

**Exploring Project Based Learning in Improving Students' Ability to Learn Independently,
Analyze and Synthesize Key Concepts in a Form Four Business Class.**

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EDSS: 5280: Teaching of Social Studies – Curriculum Process

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14 April, 2016

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to explore the impact project based learning (PBL) has on students' ability to learn independently, while improving their ability to analyze and synthesize key concepts in a Form Four Principles of Business (P.O.B.) class. Experience has shown that most students lack sufficiently developed skills to complete task on their own or to be able to critically think through a problem or question. As such, students were required to complete both a pre and post-survey on independent learning and a pre and post-test assessing analysis and synthesis skills. Additionally, students had to submit journals and present a poster board as their end-product for the topic of starting a business. Scores were collected, collated and analyzed, and results indicated that the PBL strategy did have a positive impact on most students' ability to learn independently while improving their ability to analyze and synthesize. Notably, it was hoped that this research would inspire both teachers and students to create and seek meaningful learning experiences, as there is a need for interactive and engaging classes in today's education system. Therefore, it can be concluded that PBL is a fun, interesting and creative way to engage and improve students' skills of collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication in the classroom.

Keywords: project based learning, independent learning, analyze, synthesize, business