



# Should I take this course online? Mufaro Chitakure, Actuarial Science, Spring 2022

Professional  
Development

## SUMMARY

*I completed undergraduate research under the Office of Undergraduate Research Scholarship in Spring 2020 at the University of Texas at San Antonio. I completed this research under the supervision of Dr. Maho Sonmez, a professor at UTSA. This research was a comparative analysis of online learning and traditional or classroom learning. My goals for this research were to first learn how to work with data and conduct data analysis using statistical analysis software, and to also better understand the research process. I cleaned data that was recovered from backboard over the last eight semesters. After cleaning this data, I was able to load it into a statistical analysis software and analyze it.*



## SPICES

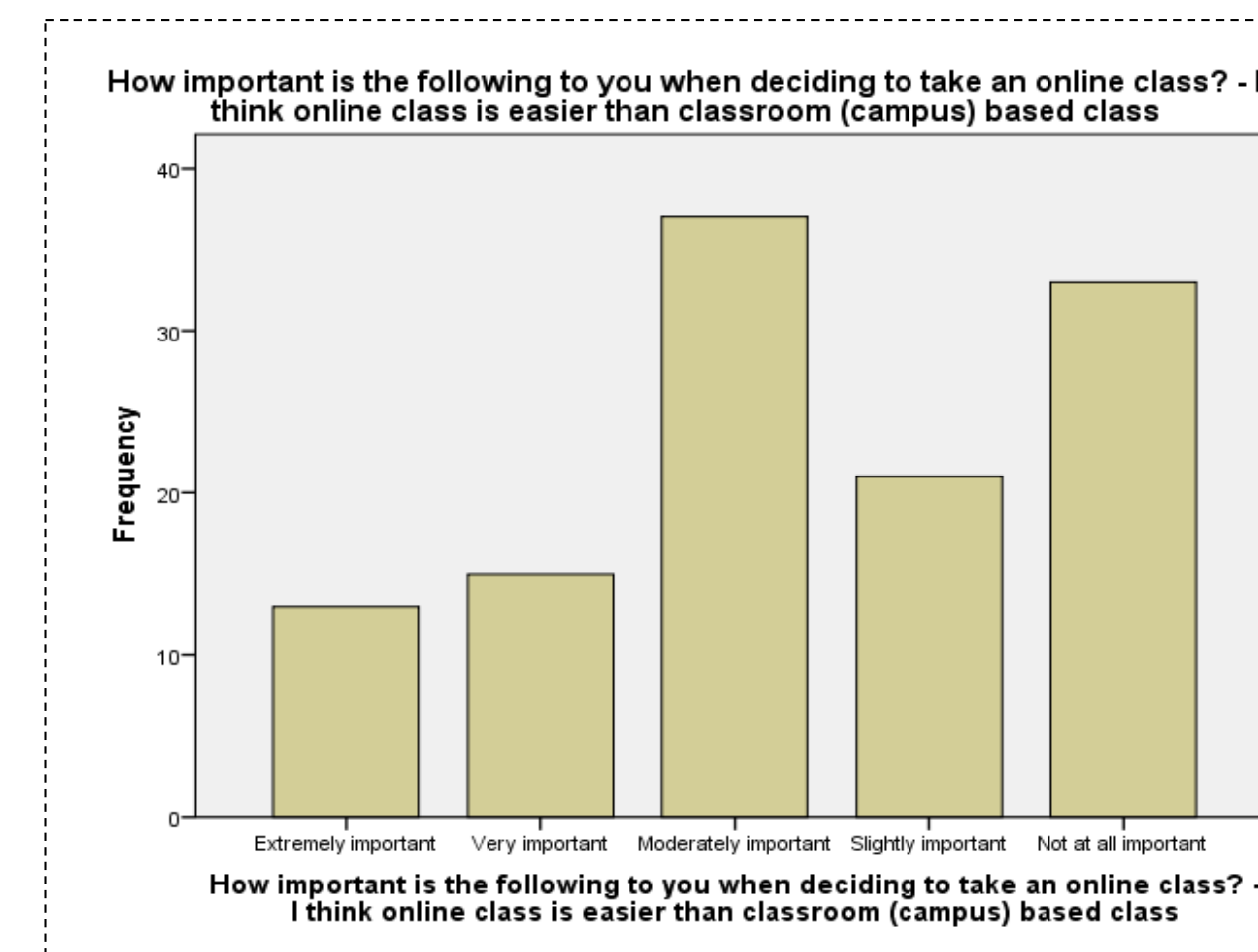
*This goal covers the Professional Development SPICE because this research enabled me to learn the data analysis process using statistical software, a skill that I will need in my career as an actuary.*

## HERBS

*This experience best embodies the Honorable part of HERBS as this research seeks to help students make the choice that will enable them to be most successful.*

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

*I communicated with my advisor multiple times a week outside of our regular weekly meetings about what I was doing, and this greatly improved my communication skills and has enabled me to communicate more effectively. I also practiced intellectual dexterity in the creation of the final product, the paper. I had to learn how to properly write a research paper and gained in that respect.*



## IMPACT

*My hopes are for this research to positively impact students here at UTSA as they make the choice whether to take the course online or in the traditional classroom. I gained from the practical knowledge that I received as I was conducting this research. I grew intellectually during the research period and I developed further, my passion for statistics and data analytics.*

## ADVICE

*I would advise any student looking to do research, but without an idea of how to start, to just reach out to their professors and ask what research they might be doing!*