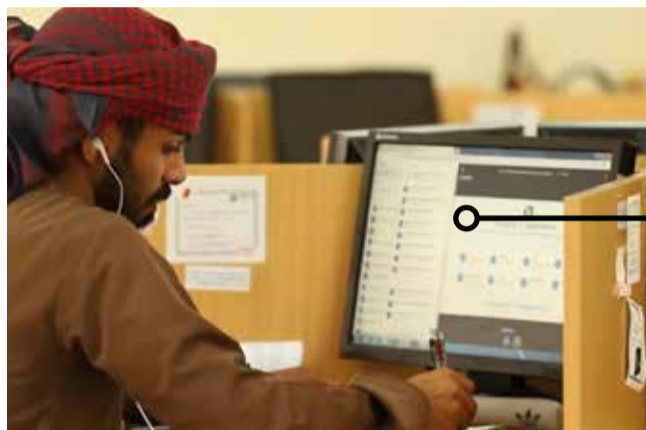


BAYAN COLLEGE, AFFILIATED WITH PERDUE UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST
UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION
ACCREDITED BY ASIC UK AS A PREMIER INSTITUTION

A NEW SEASON CHALLENGING TIMES ENCOURAGING WORDS



A student actively attending to his virtual classes

DISTANCED LEARNING,

A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR ALL.



Mr. Badis GFP HOD & Instructor
conducting virtual class

“Corona virus compels the educational institutions all over the world to switch on to an alternate method: the ultimate methods- online teaching, virtual classroom, blended learning, and flipped classroom.” - Dr. Ansari

“TOGETHER LET’S SHOW THE WORLD, WE CAN DO IT, WE CAN OVERCOME ALL DEPRESSED SITUATIONS, WE CAN LEARN AND GIVE MORE TO OUR NATION.” MS. ZAKIYA

“To survive you need to adapt, the journey of eLearning was bound to happen sooner or later. Now, we get the chance to experience the future together.” - Ms. Hana

“LET THE DARK CLOUDS BRING IN SLIVER LIQUID DROPS, LET’S WIPE THE GREY SHADOWS OF WISDOM. LET’S EMBRACE E-LEARNING, TO SPREAD OUT WINGS AND FLY REAL SOON.”-MS. DIVYA KASI

“Online teaching and learning is the future of education. The current crisis has taught us how we can provide education to all using technology. This will also enable students to use technology in a positive way.” - Mr. Kumar

“This has been a very good time of sharing knowledge with you through online teaching and learning. Looking forward to an amazing summer semester! As R Collier says; ‘Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated.’”-Mr. Shoab

“The going is tough, but we will definitely get going with online learning.

And the best part? You don’t need to step out of the comfort of your home.

We, the Bayan Family, believe in you! See you for Summer 2019-20 Semester”- Ms. Melanie

“I am Online” is the new trending word we hear the whole world echoing during the current Covid-19 Pandemic. Life still moves due to virtual business, learning, shopping etc. Let’s also continue to learn without stopping during this pandemic and overcome all obstacles. Knowledge is power and learning instills new thoughts in our minds. Let’s make use of the online learning platform Canvas of Bayan College and continue learning. Let’s learn and stay connected.”-Ms. Judith



كلية البيان
BAYAN COLLEGE

BAYAN COLLEGE REGISTERS SUCCESS IN VIRTUAL TEACHING AND LEARNING

By Bayan Post Reporter

Bayan College is one of the Colleges in the Sultanate of Oman and the Gulf region that successfully with stood the challenges of Covid-19 and continued with online teaching and learning.

On the 14th of March, 2020 the government of the Sultanate of Oman under the supreme committee on Covid -19 suspended physical classes in an effort to stop the further spread of Covid-19 virus.

This resulted into other Colleges, universities and academic institutions to also suspend classes until further notice. However, Bayan College which had earlier on prepared their students through Canvas- one of the best Learning Management Systems (LMS) got it easy to transit to online teaching and learning (virtual) learning which turned out to be

one of the safest means of continuing to teach without putting the students and staff at risk of contracting the Corona virus.

The first pro-active measure taken by the College was to train students through demonstration of videos on how to interact in teaching and learning using different platforms via canvas. The first priority was given to canvas video conferencing. Through this forum students would attend virtual classes with provisions of seeing their instructors explaining lectures using power point, videos and above all students would also have opportunities to instantly ask questions and make comments as well. Through canvas, the students were also able to receive assignments, announcements, quizzes, learning materials among others in real time.

“Before physical classes were suspended because of Covid-19, Bayan College was already using canvas! So the suspension of physical classes did not affect teaching and learning because it became easy for lecturers and students to switch to online teaching and learning.” Says, Mr. Mundua Samuel, the Head of Department of Media Studies.

Mr. Mundua further says that switching fully to virtual teaching and learning generated a lot of excitement among faculty members and students mainly because it was a technologically-driven territory to explore teaching and learning whilst staying away from the risk of contracting corona virus. The interest generated among the students was seen through the regular attendance of virtual classes and the active participation of students including students who were not usually so active in the physical classes.

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

Welcome to this edition of the Bayan Post! For the last five or so months the world has witnessed a devastating impact of Covid-19 pandemic on people's livelihoods. The education sector has not been spared either. In this edition of the Bayan Post, we share with you how Bayan College managed to continue un-interrupted with virtual classes despite the challenges caused by the Corona virus.

To attest to this fact a survey carried among the students revealed that the majority of the students are satisfied with Bayan College virtual teaching and learning. Details of the survey are represented in data visualization in this addition of Bayan Post.

As it is often said, "a healthy mind matches with a healthy body", Bayan College put this statement into action by setting up a state of the art sports facility for its students and staff for purposes of extra-curricular activities and of course to keep the students and staff physically fit.

As you will also read in this edition, in addition to being mindful of students and staff's physical fitness, the College is also mindful of the safety of the community within Bayan College and that's why during the Spring Semester, the Health and Safety office organized a fire drill as routine proactive activity for staff and students in preparation for emergency situations.

We also have for you interesting students' portfolios and well as articles on a number of activities around the College. Hmm... Let me not divulge much but let you discover more for yourself as you take a reading tour of our Bayan Post.

Enjoy the reading!

Bayan Post is a publication of Bayan College:

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VIRTUAL LEARNING TRAINING SESSION HELD

By Bayan Post Reporter

Bayan College through its Learning Resource Center (LRC) held a level 2 virtual learning session for academic staff so as to ensure that maximum support is given to students during teaching and learning process through Canvas Learning Management System (LMS).

The training session that took place on the 11th of June 2020 at Bayan College main library started with a briefing on the advanced tools that the instructors can use in their classes for interactive sections and the different assessments that can be used to engage the students.

Focus was given on how to do video streaming and calling, how to create assignments and how to record a video during discussions using canvas. Other pertinent areas discussed include; how to create a link in pages tab, grading and updating quizzes, quiz moderation and statistics as well as uploading, videos, power point presentations, notes and other different pen tools.



Dr. Fadil, Media Studies lecturer following the training session



Lecturers listening to the Mr. Ather, the workshop facilitator

According to Mr. Ather Mehmood, the facilitator of the training the training session created a fruitful learning opportunity as instructors understood more about advanced tools, features of canvas and how to do good quality video streaming.

"This training will go a long way in improving the performance of instructors in effectively teaching in a virtual environment". Noted Mr. Ather .

Workshop

21ST CENTURY SKILLS

By Bayan Post Reporter

On the 10th of February, 2020, a workshop on the 21st Century Skills was held at Bayan College campus in an effort to prepare students for the current and future job skills requirements.

The workshop was presented by Ms. Muzna Sulaiman Al Busaidi who works as HR and Investment Manager. In her presentation that was attended by faculty members and students, Ms. Muzna highlighted that there is need for self-defining in terms of the skills that one already has and the areas of strengths and weaknesses.

"There is need for individuals to systematically develop the various skills required to equip oneself to the changing job market," stressed Ms. Muzna. She further exemplified her points by giving her personal experience and explained how hard work and planning can help one to achieve success. The presentation attracted a lot of interest and participation from both the students and faculty members witnessed by the interactivity held during the answer and question session.



The Interim Dean, Dr. Anna Scopaz listening to the presentation

The Head of General Foundation Program (GFP) Mr. Haneesh Kumar stressed that the 21st Century job requirements and skills are changing thereby requiring students to not only look at the academic curriculum but also to get exposure on the dynamics of the job market by interacting with people already in the field.

"Students should get interested in learning more on how organizations operate including knowing the roles and responsibilities of individuals in organizations and companies." He noted.

The workshop was also attended by the Interim Dean of Bayan College Dr. Anna Scopaz. She thanked the guest presenter for accepting to come and give students an exposure to the skills required to meet the 21st century job market demands.



Part of some students attending the 21st century workshop



BC students attentively listening to the presentation.



BC staff following the session



The guest lecturer, Ms. Muzna Sulaiman Al-Busaidi, HR and Investment Specialist delivering her lecture to students and staff (All photo credit: Daniel J.)

BAYAN COLLEGE RECOGNIZES EMPLOYEES

By *Bayan Post* Reporter

4th June, 2020 Halban -Bayan College's Governance and Management on Thursday, the 4th of June 2020, recognized its employees with Staff Excellence Awards for the academic year 2019/2020 in the Deanship at the College campus in Halban.

The awards were based on the employee's exemplary performance, dedication and hard work exhibited in their duties and responsibilities towards the realization of Bayan College Vision, Mission and Core Values.

Staff Excellence Awards is to acknowledge and appreciate the outstanding contribution and commendable services of the faculty members to their respective departments and the College at large.

Staff Excellence Award for the best faculty of the year 2019/2020 in the categories of Staff Excellence Award for Academics, Staff Excellence Award for Administration, and Distinctive category Award respectively was revealed by the Governance and Management.

The winner for the Staff Excellence Award for the Academic category was awarded to Mr. Badis Ben Salah for his dedication and service to the College while the Staff Excellence Award for the Administrative category was awarded to Ms. Shahama Al Arami for her years of service, dedication and exceptional contribution to the College. The Distinctive Category Award was presented to Mr. Haneesh for his exemplary leadership and dedication towards the College.

While acknowledging the awards Mr. Badis said that he was delighted and honored to have been nominated and awarded.

"This is one of the most significant events in my professional career. I feel fortunate to belong to the Bayan College Family." Said Mr. Berdis.

"This is one of the most significant events in my professional career. I feel fortunate to belong to the Bayan College Family." Said Mr. Berdis.

In appreciation of the distinctive award, Mr Hanesh said that he was grateful to be a recipient of the Staff Award 2019-2020.

"I am earnestly grateful for the recognition and acknowledgement I have received for my work, and I am committed to continue to give my best efforts in the future to Bayan College». He said.

"I am earnestly grateful for the recognition and acknowledgement I have received for my work, and I am committed to continue to give my best efforts in the future to Bayan College." Mr. Haneesh

Ms Shahama the winner of the Administrative award said that it was such an honor and noted;

" I am extremely honored to be receiving such an important award. I commenced working at Bayan College as a fresh graduate, and during the past 11 years it really feels like home. I am proud of Bayan College and am happy that the governance and management has recognised my strong commitment and dedication. Bayan College is my breath".

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Bayan College which is accredited by ASIC, a UK based international academic accreditation body, is the first private media College in the Sultanate of Oman offering Media Studies courses in Public Relations, Journalism, Broadcasting, Advertising and Visual Communication Design. The College which is affiliated with Purdue University Northwest in the USA also offers English Literature and Professional Writing majors under the Faculty of English Studies.



Mr. Badis displaying his certificate of Employee Excellence Award



Mr. Haneesh displaying his certificate of Employee Excellence Award

By *Bayan Post* Reporter

The student advisor council in collaboration with the Media Group of Bayan College conducted a series of workshops during the Spring Semester in order to impart basic practical skills in a number of specializations. The workshops that took place in the multimedia studios involved topics in photography, broadcasting and speechwriting and the art of public speaking.

In the photography workshop students were given skills in understanding camera components and accessories, how to operate and activate a camera and how to take different shots of various scenes and to link these shots to special television programs and movies.

On TV and radio production students were guided on how to produce programs and films. Emphases was made on the required preparations needed, such as script writing, sharing ideas with the directors and the broadcasters so that everything is well coordinated among the crew.

Other areas that attracted a lot of attention from the students include speech writing and the art of public speaking, in which main theme was how to address the masses with an aim of influencing and winning them over. In the art of public speaking, the presenter defined art as a science based on a set of rules, principles, and methods which students should learn and apply whenever writing and presenting speeches.

According to Dawoud Al-Riyami, the head of the Student Advisor Council. student based workshops are usually organized every semester with the guidance of the management, to specifically give an opportunity to the students, to demonstrate the skills learnt in class, by sharing basic skills in their specialized areas.

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL CONDUCTS WORKSHOPS



Students attentively listening to one of the presenter in the workshop organized by the Student Advisory Council in the Multi Media Studio

THE ACT OF BALANCING WORK, STUDIES AND FAMILY

Meet Ayman Al-Owaisi. In this edition of the Bayan Post we are glad to interview Ayman Al-Owaisi in this section of Life of a Student. Enjoy the interview.

1. Question: Tell me about yourself. Who is Ayman? Please introduce yourself to us in terms of what you do at work and which course are you doing at Bayan College?

Answer: My name is Ayman Al-Owaisi. I was born in Muscat, and I work as a Digital Editing Technician since 2009. Before specializing as a Digital Editing Technician, I did concentrated in Photography and Graphic Design. I also previously took a course in Digital TV Production at Al-Bayan College in 2009 as well as many other courses, including a Film Industry certificate from the European Business Center for Training and Development.

2. Question: Could you please tell me a typical routine of your daily activities like what time do you always wake up and what are your schedules of the day?

Answer: I usually sleep early and wake up early so as to reach my work place on time. It is usually after work that I go to Al Bayan College to attend my lectures. However, because of the current Covid-19 pandemic, I now attend virtual classes just like other students at Bayan College because it is the teaching and learning method which can enable us continue studying while keep social distance from the comfort of our homes or offices.

3. Question: What motivated you to choose Bayan College as your preferred academic institution of learning?

Answer: I Chose Bayan College first of all because it could offer me flexibility as a working student and besides, it is the only private media college in the Sultanate of Oman that teaches media courses with curricula in the English language. This has made me improve a lot in my work place, particularly in the field of media.

4. Question: What do you enjoy most while studying at Bayan College?

Answer: What I enjoy most at the College is when each semester we are introduced to a variety of new courses in our major. The new information,



Ayman Al-Uwaisi and Dawd Al-Riyami at what they love to do the best -Professional Broadcasting

"It is all about proper planning and organization skills. You need to plan for each activity you do, set time lines of accomplishing tasks."

concepts and skills I learn in these courses adds more value in my career especially when I apply these skills at my work place in improving my performance.

5. Question: How do the skills you are gaining while studying contribute to your current job?

Answer: We are taught a lot of topics both theoretical ones and practical ones at the College. I always try as much as possible to put into practice what I learn by applying these skills at my place of work. I basically use academic knowledge to improve my performance at work place.



Ayman Al-Uwaisi

6. Question: As a public relations student and as a working student, could you please explain for us how media colleges are contributing to the growth of public relations industry?

Answer: Media Colleges are contributing knowledge and skills as a basis for best practices in the field of public relations. On the other hand the public relations industry is also offering opportunities for students who come from media colleges to demonstrate the skills they have learnt while studying. This creates a mutual relationship between media colleges and the public relations industry.

7. Question: How do you balance work with studies and family while maintaining good academic performance and at the same time performing your duties diligently and effectively?

Answer: It is all about proper planning and organization skills. You need to plan for each activity you do, set time lines of accomplishing tasks. Allocating time for each activity in my life, and working according the plan has often helped me to effectively balance work, studies and family. You also need to be disciplined in following your scheduled plans of work, studies and family.

8. Question: What piece of advice can you give to people who are working and are interested in pursuing their studies while working?

Answer: It is always important to be focused in life and if you chose to get your dream, you have to work hard towards achieving it. I can only summarize this with what a friend once told me; "you either chose to go for easy easy or you chose to go for difficult difficult." Am sure difficult tasks usually pay off well.

9. Question: Could you tell us, if you don't mind, how you are able to manage taking good care of your family while studying and working?

Answer: I usually make sure I give my family ample time. I am usually have time with them after completing my work and studies daily study and during the weekends.

10. Question: Finally what are your future career plans after graduating from Bayan College with a Bachelors of Public Relations degree?

Answer: My future plan is to continue pursuing further studies so as to obtain a Masters degree and a Doctorate to enable me build a strong career and gain more skills in the field of media and public relations. With this knowledge I will then be able to serve my country and society much more better.

By Bayan Post Reporter

On the 2nd July 2020, the research office organized a workshop for academic and non-academic staff on how to write research papers.

This workshop is part of the Bayan College initiative to develop a research centered academic institution.

The facilitator of the workshop, who is also the Head of the Research Office, Dr. Ansari encouraged and equipped the participants with knowledge in undertaking professional paper writing in their respective fields of specializations.

RESEARCH OFFICE ORGANIZES WORKSHOP ON HOW TO WRITE RESEARCH PAPERS



Academic and non-academic staff participating in the workshop



Dr. Ansari making his presentation on how to write research papers



Research workshop in session



Safety

FIRE AND SAFETY DRILL CONDUCTED

On the 4th of February, 2020 at 9:00am, the sound of ear piercing emergency sirens suddenly created alarm all over Bayan College buildings, immediately the emergency team of the college started to take the lead in directing both students and staff to leave the building as quick as possible! Soon corridors are filled with students and staff rushing towards exit points. In the meantime, the arrival of fire fighting vehicles from the General Authority for Civil Defense and Ambulance is announced by yet another siren! Within a few minutes all the staff and students are gathered at the assembly point. This is the scenario that was witnessed during the fire and safety drill.



The General Authority for Civil Defense and Ambulance officials confirmed while addressing the students and staff that the building was successfully evacuated, rescued and that the fire was also successfully put out. The officials praised the Bayan College Emergency team for job well done.

In a bid to ensure safety of both the staff and students at Bayan College, the office of Health and Safety routinely organizes unannounced firesafety drills in order to check how prepared the Bayan College community are prepared for fire emergency situations.



- From left to right:**
- 1: A personal from GACDA taking pictures of fire and safety drills
 - 2: Officials from General Authority for Civil Defense and Ambulance with Bayan College staff
 - 3: An official from General Authority for Civil Defense and Ambulance giving students tips on safety during fire emergency
 - 4: General Authority for Civil Defense and Ambulance demonstrating how to put out fire
 - 5: Demonstrating how to evacuate the injured
 - 6: Demonstrating how to walk with the injured



- 7: Demonstrating how to avoid being choked by smoke within the building
- 8: Bayan College Students taking pictures of the demonstration



An official from the General Authority for Civil Defense and Ambulance demonstrating how to evacuate occupants of a building using specialized crane.

STUDENT PORTFOLIO



Posters of Publication Design students / Student designed a poster of their one of their favorite book or essays, using Adobe Illustrator and the knowledge of typography learned in class./ Noof Abdullah Said Al-Dhahouri, Hawriya Saleh Mohamed Al-Balushi, Amira Mansoor Abdallah Mansoor Al-Aanquodi

Creativity

Exploring and developing creative thinking and visual story telling is crucial part of broadcasting and visual communication. Students have explored these areas in classes like Photography, Publication Design, Documentary Television, Visual Communication. etc.

During these classes students have learned to express themselves, their ideas and thoughts through different medium, while learning new technological methods.



Photo by Nashia Al-Siyabi



Photo by Khaula Al-Mushaifri



Photo by Hiba Hashim AL-Kindi



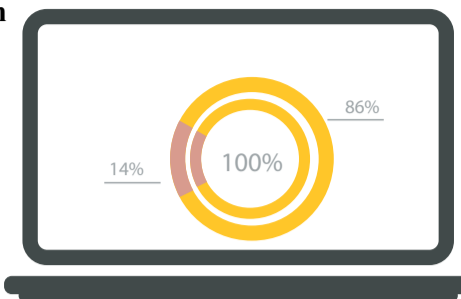
Visual Communication class students Students created animation movies using the classical technic of stop-motion.
By Azhar Mohamed AL-Hadharmi and Yahya Ahmed Hilal Saud Al-Suleimani

STUDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY ON VIRTUAL CLASS THROUGH CANVAS

A survey was conducted on 23rd of March with students on how they rated their satisfaction with the Virtual Classes through Canvas Learning Management System. A survey link was sent to all current students and 506 responses were received. Positive responses were achieved against each question. 85.5% of respondents claimed they had participated in online courses through Canvas and only 14.5% claim to have not participated. The non-participation is attributed to student lack of access to the internet while in remote locations. As an alternative, these students were provided with teaching materials through WhatsApp.

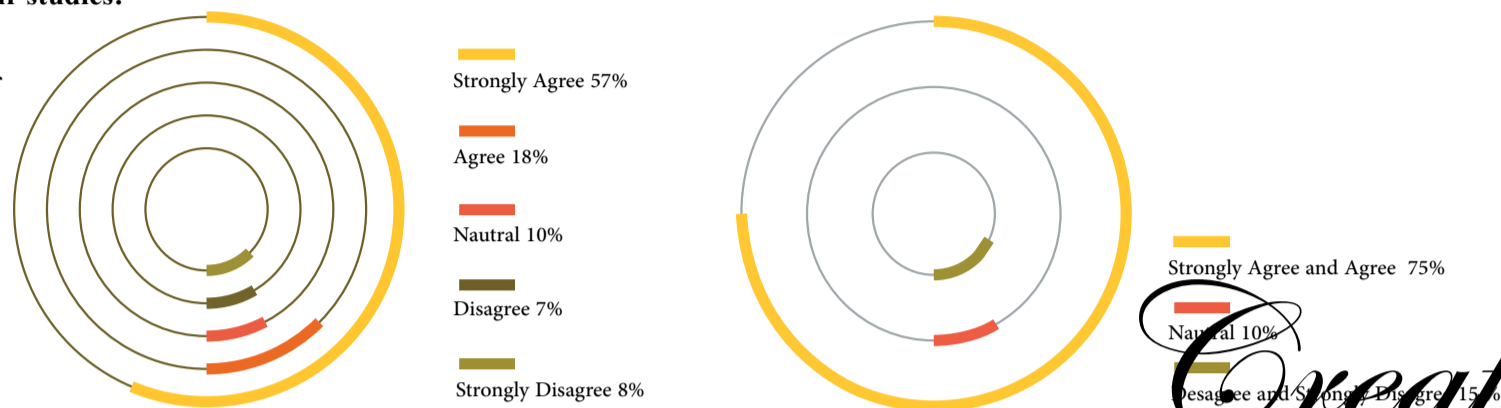
Have you been participating in the online courses through Canvas?

- Yes ■
- No ■



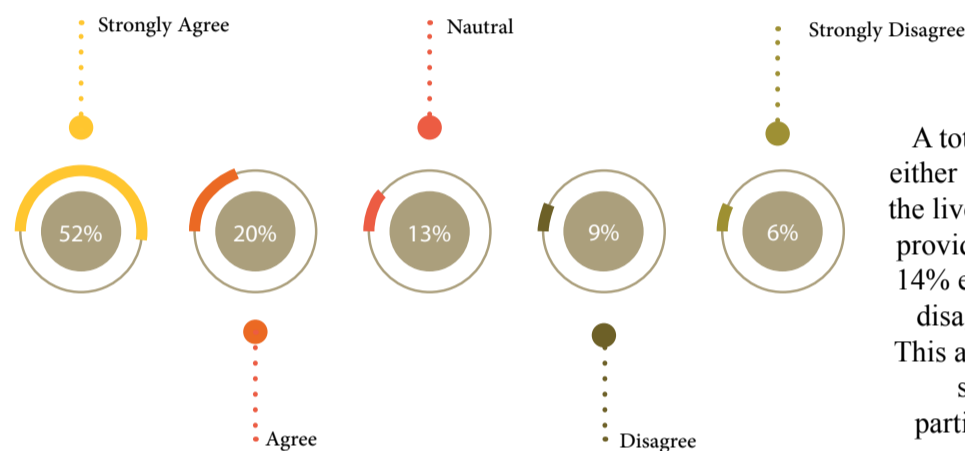
The online delivery is helping with your studies:

When asked whether the online delivery helped students in their studies, a total of 75% either strongly agreed or agreed that it had been helpful. A further 10.3% provided a neutral response and only 14.4% either disagreed or strongly disagreed which is consistent with the number of students who did not participate in the online courses through Canvas.

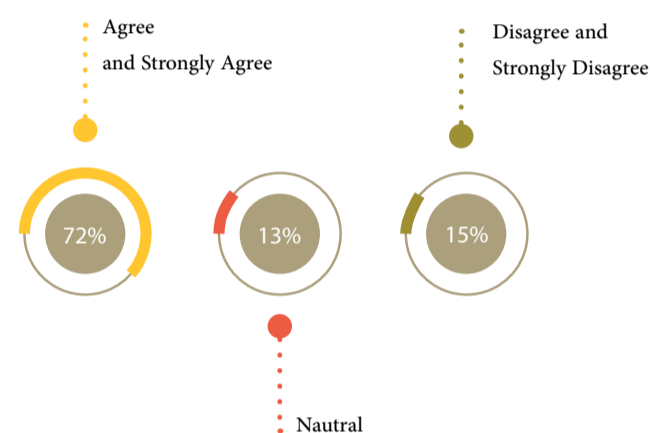


Creative

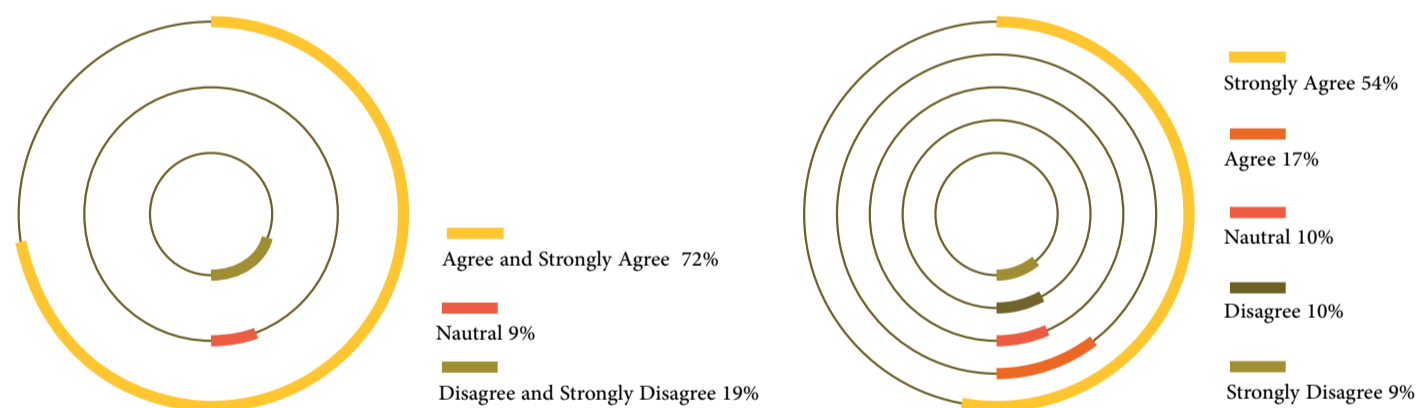
Live lectures are useful:



A total of 72% of respondents either strongly agree or agree that the live lectures were useful, 13% provided a neutral response; and 14% either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. This again reflects the number of students who have not participated in online studies.

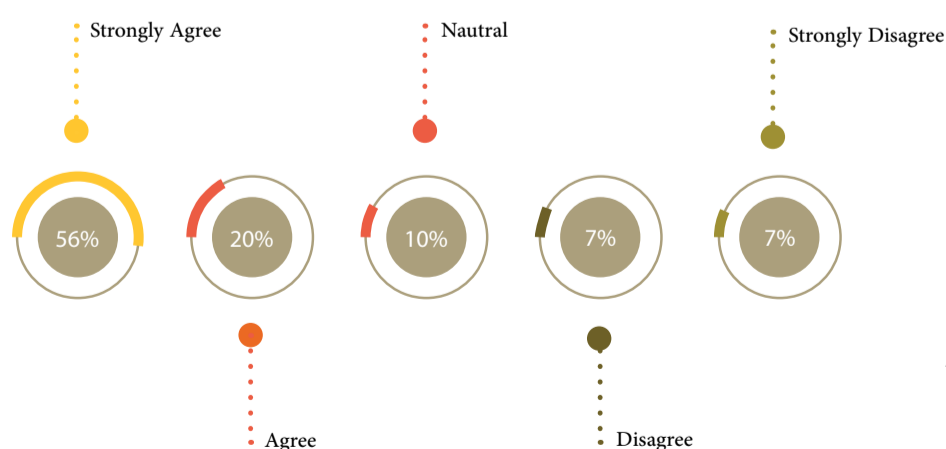


I would recommend online study to other students:

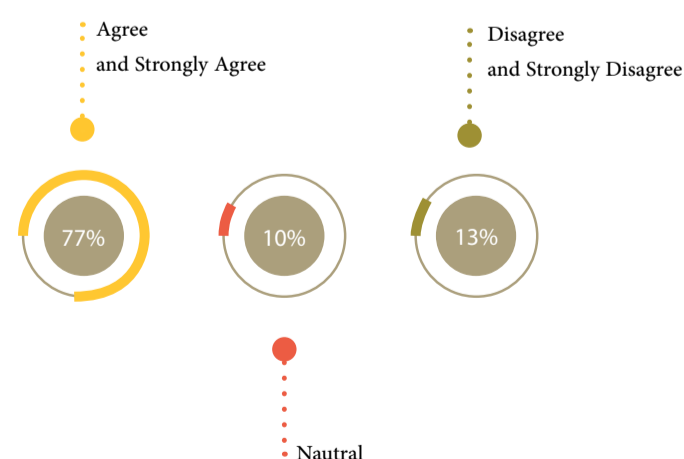


When asked whether they would recommend online study to other students 71% strongly agree or agree that they would; 10% provided a neutral response; and only 19% either disagree or strongly agree with the statement. While the vast majority are satisfied, a minority appear to not be satisfied, with 5% more than those who did not participate in online teaching providing a negative response. This may be the result of introducing a very new application mid-way through the teaching semester, but the total remains statistically insignificant.

Overall I am satisfied with Bayan College online teaching



Overall, 76% of students claim to be extremely satisfied or satisfied with Bayan College online teaching; 10% provided a neutral response, and only 13% claim they are not satisfied (again reflecting the total number of students who were unable to access Canvas).



In summary, it is evident that the Canvas online teaching and learning conducted in Spring Semester was highly successful. Efforts will continue to be put in place to support those students who are unable to access the Canvas Learning Management System such as delivery of course materials through WhatsApp and e-mail.

Sport

BAYAN COLLEGE GETS NEW SPORTS FACILITY

By *Bayan Post* Reporter

Bayan College has achieved another milestone by establishing its own football ground inside the college premises. During the opening ceremony of the new sports facility that took place on the 17th of February 2020, a football match was played between different student groups. The opening ceremony was attended by both academic and non-academic staff as well as students who cheered on as they expressed their excitements.

According to Bayan College sports coach Mr. Mohammed Alain, the establishment of sports facility within the College will encourage students to get involved in extra-curricular activities hence leading to promotion of their different talents.

Intra-College sports competitions are one of the most exciting and worth watching events in which students demonstrate their skills and learn more with the help of Student's Affairs Department.

Over the years Bayan college provided students with facilities for indoor games for male and female students. These indoor games include; Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Athletics, Table Tennis and Bowling.



Mr. Mohammed Elian, the Bayan College sports coach posing for a good photo with the student players



Ready for a match!



Ready for a face-off!



Displaying confidence of a winning team



One of the students doing football commentary



Students following the football match



Bayan College Staff being entertained by students in a football match at the new sports facility



One of the students dribbling on the fresh turf



Students enjoying football in the new sports facility