

Gender Influence on Students' Achievement in Mathematics: A Case Study of Undergraduate Students in Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka

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Mathematics is the queen of science and the language of nature. On the other hand, mathematics is the anchor that combines all sciences and technologies. Its importance should be clear to any reasonable person. Student performance in mathematics is closely associated with the scientific and technological innovations worldwide. However, there is an assumption that gender has significant influence on learning mathematics. That is, male students perform better than female students. This study was designed to carry out comparative analysis of gender difference on students' achievement in mathematics from 2015 to 2018 in Faculty of Science & Technology, Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka (UWU). Data were collected from Examination Division, UWU. The population of the study was eight hundred and sixty (860) male and female students from all the academic years. A sample of one hundred (100) students were randomly selected, fifty (50) male students and fifty (50) female students from each academic year among students with mathematics Grade Point Average. Data were analyzed using two-sample z-test significance of mean difference. The result of this study show that there is no significant difference between the academic performance of male and female students in mathematics in UWU from 2015 to 2018 at 0.05 level significance level. That is, both male and female are of the same quality varies based on individual difference not as a result of gender.

Keywords: Mathematics, Gender, Influence