Colleges of Education in Borno State, the stratified random sampling procedure was also employed to select (322) participant 186 students from 351NCE III students' from Kashim Ibrahim College of Education, Maiduguri and 136 students from 210 NCE III students from Umar Ibn Ibrahim College of Education, Science and Technology, Bama. Students' Pattern of Study Inventory (SPSI) and Students' Creativity Test (SCT)was used by the researchers. Pearson 'r' was used to test the hypotheses raised in this study

### Results

**HO<sub>1</sub>: There is no significant relationship between patterns of study and creativity of students in Colleges of Education in Borno State.**

**Table 1: Mean standard deviation and 'r' value of patterns of study and creativity of students in Colleges of Education Borno State.**

Variable	N	X	SD	df	Cal. r*	p- level	Decision
Pattern of study	322	44.11	.77	320	.120	.032	
Creativity		22.36	3.93				HO <sub>1</sub> rejected

\* Correlation is significance at 0.05 level (2-tailed)

Table 1 shows the results on correlation between patterns of study and creativity among students of Colleges of Education in Borno State. The analysis revealed a mean (X) of 44.11 and standard deviation (SD) of .77 with (N) 322 for patterns of study and a mean of 22.36 and standard deviation (SD) of 3.93 with 322 (N) of respondents. Observed r = .120\* at P < 0.05 level of significance for patterns of study and creativity respectively.

The hypothesis which stated that there is no significant relationship between patterns of study and creativity of students in Colleges of Education in Borno State indicated that there is very low and positive relationship between creativity and patterns of study among students of Colleges of Education in Borno State therefore; the null hypothesis was rejected.

**H0<sub>2</sub>: There is no significant relationship between creativity and academic achievement of students in Colleges of Education in Borno State.**

**Table 2: Mean standard deviation and 'r' value of creativity and academic achievement of students in Colleges of Education Borno State.**

Variable	N	X	SD	df	Cal. R	p-level	Decision
Creativity	322	22.36	3.93	320	.279**	.000	H0 <sub>2</sub> rejected
Academic achievement		25.99	4.43				

\*\*correlation is significance at 0.05 level (2-tailed)

The table 2 indicated the relationship between creativity and academic achievement of students in Borno State Colleges of Education. The analysis revealed a mean (X) of 22.36 and standard deviation (SD) of 3.93 with (N) 322 for creativity and a mean(X) of 25.99 and standard deviation (SD) of 4.43 for academic achievement with 322 (N) of respondents Observed with  $r = .279^*$  at  $P < 0.01$  level of significance for creativity and academic achievement. The hypothesis which stated that there is no significant relationship between creativity and academic achievement indicated a high and positive relationship between the two variables; therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected.

## Discussion

The findings of this study revealed a high and positive relationship between the two variables, therefore the results of this study disagrees with the findings of the study of Ette (1985) which showed that in attending lesson and formation of a good note, it takes a bit of practice to produce good notebooks straight from teacher during lesson. Ette (1985) further stressed that students should be attentive during classes, listen first, and then write. Use the margin for topic or teaching and the note content should be written in the body of the page. The case of Borno state Colleges of Education is known these days because of insecurity in the area, students are unable to attend and take part in classroom teaching and learning as well as to exhibit other proper pattern of the study.

The results indicated a high and positive relationship between the two variables, this study disagrees with the study carried out by Karimi (2000) who found a low and positive relationship between creativity and academic achievement among secondary school students in Shiraz school in Iran to be as low as 25%. Haddon (1968) and Krause (1977) in separate studies also found low relationship with academic achievement.

The study also found a low and positive relationship between creativity and academic achievement. This finding is in harmony with the findings of Karimi (2000) who found a

low relationship between creativity and academic achievement among secondary school students in Shiraz school in Iran to be as low as 25%. Haddon (1968) and Krause (1977) in separate studies also found low relationship with academic achievement. As have said earlier, Borno state Colleges of Education is located in an area where people experience serious insecurity such as bomb blast, gunshot, road blocks and so on, in view of these an individual student find it difficult or rather impossible for him to attend lectures, take part in classroom discussion, organize personal and group time table for studies, and visit library these will no thought contribute in low academic achievement.

### **Recommendations**

Very low and positive relationship between students' pattern of study and creativity was revealed in this study. There is need for the college authority; together with the counsellor intensifies student's effort in the area of scanning of references which is vital skill needed for their academic well-being. Considering this, Counsellors should embark on imparting knowledge and skills of the students in this regard; they should be exposed to the activities involving scanning of references. To attain that scanning materials should be made available by the Colleges to be adequate to the number of students so that they could lay hands on those materials without much difficulty. Likewise using card catalogue was one of the set back the students have had, to enhance that skill the library personnel serving in the committee of counselling of the Colleges to train the students' inform of group counselling to promote use of card-catalogue. The students' inability to visit library could be counselled to make them develop interest in visiting library by making group and individual time-table to visit library. Each student should be encouraged to visit the library according to a designed time table by the counselling librarian.

Low and positive relationship between students' creativity and academic achievement was revealed in this hypothesis. Serious effort must be made by the college counsellor, this kind of skills could be enhanced first, through fragmenting the whole into parts then conceiving all as one, for example a car could be seen as a whole after taking each part of a car (tires, starry, gear, wind screen etc.) which make the whole.

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