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INFLUENCE OF EMPLOYMENT TO ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CRIMINOLOGY STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT
The academic performance of students can be influenced by various factors, and one such factor is employment. Many students today, including those pursuing a degree in Criminology at Philippine College of Science and Technology (PhilCST), face the challenge of balancing work and academics. Such added responsibility has led to the emergence of employment as a critical area of research within the field of Criminology education. Understanding the influence of employment on academic performance can provide valuable insights for both students and educators in Criminology programs. This study aimed to determine the impact of negative employment influences on the academic performance of Criminology students at PhilCST. A quantitative research methodology, employing a descriptive research design, was utilized to analyze numerical data and understand the challenges faced by working students. Survey questionnaires were administered to gather descriptive data on the level of influence employment has on academic performance. The findings reveal the significant challenges encountered by PhilCST Criminology working students and provide insights into the relationship between employment and academic success. Recommendations are made based on the study's conclusions to address these challenges and enhance the academic performance of working students in the Criminology program at PhilCST.

KEYWORDS: *Academic, Academic Performance, Criminology, Criminology Students, Influence Of Employment, Negative Influence, Working Student*

INTRODUCTION

A well-paying job and a prosperous future are ensured by education. Many people make an effort to obtain a decent education, additional experience, and skills in the field they wish to work in. Modern students look for possibilities to develop practical skills early on and financial independence. Working while going to school is not a recent practice, particularly in colleges. In order to cover their living expenses and tuition, more than 57% of students in the world today work part-time. But for the majority of students, expensive tuition is one of the largest barriers in obtaining a degree (Richmond, 2023). Compared to students who do not work, many students who work part-time while attending school struggle with their education. According to studies, working students frequently encounter particular difficulties because they must devote time and effort to both their careers and their studies. In the Philippines, many college students work to support their education or families. This is a common practice, known as student employment (Dela Cruz & Pangan, 2018). While student employment can have benefits, such as financial support and work experience, it can also have a negative impact on academic performance, due to the competing demands on students' time and energy. In Davao Region, the primary concern of the Department of Education (DepEd) is the low rates of academic success. According to Ramento's (2011), students in the City of Davao's low educational attainment was caused by their low salaries, which forced them to balance employment and school. Undoubtedly, poverty is the main barrier to educational success in the city of Davao. This leads to poor academic performance, which makes it difficult for them to get good jobs and escape poverty; hence, policymakers and educators need to do more to support these students and help them achieve their academic goals. In Manila Philippines, about 216,000 students in the country are currently juggling school and work, according to latest data from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). The figure is about 8% of the total number of college students in the country. The field of Criminology is a multidisciplinary study that focuses on understanding crime, criminal behavior, and the criminal justice system. As Criminology students, it is essential for them to excel academically to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to enter the criminal justice profession. However, many Criminology students often face the challenge of balancing their academic responsibilities with part-time or full-time employment. This study aims to investigate the influence of employment on the academic performance of Criminology students at PhilCST (Philippine College of Science and Technology). The result of this study would help the criminology working students is to balance their job and academic responsibilities.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objective of this study is to understand how the dual responsibilities of work and academics might influence students' ability to succeed in their studies. Hence, the aim of this study is to know the level of impact of the negative influence of employment to academic performance among PhilCST Criminology working students, and the challenges encountered in dealing with the negative influence.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This study aims to determine the Influence of Employment to Academic Performance of Philippine College of Science and

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Technology Criminology working students. Specifically, the study seeks to answer the following research questions.

1. What is the level of impact of the negative influence of employment to academic performance among PhilCST Criminology working students?
2. What are the challenges encountered in dealing with the negative influence of employment to academic performance?
3. What are the intervening measures to minimize the negative impact of employment to academic performance?

Definition of Terms

Academic Performance. This study pertains to the performance and grades of the working students. As well as how well the students perform in a classroom and used as a standard to evaluate the competency of students.

Criminology. In this study, students who are enrolled in this program will be the respondents. The researchers chose these students based on their ability to answer the survey questions they created and their potential to provide the necessary information.

Employed Student. In the context of the research, employed students refer to students who are working and attending school simultaneously to meet their necessities.

Influence. In this study, it refers to the negative effects of work on students' academic performance, including how it decreases their GPA (Grade Point Average).

Negative Impact. As used in this, study this are the undesirable effect of employment on academic performance of working students.

Work. As used in the study, work refers to the activity performed by working students using physical and mental effort to overcome a task or duty who have to balance their schedules for work and school.

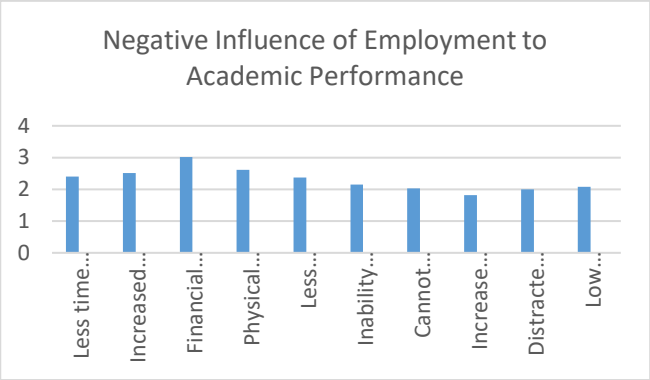
Working. This refers to engaging in paid employment while simultaneously enrolled as a PhilCST criminology student.

METHODOLOGY

This study adopted a quantitative descriptive research design to examine the impact of employment on the academic performance of criminology working students. Data were collected using a structured and validated survey questionnaire designed to assess both the level of negative employment influence and the challenges encountered by respondents. The study was conducted at the Philippine College of Science and Technology located at Calasiao,Pangasinan, with 85 criminology working students selected through purposive sampling. Inclusion criteria required respondents to be currently enrolled during Academic Year 2023–2024, employed for at least one semester, and engaged in non-family-related work. The instrument, developed from relevant literature, underwent expert validation to ensure content validity and reliability. Data collection was carried out through face-to-face and online administration, with informed consent obtained prior to participation. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, including the Average Weighted Mean (AWM) to measure the level of impact and frequency counts and percentages to identify common challenges. Ethical standards were strictly observed. Participation was voluntary, and respondents' anonymity and confidentiality were ensured. All data were used solely for research purposes in compliance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and relevant provisions of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Level of Impact of Negative Influence of Employment to Academic Performance



The overall level of impact of the negative influence of employment to academic performance got an overall weighted mean 2.31. The mean score is described as Low Impact, which means that employment of criminology students has a negative impact but is manageable. Among the variables presented in Figure 1 that shows the level of the negative influence of employment on the academic performance of PhilCST Criminology Students, the highest mean is 3.02 or "financial difficulties."

This means that "financial difficulties" has a moderate impact, as a reason for employment to the PhilCST Criminology students. This further indicates that it has a negative impact, but actively seeking a solution. Financial difficulties may need to work more hours to make ends meet. To support this, a report from Financial Stress and College Students' Academic Performance by Sarah E. Turner (2018) highlights the link between financial stress and academic performance. Students facing financial hardships reported higher levels of stress, anxiety, and lower GPAs. Financial stress itself can be a significant distraction. Research by Sarah Turner (2018) demonstrates that financial stress leads to anxiety and hinders students' ability to focus and retain information effectively. Students under financial strain might prioritize work over studies, leading to decreased engagement in class activities and participation. This can negatively impact their overall learning experience.

Also, Table 1 presents "increased number of absences" as the option with the lowest weighted mean of 1.82, or a descriptive equivalence of "low impact".

This may be because working students might prioritize attending classes over employment due to the importance of their education for their future careers. They understand the importance of education and the act of exerting extra effort to be present in class despite their employment obligations. This finding implies that the students are aware of the potential negative impact that work can have on their academic performance. By actively managing their time and prioritizing

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their education, they strive to minimize the negative effects of employment on their studies.

Challenges Encountered in Dealing with the Negative Influence of Employment to Academic Performance

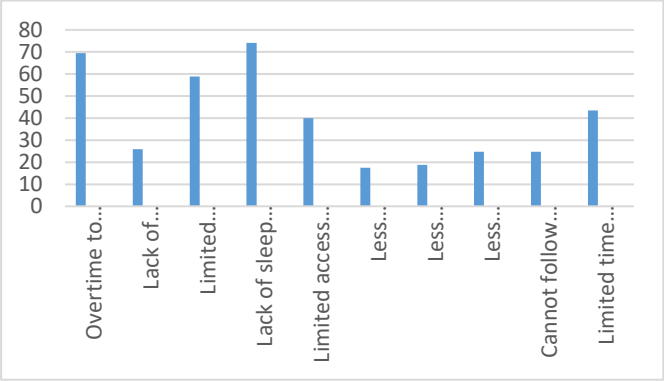


Table 2 presents the frequency counts, percentage distribution, and rank of the challenges encountered in dealing with the negative influence of employment on academic performance by Criminology working students. It can be observed, that out of 85 respondents, 63 or 74.11% answered "Lack of sleep due to responsibilities to work and education", placing such option in the first rank, or the most challenging they have experienced. The hardest part about working and studying at the same time is not getting enough sleep. This implies that Criminology students experience lesser sleeping time due to work and educational responsibilities alike which leads to memory lapses and thinking problems, daytime sleepiness, lack of energy, headaches, slow reaction time, and the negative impacts to the nervous system – all making the brain function poorly. This is similar to the study of National Sleep Foundation (2023), that a significant portion of students struggle with sleep deprivation. This means they don't get the recommended amount of sleep each night, leading to a variety of negative consequences. When students are sleep-deprived, they struggle to focus, retain information, and complete tasks efficiently. Hence, can lead to lower grades, missed deadlines, and decreased productivity. On the other hand, the respondents considered "Overtime to work" as second in rank with a percentage of 69.41%. It shows that Criminology working students likely have workloads that require them to work overtime. The extra hours spent working overtime leave students with even less time for their studies. This means that a significant portion of the Criminology working students found overtime work to be a challenging experience. Inarguably, despite all of these findings, it is a sad truth that Criminology working students tend to do overtime work to fuel their ambition and to support their personal needs. Therefore, it negatively influences their academic performance as much as it positively impacts their daily sustenance. Moreover, the respondents considered "Limited possibilities for financial help or scholarship", placing such option in the 3rd rank with a percentage of 58.82%. This means that financial aid is a major concern for a significant portion of the respondents. On the other hand, it also shows least challenges encountered in dealing with the negative influence of employment to academic performance. Out of 85 respondents, 15 chose "less inconsiderate instructors", as the 10th in rank with an equivalent percentage of 17.64%. This goes to show that majority of the respondents did not consider having inconsiderate instructors as a significant issue which negatively impacted their performance in both work and academics. It is also important to consider that the perception of inconsiderate instructors could be subjective and vary depending on the individual student's experience.

Proposed Intervening Measures to Minimize the Negative Impact of Employment to Academic Performance

Challenges Encountered in Dealing with the Negative Influence of Employment to Academic Performance	Objective	Intervening Measures	Persons Involved	Expected Outcome
Lack of sleep due to responsibilities to work and education	To reduce the negative impact of sleep deprivation caused by balancing work and education on the academic performance and overall well-being of working criminology students.	Criminology working students can balance their studies and work by creating a daily schedule that prioritizes tasks based on deadlines and workload. This means blocking out specific times for studying criminology material, focusing on the most urgent assignments or exams first. During work hours, they can maintain a study to-do list to utilize any downtime for quick review sessions. Weekends can be dedicated to catching up on missed coursework or in-depth studying for upcoming exams. By consistently following this personalized routine, working students can achieve a	Criminology Working Student	Maintain sufficient quality sleep for working students.

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		healthy balance between their academic and professional commitments.							
Overtime work	To minimize the negative impact of overtime work in a Criminology student's academics	Criminology working students can negotiate a work schedule with their employer that promotes balance. This might involve requesting a consistent workload spread evenly across weekdays. Discussing shorter shifts on days with heavy class schedules or longer shifts on lighter school days could also be beneficial. By demonstrating commitment and open communication, students can increase the employer's understanding of their academic needs and potentially secure a more flexible schedule.	Criminology Working Student	Minimize the negative impact of overtime work in a Criminology student's academics.					
Limited possibilities for financial help or scholarships	To provide mechanisms in aiding to avail financial help of scholarships.	To grab opportunities for scholarships, grants, or financial assistance as a criminology working student, you can start by researching government agencies and private entities that offer such programs. Look for organizations that specifically support criminology students or those in related fields. Visit their websites or contact them directly to gather information about eligibility criteria, application requirements, and deadlines. Prepare all necessary documents, such as academic transcripts, recommendation letters, and personal statements, as per the application guidelines. Submit your application within the specified timeframe and ensure that you meet all the requirements. Stay proactive and follow up on your application status if required. By actively seeking out and applying for these opportunities, you increase your chances of securing financial assistance to support your studies as a criminology working student.	Criminology Working Student, government agency, and other private entities	Increased financial resources and reduced work hours impacting academic performance.					

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following conclusions were formed based on the aforementioned findings, working PhilCST Criminology students have negated the possible effects of employment to the

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academic activities. Also, PhilCST Criminology working students prioritizes earning while studying knowingly compromising their health.

It is recommended that school institution may rigidly disseminate information in regards to scholarship in order to let students aware about the scholarship grants offered by the government such as Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES), Unified Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST), or Tulong-Dunong Scholarship and they can inquire about the requirements to apply. This scholarship can be used to lessen their expenses or help students with their financial difficulties, as well as the Criminology working students can make the most of their time between study and work. Using their free time, students can complete their papers in order to get enough rest to keep up with their academic performance.

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