

IMPROVING STUDENTS' SOFT SKILLS AT ONLINE GROUP LEARNING IN THE VOCATIONAL PROGRAM OF CULINARY

by Kokom Komariah, Siti Hamidah, Sugiyono, Kurni Marifa

ABSTRACT

This study aims to 1) investigate the form of media used in online learning, 2) measure the students' soft skills performed during online learning, 3) define the factors that hinder students in possessing soft skills used during culinary online learning.

This descriptive study was conducted using the survey method. The population of this study was all students in bachelor and diploma culinary programs of the Faculty of Engineering at Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta. As many as 187 respondents were randomly selected in this study. The instruments to collect the data were developed based on soft skill indicators issued in the 2020-2024 Strategic Planning of Directorate General of Vocational Education, Ministry of Education. Data were collected by means of Google Form. The data were then analyzed based on the descriptive approach and were validated through expert judgment.

The results of this study show that the online media commonly used to conduct online learning were Google Meet and Google Classroom platforms. Then, in terms of soft skills, the students tend to choose the "almost similar to me" profile. The highest values were on the aspects of ICT literacy (4.70) and media literacy (4.67). Meanwhile, the lowest values included the aspects of critical thinking and problem solving (3.7) as well as communication and collaboration. At last, the internal factor preventing students to possess sufficient soft skills was a miscommunication, while the external factor was the unstable internet connection. Based on the result, it is implied that the quality of human resources needs to be improved by optimizing the use of online media features and improving the students' abilities to think critically, solve problems, communicate, and collaborate using the appropriate learning model.

Kata Kunci: *Culinary, online learning, soft skills, vocational education*