Review of: "Measuring the Effectiveness of Internship Programs in Aligning Education with Industry: A Comprehensive Analysis of Internship Outcomes in the College of Communication and Media During COVID-19"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

First, I would like to express my gratitude for being invited to review the article.

I have some feedback and comments on the article that I would like to share. Firstly, I want to say congratulations to the authors for their valuable contribution to the field of education. This study has several strengths that are worth mentioning. Firstly, it focuses on empowering students through an internship program. Secondly, the program helps students to develop effective communication skills with the industry, which can help them secure employment. Lastly, the Kirkpatrick Model is a globally recognized approach for evaluating the outcomes of training and learning programs. This research study in the education field is interesting, however, authors, there are some issues that need to be addressed. Please find my comments below.

1. **Title**

- The title of a study may not always indicate the research method being used. In particular, it may not explain the use of a qualitative method. Qualitative studies typically seek a deeper and richer understanding of existing conditions. If the title uses words such as "exploring" or "identifying," it is likely that the study is qualitative. On the other hand, if the title uses words such as "effectiveness" or "analysis," it is likely that the study is quantitative.

I would like to refer the authors to this paragraph:*"…Qualitative research involves exploring the meanings, concepts, definitions, characteristics, metaphors, symbols, and descriptions of things. On the other hand, quantitative research focuses on counting and measuring things, determining the extent and distribution of our subject matter, such as how large a thing is, how many of them there are, or how likely we are to encounter one".Lune, Howard, and Bruce L. Berg...* "Qualitative research methods for the social sciences." (2017).

2. Abstract

- Authors should adhere to abstract writing principles, which include an introduction, purpose, method, results, and conclusion, and limit their abstract to a maximum of 100-150 words. The abstract is a concise summary of all stages of the research. It is important to note that Kirkpatrick's framework is an evaluation method and cannot be considered a research method.

- Please take note that you need to choose the keywords from the MeSH database.

3. **Introduction**

- The abstract's authors analyzed 64 student reports from a semester-long online internship in various organizations in the UAE during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their goal was to identify strengths and areas of improvement in aligning academic instruction with real-world applications. However, the introduction lacks an explanation for why the authors do not mention the significance of COVID-19 conditions and online learning in their study. Does online education, as well as the pandemic, have an impact on the study of the authors?
- The authors discussed the importance and advantages of internships, but it is not clear what knowledge gap this study aims to fill. They did not provide a clear description of the current state of undergraduate student internship in the UAE. Therefore, it is difficult to understand what exactly is the gap that needs to be addressed.
- Is Kirkpatrick's framework a theoretical framework of the study or just an evaluation method? What is the theoretical framework of this study?
- Please provide the purpose of the study at the end of the introduction.
- **4. Methods**:
- The authors in the given text state that they used the method of inductive reasoning to draw broad generalizations from specific observations. They conducted a content analysis of internship reports submitted by 20 students who did on-site internships during the spring semester of 2022. However, the authors' report does not seem to have followed the stated methodology, as it lacks inductive reasoning and content analysis. This has resulted in a focus on quantitative data, which may not be sufficient to provide a comprehensive understanding of the research method.
- In qualitative content analysis there is a three method conventional, directed, and summative content analysis. I thought the authors see two main references in content analysis:

Hsieh, Hsiu-Fang, and Sarah E. Shannon. "Three approaches to qualitative content analysis." Qualitative health research. 15.9 (2005): 1277-1288

Lune, Howard, and Bruce L. Berg... "Qualitative research methods for the social sciences." (2017).

It seems the authors

- The authors did not mention the method they used to collect the data.
- The authors mentioned that they conducted a content analysis of internship reports from 20 students who had interned on-site during the spring semester of 2022. This information was included in both the abstract and the written analysis of data conducted by 64 students. The question is, which one is accurate?
- In Analysis of Data, The authors mentioned "… Using the inductive nodes (two constructs) and their sub-nodes (six themes), we identified and categorized the declarative statements made by the interns. As a method of categorization, it follows Miles and Huberman's (Miles and Huberman, 2014) guidelines, which state that the researcher may employ innovation, word count, and frequency in the analysis of qualitative data…" Where did the authors the results of sub-nodes (six themes) and categorization present?

- "Can you provide information on how the authors handled online education?
- Also, I would like to know what methods were used to establish online communication for internships."
- Please provide the ethical considerations of the study.
- **5. Results**
- Please write the title "Results".
- The following excerpt is a bit unclear to me: "Table II illustrates the extent of coverage of the themes under the construct's 'reaction' and 'learning.' Out of the three themes in 'reaction' (summative value [Total] in the last row), 'training environment' scored high with a value of 106.75 coverage, followed by 'training relevance' with a coverage of 104.2." Could you please clarify which themes the authors are referring to?
- There are long tables that I cannot comprehend the results. Could you please provide a concise and smart summary of the findings?
- **6. Discussion**
- Please provide a comprehensive discussion of the study's findings in comparison with other studies, highlighting its strengths and limitations, and implications for stakeholders
- **7. Conclusion**
- The conclusion should synthesize the main findings of the study. what are the main findings of this study.
- **8. References**
- The references are outdated and most of them are old.