Understanding Digital Literacy Culture in Students (*Analytical study on PGSD students at Universitas Muhammadiyah Cirebon*)

Aiman Faiz[1], Purwati[2], Ramadhan Achmad Suryangi[3], Himawan Sutanto[4], Muhamad Fikri Jundulloh[5]

Universitas Muhammadiyah Cirebon, Indonesia[1,]
Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, Kampus Tasikmalaya[2]
Universitas Muhammadiyah Cirebon, Indonesia[3,4,5]
E-mail: aimanfaiz@umc.ac.id[1], purwati_purwati@upi.edu[2]
ramadhansindang@gmail.com[3], himawan172@gmail.com[4], fijun13@gmail.com[5]
Correspondence Authors: aimanfaiz@umc.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The aim of this research is to analyze the extent to which students are able to utilize digital literacy. This research uses a descriptive study method with a qualitative approach. The data collection technique uses the results of a questionnaire created using a Google form which is distributed to students. The results of this research show that students of the PGSD study program at Muhammadiyah University of Cirebon have excellent digital literacy skills in using information and digital technology facilities. Digital literacy provides PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University of Cirebon with the opportunity to expand their knowledge by obtaining concrete data sources. By understanding and applying digital skills, becoming more innovative and creative, gaining experience with technology in college and in the future. Based on the results of data processing and data presentation, it can be concluded that students of the PGSD study program at Muhammadiyah University, Cirebon have excellent digital literacy skills in using information and digital technology facilities. Although there is something lacking in using digital literacy to retrieve information media

Keywords: *Digital literacy, PGSD students, learning innovation*

INTRODUCTION

Literacy is an inseparable part of every individual's daily life, including various activities such as writing, reading and other activities aimed at increasing knowledge and enriching vocabulary. Although literacy was initially limited to writing and reading skills, the concept of literacy has now expanded to various forms, including digital skills. The term "digital literacy" describes a person's understanding and mastery of digital media and the Internet, including the creation, evaluation, discovery and effective use of information in daily activities. (Loveng & Fajriyah, 2018; Nugraha, 2022) .

The rapid development of science in the digital era requires an emphasis on innovation and a deeper understanding of the world of education. In this day and age, everyone needs to understand that digital skills are essential to actively participate in the ever-changing modern world. Globally, it emphasizes the importance of conformity with technological developments to improve the quality of learning. This includes adjusting the use of technology in the educational context, especially during the learning process.. (Budiman, 2017) .

Digital literacy includes the ability to use digital media devices to search for, create and evaluate information intelligently, wisely, precisely and accurately. Advances in knowledge and technology make it possible to use them to search for various sources of information for writing research articles, reviews and other purposes. In other words, advances in science and technology have significantly had a positive impact on all aspects of human life. (Sujana & Rachmatin, 2019) .

The increasingly rapid development of technology has made social networking a place to share many things and information, of course not only positive things but also negative things, so all users must be careful in their use. Because it is known that students are often assigned to write a written work such as an article that requires relevant references, many students only *copy and paste information sources* without paraphrasing first. This is one of the consequences of not implementing digital culture.

The increasingly rapid development of technology has made social networking a place to share many things and information, of course not only positive things but also negative things, so that every user must be careful in using them because it is known that students are often given assignments to write scientific papers that require relevant reference media, lack of use of reference media and no socialization about the benefits of using digital literacy so that many students copy without including the correct source. Raising the problem above the solution is socialization about the use of digital literacy. Providing activities related to digital literacy, for example activities such as analyzing journals on *Google Scholar* . This outreach can be carried out by educational institutions such as campuses, schools and other educational institutions. Based on the occurrence of the general phenomena above, the aim of this research is to assess how well the understanding and application of digital literacy by PGSD Muhammadiyah University Cirebon students can be applied in the context of the campus environment.

METHOD

This research uses a descriptive study method with a qualitative approach. The object of this research was a population of 133 first semester PGSD students and a sample of 42 students was taken. The data collection technique uses the results of a questionnaire created using a Google form which is distributed to students. To obtain valid data I used data analysis techniques based on quotes from Sugiono (2015) quoted by (Faiz et al., 2022) with the following arrangement; 1) data collection, at this stage the research collects data from the results of questionnaires related to the implementation of digital literacy culture; 2) data reduction. At this stage the researcher concludes which data is appropriate and which is not appropriate for the research objectives; 3) data presentation, in this step, the researcher presents the selected reduction data; 4) conclusion, at this stage the researcher draws valid conclusions, if necessary triangulation of data is carried out. The analysis flow can be visualized in the form of the image below:
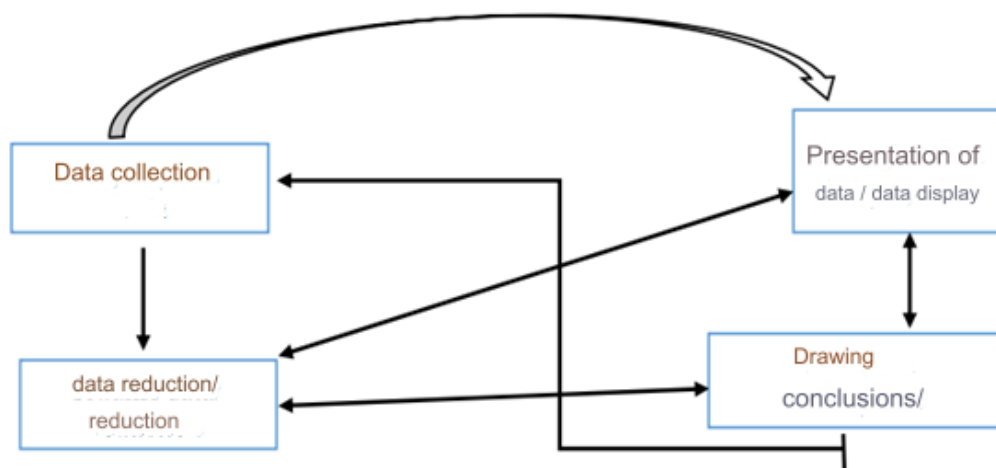

Figure 1: data analysis flow (Sugiyono, 2013; Faiz et al., 2022)

RESULTS AND DISCUSIONS

RESULTS

In the results of this research, researchers obtained responses regarding the implementation of digital literacy culture, especially among PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University, Cirebon. In the results of this research, researchers observed the extent to which PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University of Cirebon were able to develop and visualize the benefits of digital literacy to be more innovative in writing articles, especially in scientific writing courses.

In this era of development and technology that is improving so rapidly, of course this is a big advantage and opportunity for the young generation, one of which is PGSD students, to be able to utilize technology in several aspects, especially in the world of education. PGSD students should understand how important modern

technology is as a whole, which can be the key to success in carrying out lectures actively in a learning process that is increasingly connected digitally.

According to data from a questionnaire distributed to 133 PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University of Cirebon and had 42 students as respondents.

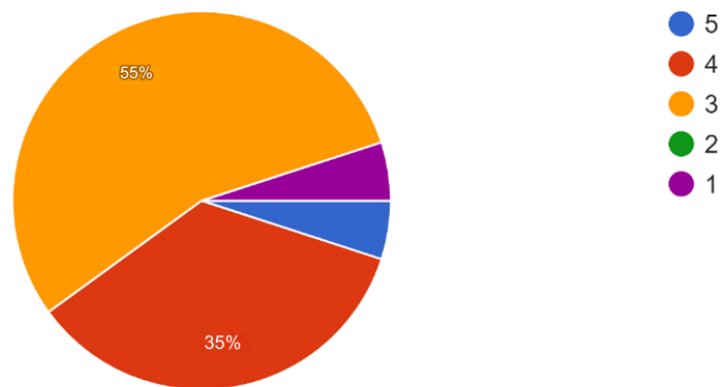### To what extent do you know about digital literacy?

40 answers

Diagram 1. Results of the Knowledge Questionnaire about Digital Literacy

There are 55% of PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University of Cirebon who know about digital literacy quite well. Technological developments have a very crucial impact on the future of humanity. Skills in utilizing information technology are the key to adapting to the times that are experiencing rapid progress (Terttiaavini & Saputra, 2022). With all the advances in technology today, students have access to various information, including as a means of finding references for creating scientific work via the internet. Namely in the form of articles, digital books, and so on. The presence of digital literacy media such as *Google Scholar* makes it easier for students to find references easily.

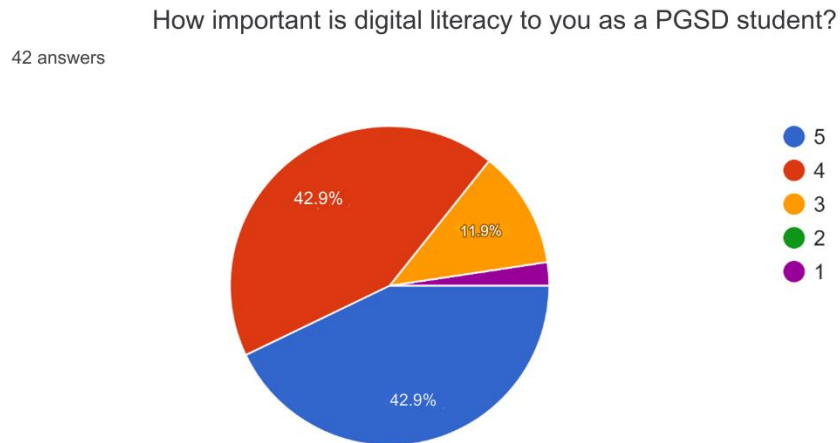How important is digital literacy to you as a PGSD student?

42 answers

Diagram 2. Questionnaire Results About How Important Digital Literacy is for Students

Based on the questionnaire data above, PGSD students assess that digital literacy has an important role in creating scientific papers as reference material and increasing understanding as PGSD students. The results of the questionnaire that have been collected show that 42.9% of students really understand and understand the importance of digital literacy, 11.9% understand quite well, and 2.4% do not understand the importance of digital literacy. In this case, it shows that the average student understands how important digital literacy is and is very helpful as reference material in writing scientific papers, especially in scientific writing courses, so that to what extent they can innovate and develop their creativity.

In digital literacy, how well do you apply information literacy in lectures?
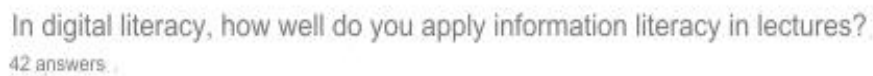
42 answers

Diagram 3. Questionnaire Results Regarding the Implementation of Digital Literacy

Based on responses from PGSD students, it is known that 45.2% of PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University of Cirebon have good information skills to support their studies. This involves the learning process of using the internet as a data source to carry out course assignments such as articles, papers, and other project-based assignments. By mastering the use of technology, we can use it to search for, evaluate, create and use information, thereby enabling students to continue to improve their information skills, which can make students more careful in using information. The benefits of applying digital literacy in the academic environment for PGSD students may be the main benefit when they enter the world of work as teachers who are literate in the world of digital information.

How often do you access e-books, Google Scholar, or other platforms to support your studies as a PGSD student?
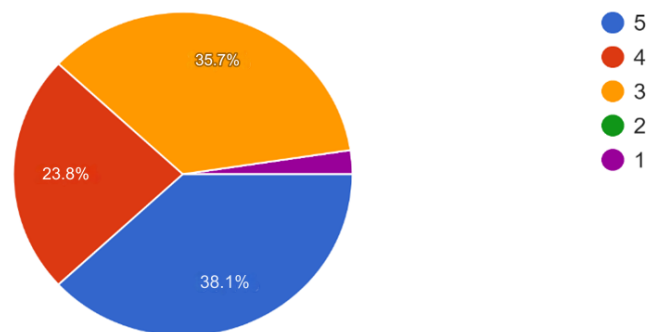
42 answers

Diagram 4. Questionnaire Results About Accessing Digital Literacy Platforms

Sample data that was distributed to PGSD study program students in scientific writing courses which had 45 respondents showed that 38.1% of them very often access e-books, Google Scholar, or other platforms. 35.7% moderately and 23.8% often access e-books, Google Scholar, or other platforms which can be seen that PGSD students on average use digital technology for academic activities, but with different levels of intensity. This refers to (Cintang & Fajriyah, 2018 ; Nasrullah, et al., 2017) explaining that digital literacy involves the understanding and skills needed to utilize digital media, communication tools and networks to search for, evaluate, use and create information. wisely, accurately, and in accordance with the law to improve daily communication and interactions in a healthy and intelligent way. The aim of digital literacy is to seek and understand information to broaden each individual's horizons. Likewise, it increases an individual's ability to carry out critical analysis and gain a deeper understanding of information. Digital literacy equips students with intelligent online search tools. They can search for articles, books and various sources related to their study topic. Digital culture allows you to exchange ideas with your peers. They can access it from the web, platforms and social networks.

Table 1. Questionnaire Instrument

Question Instrument	Category	Percentage
To what extent do you know about digital literacy?	Very good	4.2 %
	Good	38.1 %
	Enough	52.4 %
	Not enough	-
	Do not know	4.2 %
How important is digital literacy to you as a PGSD student?	Very important	42.9 %
	Important	42.9 %
	Enough	11.9 %
	Not enough	-
	Not important	2.4 %
In digital literacy, how well do you apply information literacy in lectures?	Very good	21.4 %
	Good	45.2 %
	Enough	26.2 %
	Not enough	7.1 %
	Not Applying	-
How often do you access e-books, Google Scholar, or other platforms to support your studies as a PGSD student?	Very often	38.1 %
	Often	23.4 %
	Enough	35.7 %
	Not enough	-
	Not Accessing	2.4 %

DISCUSSION

Literacy is a person's basic ability to read, write, understand and use information well. These are basic abilities that enable individuals to communicate, understand information, and participate in various aspects of life. In other words, literacy provides an important foundation for learning, communication, and active participation in society. Literacy and literacy skills are not limited to language skills but are also about understanding written texts, analyzing information, and using knowledge for critical thinking and decision making. According to Lee in (Fitriani et al., 2022 ; Irhandayaningsih, 2020) l digital literacy refers to the skills to understand and utilize information from a variety of formats, including text, images, audio, video, and animation, available via electronic devices from various sources.

Digital literacy in the world of education, especially for students of the Primary School Teacher Education Research Program (PGSD), opens up enormous opportunities to foster creativity and innovation. Digital literacy is an integral part of 21st century learning. To strengthen learning using digital technology, especially by utilizing the internet, teachers and students need to have good digital literacy (Suari et al., 2023 ; Khoiri et al., 2022) . Digital literacy can expand individuals' ability to access information and learning sources, this can provide PGSD students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge by obtaining concrete data sources. By understanding and applying digital skills, PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University of Cirebon become more innovative, enabling individuals to gain experience in technology in lectures, this can be useful in the future as prospective educators who are increasingly technologically literate.

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Utilization of digital literacy refers to Individual skills in utilizing information and communication technology (ICT) efficiently to conduct research, evaluate, understand and explore data sources in the context of learning. This includes skills in using digital devices such as computers, smartphones and tablets, as well as the ability to operate various online platforms such as the Internet, Google Scholar, e-books and other websites to support learning. This can show the truth The internet fulfills many needs in searching for different information (Kurniawati & Baroroh, 2016; Liansari & Nuroh, 2018) . Digital literacy allows individuals to actively participate in online activities to access resources that create educational opportunities for individuals and to communicate with others around the world. By having strong digital literacy skills, individuals can maximize the benefits of information and communication technology, while maintaining their privacy and security.

Someone who has the ability to access the internet, especially in terms of information and communication technology, needs to be equipped with an understanding of digital literacy. This helps individuals filter useful and informative content from negative content (Asnawati et al., 2023; Suari et al., 2023) . From this explanation, expertise in technology must be accompanied by an understanding of digital literacy to be able to use it effectively. However, it is very unfortunate that the current generation of students lacks use and ignorance of digital literacy. The current generation wants everything to be simple, thus making students poor in ideas.

To overcome this challenge, students need to be given an understanding through training and education as an effective tool for developing potential in PGSD students. They need to be trained to not only take in information passively, but to be able to filter information critically, assess and verify the information they obtain. By understanding the use of digital literacy very well, students are able to become smarter consumers, so they can access and utilize quality resources in distinguishing between valid and fake information.

In this case, educational institutions play an important role in being able to include curricula that can encourage the development of digital literacy skills, both in academics and everyday life. Apart from that, students need to be encouraged to think more critically, explore and be more creative. In this way, students will be more proficient in using technology and better prepared to face educational challenges in educational programs for prospective elementary school teachers. To strengthen the culture of digital literacy, active contributions are needed not only from lecturers but also from the university administration in encouraging students to use technology wisely. (Prabowo et al., 2023 ; Ningsih et al., 2023) .

CONCLUSION

Digital literacy has become an important part of life, related to the use of digital technology in retrieving information. Digital literacy skills are now essential for students in the current era. Understanding how to use digital technology to obtain information is a skill that the current generation must have, especially PGSD students. This makes it possible to improve learning that is appropriate in today's era. The conclusion of this research is that PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University of

Cirebon show extraordinary skills in digital literacy, with excellent abilities in using information and digital technology resources. Although there is something lacking in utilizing digital literacy for information media retrieval. So by taking advantage Digital literacy can expand PGSD students' knowledge to be able to access information sources for learning, this can provide PGSD students with the opportunity to expand knowledge by obtaining concrete data sources. By understanding and applying digital skills, PGSD students at Muhammadiyah University of Cirebon become more innovative, enabling them to gain experience in technology in lectures, this can be useful in the future as prospective educators who are increasingly technologically literate.

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