

Abstract

This study explores as a case study to use problem-based learning approach in teaching denim washing techniques which is offered in local University. This case study describes how to design and apply problem-based learning task in facilitating the students to learn more effective when compared with traditional teaching and learning practice on subject with high technical demand.

Keywords: denim, problem-based learning, washing techniques, technical demand, case

Content:

A subject “Denim Manufacture” is offered in a local University for teaching students about different industrial denim washing techniques. Since students taking this subject have different academic background, problem-based learning task was designed to teach the students.

The aim of this subject is to provide student with problem-solving skill in the design and technology of denim fashion to meet the industrial need. This subject is a Level 3 subject and students are required to complete two Level 2 pre-requisite subjects relating to (i) garment making and (ii) coloration and finishing of textile and fashion products.

FOUR topics would be taught in 13 lessons which are:

- (i) Basic knowledge of denim fashion products and their manufacturing process
- (ii) Advanced technical techniques related to denim fashion products
- (iii) Design aspects in denim fashion products and their variables
- (iv) Quality control and assessment of denim fashion products

Since this subject is a practical-based and industry-driven subject, although traditional direct instruction is good way to deliver all useful information the students, the students may receive the knowledge passively. Direct instruction may not be a good way to increase the students’ interest in learning as well as solving real world cases and problems. In order to meet industrial requirements, problem-based learning would be an effective and useful way and this study is aimed to

analyze the design of a problem-based learning task to address the major issues and elements in an industry-driven subject.

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