

President's News Digest

Message From the Editor

Welcome to the 29th issue of the 5th volume of the President's News Digest.

In this issue **Dr Hussein Abdelmahdi Bani-Issa , Associate Professor of Criminal Law** will address the subject of **"Teaching Criminal Law: an innovative approach"**

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Mrs.Hessa Al Meraisi
Manager of President's Office

Message from a Colleague Teaching Criminal Law: an innovative approach

When we teach our students, we aim to help them successfully achieve the learning outcomes of their courses. I am personally using a variety of approved teaching and learning methods, depending on the type of module and the learners, which to a large extent is influenced by my own experiences and style.

The criminal law cases are considered as rigid and lengthy with many details. As a result, some students feel bored and lose focus in the classroom. For this reason, I use a variety of methods, such as providing students in the classroom with cases from YouTube and other video sources so they could learn to analyze the elements of the case and the applications of the law. First, they worked with these resources individually and later in small groups, giving feeding back to the whole group. This made my class more enjoyable and interesting and helped students to achieve much higher outcomes when compared with the results of students in previous classes. In addition, the students reported that they were thoroughly satisfied with the new methods and demanded they should be expanded to other courses.

The study of criminal law requires students to be trained how to think and analyse as a future lawyer. Consequently, I push students to think, through unexpected questions that prompt them to think deeply and I develop their mental abilities through in-depth and accurate study of cases (real cases and virtual) and theory by discussing the issues and references in the classroom.

The method that I found to be appropriate in guiding and supporting students in Criminal Law is a simulation technique. I tend to choose a specific issue and determine the roles of students to be played in the class. Depending on the objective of the activity, I choose a real case, and make some appropriate modifications in order to give students the chance to learn about the actual and real decisions made in court. In the mock trial, there is more preparation, but I've found it very worthwhile. Papers are distributed to the students, and the text component, roles are allocated for judges, lawyers, prosecutors, defendants, and witnesses. I set up a description of the case and distribute it to the students for each role. I make sure that the students with the most important roles have the ability to communicate in order to clarify and choose the best direction in which to go. Using a mock court as a learning environment ensures students cover all ILOs and how to apply the law. I have found that this work makes students feel engaged and motivated. In fact, they always take many pictures in order to keep the good memories. To me, this demonstrates their enjoyment and interest in learning.



Dr Hussein Abdelmahdi
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Law

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Quote of the week

من روائع الشعر العربي

I observed over my many years of teaching at ASU that some of my students are too shy to ask questions or participate in the classroom, thus I came up with a special way to engage them in class tasks gently, in a step-by-step non-threatening way, which resulted in greater participation. To successfully achieve the learning outcomes, I believe in dealing with students politely, and not embarrassing them in front of their classmates so that there will be goodwill on the students' part to participate in lectures and sometimes need to use positive and appropriate humor.

The new technology is a big part of the learner's daily life. It is inevitable that teaching and learning methods should include E-learning instruments to make the learning process more enjoyable, especially that most of our students are so young and very used to technology and that's why we use it in all our classes.

In the last semester and because of COVID-19 we totally switched to online teaching. The ASU's E- Infrastructure and available resources including Moodle have helped immensely in enjoying a new experience. The online experience was useful and helpful to our students. For instance, it provided students with the opportunity to attend lectures and listen to them again as they are recorded. Also, I noticed an increase in the achievement of learning outcomes. Similarly, it was a rich experience for faculty, who are now more familiar with the possibilities of Moodle and have used new teaching and assessment methods. I believe that after COVID-19, online teaching will be widespread and become more accepted. This topic can be covered in future articles inshallah.

The Importance of Professionalism

The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines professionalism as the high standard that you expect from a person who is well trained in a particular job. In education, professionalism is even more important as we are trusted by parents and families to look after their children in a supportive environment with high quality services. In a university setting, professionalism is achieved by adhering to the institution's values, bylaws, policies and reporting lines as indicated in its organisational chart. Unprofessional people tend to play people against each other and they usually master the art of being manipulative and hypocritical and they usually avoid adherence to any rules, policies or protocols. Unprofessional behaviour in organisations can lead to their destruction.

Professionalism is about accepting constructive criticism when it is for the benefits of an organisation as part of a continuous process improvement. In addition, it is about demonstrating ethical and professional behaviour. In a university setting, professionalism can manifest itself in the following:

- Answering every single query by a potential or an existing student
- Submitting students' grades on time in order to announce their results in a timely manner
- Delivering lectures of the highest quality to students and by ensuring that they are assessed fairly
- Producing course portfolios and study plans of the highest quality
- Embracing quality in every single aspect of the job
- Keeping our web site up to date and communicating messages in the social media and press without any mistakes
- Spreading knowledge and not keeping it in order to develop staff and students
- Conducting ethical research that helps society
- Presenting to students and external bodies without having a single spelling mistake in the power point presentation or any other medium as this reflect badly on the institution
- Treating students as if they are our children
- Playing the role as part of a team
- Putting the university's interests before their own individual egos
- Adhering to the university's values, bylaws, policies and reporting lines
- Allowing staff to express their views in a free manner in order to enhance the university's performance and to avoid the dictatorial approach
- Spending time doing productive for the institution work relying on their conscience and realising that God is watching all of us
- Promoting a culture of respect and inclusiveness



Written By
Professor Ghassan Aouad
The President of Applied
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Some hints from exiting research on how to behave in a professional way are included: getting emotional/flying off the handle, letting personal relationships influence business decisions, properly dressed and according to cultural norms, a lack of hygiene – including but not limited to bad breath and body odour, flirting- this can go beyond unprofessional and turn illegal if you cross the line, blaming others, making excuses, not keeping your word and/or disrespecting agreements and contracts, showing disrespect to anyone, including superiors, peers, subordinates, or customers

In my long experience and having worked in many universities, I came across some unprofessional people who changed the personality of the organisation, but luckily in our university we don't have many. In many universities across the globe, staff and students are trained in the area of professionalism and we shouldn't be an exception. It is an important area and should be covered really well as part of our staff and students development.

Professionalism requires maturity, honesty and self-awareness. It should be part of every individual's values and behaviour. Through professionalism we will achieve more and our University deserves all our sacrifices in order to perform well in a very competitive environment.

References

The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140706111652-12357314-top-10-most-common-unprofessional-behaviors/>
<https://careers.workopolis.com/advice/10-examples-of-shockingly-unprofessional-behaviour/>

The Counseling Office organized a workshop titled “Your Unique Opportunities in Distance Learning and Challenges”

The Counseling Office in cooperation with the Directorate of Admissions and Registration organized a virtual workshop titled (Your Unique Opportunities in Distance Learning and the Challenges). The aim of this workshop was to support students with special needs and students at risks.

The workshop was led by Dr. Nadya Al-Shareeda, the Manager of the Counseling Office, who started with a presentation to highlight the key points of the workshop::



Written By
 Dr.Nadya Al-Shareeda
 Manager of Counseling
 office



- Increase students' self-confidence during the special situation of Coronavirus COVID-19.
- Encourage the students to improve their academic level (GPA) by submitting all the assignments and coursework on time.
- Train the students to organize and manage their time using the opportunities provided through the distance learning tools.
- Encourage the students to take advantage of the modern technology to support their distance learning.
- Determine common obstacles and challenges that the students may face in their academic life during their distance learning mode.
- Propose reasonable solutions to overcome the challenges that might be faced.
- Explain the main factors of success toward improving the performance level by following the most appropriate option provided by the University.

After that, Dr. Siddiq Babaker, the Director of Admissions and Registration answered all of students' queries related to the assessment options which were provided by the University during the pandemic situation.

The students were very pleased and satisfied with all the information that were shared with them.

مناقشة رسائل طلبة الدراسات العليا عبر وسائل التواصل المرئي بقلم د.خيري عمر - رئيس قسم إدارة الأعمال



حرصاً من قسم إدارة الأعمال و ماشياً مع الظروف الصحية الراهنة لفيروس كورونا (Covid-19) على مواصلة سير العمل الأكاديمي من تدريس وأبّراف ومتابعة للطلاب ومناقشة رسائلهم ، استمر قسم إدارة الأعمال بالعمل على ترتيب جميع المناقشات والتي تجاوزت 10 مناقشات في وقتها حيث تم درج هذه المناقشات ضمن متطلبات الحصول على درجة الماجستير وذلك من خلال الفضاء الافتراضي (virtual video conference) وذلك لتذليل الصعاب على الطلبة الذين استكملوا كل الشروط والساح لهم بإجراء مناقشاتهم عن بعد دون الحاجة الى الحضور الشخصي للجامعة وفقاً لتوجهات الإدارة العليا وبعد استحصال الموافقة من قبل الامانة العامة لمجلس التعلم العالتي .

حيث تضمنت المناقشات محبة من المناقشيين الجارجيين من دول متعددة مهم على سبيل المثال :- اساتذة اكاديمس من المملكة العربية السعودية وكذلك المملكة الهاشمية الاردنية ولقد جرت هذه المناقشات بشكل باح وذلك بعد اجراء سلسلة من اليرتبات على مدى 4 اسابيع الماضية حرصاً من قسم إدارة الأعمال على سير وبجاح المناقشات من خلال وسائل الاتصال المرئي بصورة جيدة.

وعلى الرغم من بعض الصعوبات التقنية البسيطة التي يمكن قسم إدارة المعلومات من معالجها فوراً فلقد كلت جميع المناقشات بالنجاح التام ويمكن الطلبة المناقشون من ايجاز ماجاء بإطروحاتهم والتعرض التقديمي الشيق بحضور كوكبه من جامعة العلوم التطبيقية وعلى رأسهم رئيس الجامعة الاستاذ الدكتور غسان فؤاد عواد مشكوراً وعميد البحث العالتي الاستاذ الدكتور مريد السبوع .

ولقد اشتملت المناقشات على عرض للإبحاث ومناقشة الطالب في اعماله والاسياع الى الردود على الاسئلة المطروحة - تقييم المناقشة الافتراضية بين الطلبة والمتمحنس الجارجيين.

تم عرض مجموعة من العناوس المميرة والتي على سبيل المثال لا الحصر رساليه حملت عنوان "الذكاء الروحي وعلاقته بضغوط العمل (دراسة تطبيقية لمعلمي اليربية الخاصة في المراكز التأهيلية بوزارة العمل والتنمية الإجماعية والمراكز الاهلية بمملكة البحرين)" والتي تعد الاولى من نوعها في مملكة البحرين، حيث تناولت موضوع الذكاء الروحي ، كذلك دراسة اخرى تناولت موضوع "الصمت التنظيمي ويايره على نية يرك العمل (دراسة تطبيقية على مستشفي الكندي التخصصي بمملكة البحرين)"، ولقد خلصت هذه الدراسات بمجموعة من الاستنتاجات والتوصيات .

Quote of the Week

“Patience is the calm acceptance that things can happen in a different order than the one you have in your mind.”

-David G. Allen

من روائع الشعر العربي

إذا ما ألت شدة فاصطر لها *** فخير سلاح المرء في الشدة الصبر

-أبو علي الأنباري