

DETERMINATION OF STUDENT OPINIONS ABOUT DIGITAL BADGES

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Abstract

Digital badges are used as tools that reflect learner's various competences. These badges determine the competency level of a person about any subjects and their competences. Digital badges are thought to take a place among documents that show competences such as diplomas and certificates in the near future. The purpose of the study is to determine opinions of under-graduate students about digital badges. This 12-week study was carried out with 15 students in Computer and Instructional Technologies Department in Atatürk University. Data was collected through semi-structured interviews. Data was analyzed by content analysis. It was observed that participants had positive opinions about digital badges. They all expressed that this application increased their motivation on the course and it was an effective approach to evaluate their learning. They also stated that students without digital badges were affected by this situation and studied more to win a badge. Competition is created in the class through this application. Besides, according to the study results, it is possible say that digital badges can replace certificates. As a result, it is possible to consider digital badges as a flexible and strong tool to determine the students' competences.

Key Words : Digital badges, students' opinions, badge.