



## COMPETENCIES OF TEACHERS IN TRANSITION TO MODULAR LEARNING MODALITY IN THE NEW NORMAL IN THE PHILIPPINES

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### ABSTRACT:

### KEYWORDS:

### THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### OBJECTIVES:

1. determine the teachers competency to deliver the lessons in the new normal education;
2. determine the challenges in the distance learning
3. determine the ways to deliver the modular learning modality

#### INTRODUCTION:

The New Normal was caused by a pandemic due to a viral disease known as Covid 19. The first human cases of COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus causing COVID-19, subsequently named SARS-CoV-2 were first reported by officials in Wuhan City, China, in December 2019. All the published genetic sequences of SARS-CoV-2 isolated from human cases are very similar. This suggests that the start of the outbreak resulted from a single point introduction in the human population around the time that the virus was first reported in humans in Wuhan, China in December 2019. The virus can spread from an infected person's mouth or nose in small liquid particles when they cough, sneeze, speak, sing or breathe. These particles range from larger respiratory droplets to smaller aerosols.

- Current evidence suggests that the virus spreads mainly between people who are in close contact with each other, typically within 1 metre (short-range). A person can be infected when aerosols or droplets containing the virus are inhaled or come directly into contact with the

eyes, nose, or mouth.

The virus can also spread in poorly ventilated and/or crowded indoor settings, where people tend to spend longer periods of time. This is because aerosols remain suspended in the air or travel farther than 1 metre (long-range). (WHO) The findings posted by the World Health Organization (WHO) has alarmed and required the government to take a response. In response to the WHO's announce the Philippine government announced its first lockdown in the Luzon area. An "enhanced quarantine" of the island with a population of at least 57 million people will be implemented until April 12, Duterte said in a televised address. Mainland Luzon will be on a strict home quarantine that the police and military will oversee, and workers must work from home to "significantly" limit movement, he said. "Everyone must stay at home, leaving their houses only to buy food, medicine and other basics necessary for survival in the coming days," Duterte said. He also asked private companies to advance workers' pay. (Alonzo and Jiao, 2020)

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The City of Naga Cebu Department of Education in partnership with the Local Government Unit gathered data on the number of Learning materials needed to be reproduced. The data was presented to the Division Schools Superintendent who contacted the Mayor's office. The LGU procure about 50,000 reams of bond paper amounting to about P14,000,000 pesos delivered to the department. Moreover, the LGU has also given a set of printers and photocopiers to the division office.

Since the materials are ready, a directive from the Schools Division to the EPS – in – charge of the LRMDs prepared a budget proposal and submitted to SDS Office for the approval. The budget was then passed to the accounting and budget department for approval.

The Division Office bought printers and photocopiers to reproduce modules. Then, each Education Program Supervisor (EPS) contacted Master Teachers and Subject teachers of their respective subjects. Coordination meetings were held to assign topics to be written. These teachers will write a module according to the subject they were assigned. The EPS will check each module to be printed and reproduced. Sorting was done by school and delivered or picked up by assigned representative of the school.

Aside from modules the Central Office the Department of Education’s sent copies of Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCs) nationwide. School teachers will use MELCs and contextualized it according to the school settings. Books were also used for the learning process.

The teachers must be ready to teach using the modules. Different teacher competencies are highlighted to the new normal. Some characteristics of a competency are as follows: 1. A competency consists of one or more skills whose mastery would enable the attainment of the competency. 2. A competency is linked to all three of the domains under which performance can be assessed: knowledge, skills and attitude. 3. Possessing a performance dimension, competencies are observable and demonstrable. 4. Since competencies are observable, they are also measurable. It is possible to assess a competency from a teacher’s performance. Teaching competencies may require equal amounts of knowledge, skill and attitude, but some will not. Some competencies may involve more knowledge than skill or attitude, whereas, some competencies may be more skill or performance based. (Nessipbayeva,)

With the COVID 19 situation, face – to – face interaction is not only limited but also difficult. Aside from the use of module provided by the teacher, both teachers and students need to be acquainted with different online platforms like Google Meet, Zoom and YouTube. Thus, ICT training is needed. Microsoft Dream team trained selected teachers to be skilled in the use of the program and its applications. Teachers also attended various online webinars on the different subject matters from the platforms gaining knowledge and skills on how to teach using the distance learning program.

**FLOW OF THE STUDY**

The flow of the study is depicted in figure 2. For the input, data gathered were on: profile of the respondents, instructional competencies of teachers are being challenged the most in the transition from a traditional style of education to other modalities of learning in different academic areas.

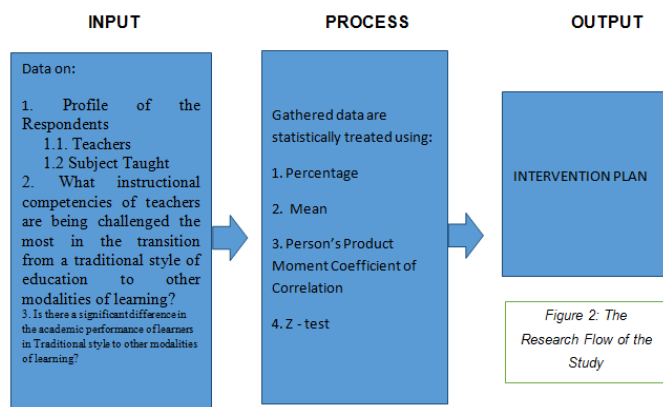


Figure 2: The Research Flow of the Study

**CONCLUSION:**

With the current pandemic, the teachers need to adjust not only physically but mentally. It is a tough job to teach students online. Problems like slow internet connection, no laptops or cellphones make it more difficult for the teachers to convey the knowledge and skill to students especially in the remote areas. Sole modular learning is not also an effective way to teach students. To validate students’ scores and grades is also a difficult task provided that students need to answer the modules with the use of internet.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Further study must be done taking into consideration not only the modules written by the different teachers but also other resource material that have contributed to the distance learning of the students. Moreover, a need of interview and survey must be done also to validate the number of teachers who used the modules alone compared with those who used other resource material to support the modular instruction.

**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**Modular learning** is a form of distance learning that uses Self-Learning Modules (SLM) based on the most essential learning competencies (MELCS) provided by DepEd.

**Competency** - possession of sufficient knowledge or skill

**Teacher** - one whose occupation is to instruct.

**New Normal** - a current situation, social custom, etc., that is different from what has been experienced or done before but is expected to become usual or typical:

**Modality** - the quality or state of being modal

**MODULAR PRINT**

**Traditional** - of or relating to tradition : consisting of or derived from tradition

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