

PERSPECTIVES OF FOREIGN STUDENTS TOWARDS DISTANCE EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

It is common that even though distance education is of lots of advantages, it may also have many disadvantages when it is not planned appropriately. The condition that the integration of the foreign students into the system of distance education and their success levels is one of these disadvantages. The students with a certain level of Turkish knowledge face many challenges such as understanding course contents, communicating with their fellows and lecturers, using course automation system; therefore, most of the time, they prefer face-to-face education.

The current study explores the effects of the distance education of two courses, Turkish Language and Atatürk's Principles and History of Turkish Revolution, on the foreign students enrolled at Hitit University in Spring term in 2014-2015 academic year. Data were collected by means of a questionnaire and various significant findings were defined. Thanks to the collected data, it has been determined what issues should be emphasized more and what kinds of assistanceship should be provided for the students while distance education system is set up for the users. Obviously, the current study will contribute positively for such potential future distance education programs founded by the institutions.

Key Words: Distance education, foreign student, blended-learning.