

Impact of Humanized Anatomical Paedagogy on Psychophysiological Responses and Academic Achievement in Nursing Students

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Introduction

- Anatomy, a fundamental subject in nursing education, provides students with knowledge of human structure and function.

Purpose:

- ◆ Describe the psychophysiological responses of nursing students to human anatomy by using cadavers.
- ◆ Evaluate the effects of humanised anatomy teaching on academic achievement.
- ◆ Examine the correlation between student characteristics, psychophysiological responses, and academic achievement in anatomy

Methods

- ✓ A combination of **observational pretest-posttest** and comparative study design.
- ✓ 151 participants with a 4-year BSN degree were recruited from 2 nursing schools.
- ✓ **Human anatomy teaching using cadavers** and traditional teaching using **plastic specimens** were delivered at A and B (comparison group) schools, respectively.
- ✓ Standardised and researcher-modified questionnaires were used to collect data.

Results

- Using cadavers in teaching anatomy improves students' **course engagement**.
- Course engagement and course grades have positive correlations.
- **Gender influences death anxiety** caused by cadavers used in anatomy.
- **Psychophysiological responses** to cadavers do **not influence student achievement**.

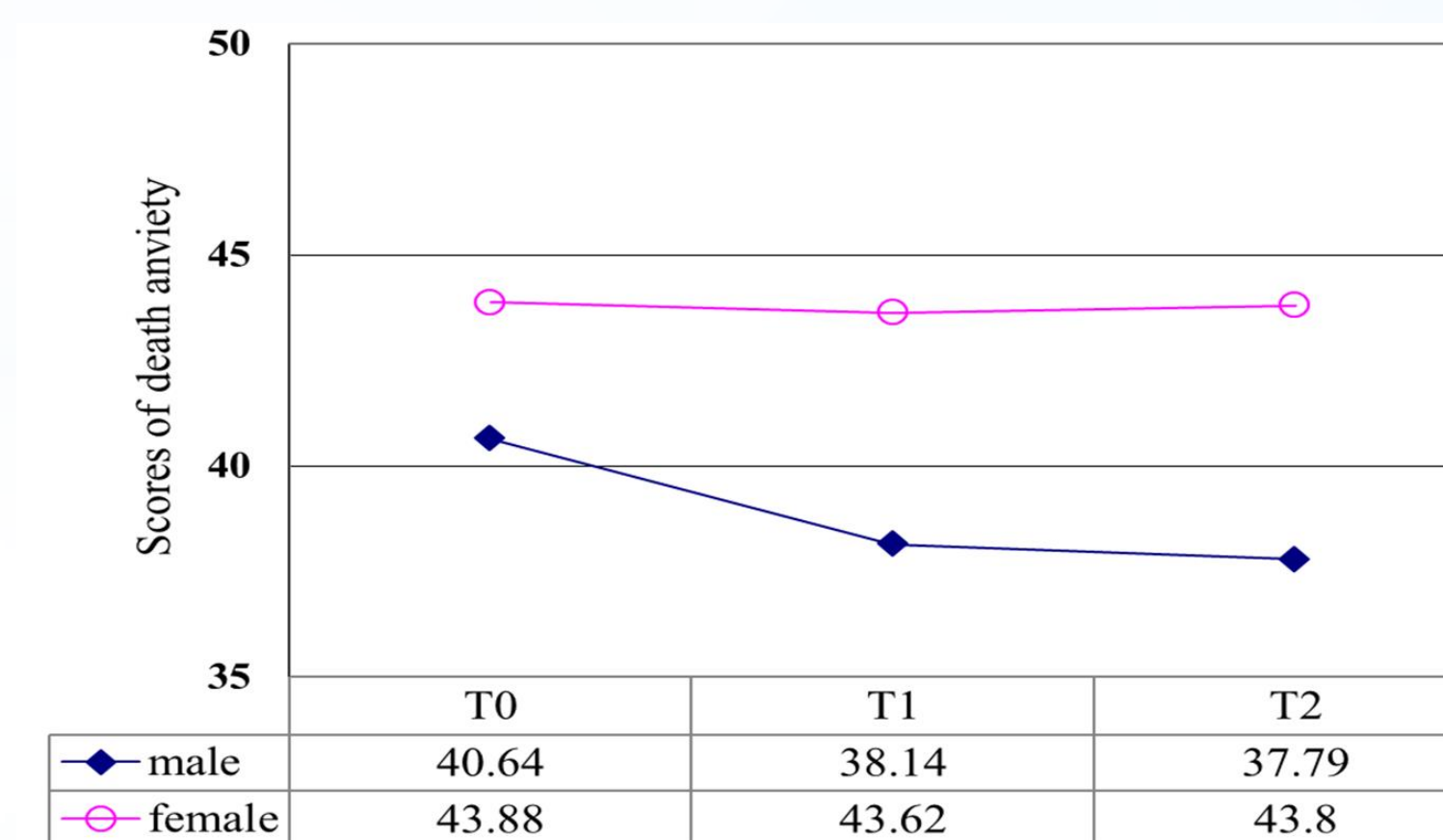


Table. Correlation between psychophysiological responses scores at Time 2 and academic achievement

Variables	1	2	3	4	5
1.Death anxiety ^a	1				
2.Subjective distress	.415***				
3. Perceived physical symptoms	.218	.442***			
4. Course engagement	-.069	-.223*	-.104		
5. Academic achievement	.152	-.088	-.193	.289***	1

Figure 1. Death anxiety scores across time points between gender groups.

Conclusion

- Human anatomy using cadavers is an effective teaching method to improve students' engagement with class.

Reference:

Lai, HL*, Perng, SJ., & Huang, CY., (2019). "Nursing students' perceptions of a silent mentor program in an anatomy course. *Anatomical Sciences Education*. DOI 10.1002/ase.1863