



## Teachers' Perceptions on Project Based Learning and its Impact on Learners' Motivation

Rasha Abdulraheem<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Business Administration and Management, University of the People, U.S.A.  
Email: Rasha .abdulraheem@ar.uopeople.edu

### ABSTRACT

Project-based learning as an experiential learning approach, which has earned much attention from educators and practitioners around the world as it has been claimed that the PBL has the ability to consolidate the students' deep learning and motivate and engage students with their learning when compared with other didactic learning approaches which are considered tedious and daunting for the learners. Due to that, this study aimed to have a good comprehension of the practices in place, which would enhance the students' motivation to learn in the U.A.E. The main objective of the research is to discover the strategies which schoolteachers implement to keep the learners engaged and motivated in their PBL projects. To do that, the study employed the use of the social constructivism paradigm supported by the qualitative method using descriptive phenomenology. Five semi-structured interviews were analyzed thematically to discover the motivating and engaging PBL practices that the teachers use to engage and motivate the learners in PBL environments.

As the teachers demonstrated their PBL practices, they provided novel insights into enhancing the learners' motivation and engagement in their learning by presenting a wide range of motivating and engaging strategies that teachers can use in their PBL classes by mentioning the motivating and engaging PBL features and the use of technology to support the PBL implementation. Moreover, the study considered the role of the teacher as a facilitator as an integral factor in students' motivation and engagement. Additionally, the research regarded the reliance on teachers' self-efficacy and autonomy to tackle PBL-faced problems as a motivational factor that would enhance the learners' engagement and motivation in PBL. Furthermore, the study proposed using technology, especially AI platforms, to support the students' learning through PBL to facilitate and address students' weaknesses, including the SEND students, for better outcomes. This study caters novel insights for practitioners in the PBL field when applied effectively using these motivational factors to ensure the learners' motivation and engagement in their studied materials. Moreover, this research would contribute to the available research in the PBL as it is conducted in a Middle Eastern country, more specifically in the U.A.E., where the PBL has been introduced recently to meet the demands of the 21st-century skills which are compatible with the U.A.E. vision that aims to enhance the learning outcomes to prepare the Emirati citizens to lead the economic development of their country.

Keywords: write 3-5 descriptive keywords here separated by ; Project Based Learning; 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills ; Motivation; U.A.E; Technology,