

## ABSTRACT

Kusuma, Aurelia I. (2023). *Challenges of Collaborative Learning to Enhance Social Skills: Post-Covid Encounters in the Play Performance Class*. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Sanata Dharma University.

Given the disruptive nature of the 21st-century job markets, collaborative skills are considered to be one of the most foundational skills to acquire among current undergraduate students. The English Education Study Program (ELESP) of Sanata Dharma University has implemented a course named Play Performance, whose aim is to nurture collaborative skills among its students. The COVID-19 outbreak in the past three years has inevitably created disruptions to the established teaching and learning processes, which in turn, brought unprecedented challenges among both teachers and students. This study is set to investigate the phenomenon of collaborative learning in the Play Performance class within the context of the post-Covid era. Two research questions proposed are: (a) What challenges did the third-year ELESP students encounter in face-to-face collaborative learning in Play Performance class? (b) How did they manage to overcome the challenges?

This research utilized a mixed method. The quantitative data were obtained through online surveys, and the qualitative data were from the interviews with selected students. Thirty-one (31) respondents participated in the survey and seven (7) in the interviews.

Two conclusions were drawn from the study. First, the third-year ELESP students have difficulties in social skill ability and group processing. Second, to handle the challenges, they put aside their egos, stay responsible with their own tasks, and stay professional during the dynamic in Play Performance class.

Two recommendations were proposed, namely for the ELESP students to take and participate actively in Play Performance class to enhance their social skill ability after post-covid is highly recommended and second for the future researcher, it is highly recommended to undertake a student for offline collaborative learning in other students' ability such as communication, creativity, or critical thinking.

**Keywords:** *Third-year ELESP student, student perceptions, Post-Covid Collaborative Learning, social skills, Play Performance cla*

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Dengan adanya perubahan pada lapangan pekerjaan di abad ke-21, keterampilan kolaboratif menjadi salah satu keterampilan dasar untuk dikuasai oleh mahasiswa sarjana saat ini. Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris (ELESP) Universitas Sanata Dharma telah mengimplementasikan mata kuliah *Play Performance* yang bertujuan untuk mengasah keterampilan kolaboratif bagi para mahasiswanya. Adanya wabah COVID-19 dalam tiga tahun terakhir telah menyebabkan kendala pada proses belajar mengajar, yang memunculkan tantangan baru bagi pengajar dan juga siswanya. Studi ini bertujuan untuk meneliti fenomena pembelajaran kolaboratif di kelas *Play Performance* dalam konteks pasca-covid. Dua pertanyaan penelitian yang dirumuskan adalah: (a) Tantangan apa saja yang dihadapi oleh mahasiswa Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris (PBI) tahun ketiga dalam pembelajaran kolaboratif tatap muka di kelas *Play performance*? (b) Bagaimana mereka mengatasi tantangan?

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian campuran. Data kuantitatif diperoleh melalui survei online, dan data kualitatif diperoleh melalui wawancara dengan mahasiswa terpilih. Terdapat tiga puluh satu (31) responden yang berpartisipasi dalam survei online dan tujuh (7) mahasiswa dalam wawancara.

Dalam penelitian tersebut memperoleh dua kesimpulan, yang pertama mahasiswa PBI tahun ketiga mengalami kesulitan dalam kemampuan bersosial dan juga dinamika kelompok. Kedua, cara mahasiswa PBI tahun ketiga mengatasi tantangan tersebut dengan mengesampingkan ego, tetap bertanggung jawab dengan tugas masing-masing, dan tetap profesional di tengah dinamika kelas *Play Performance*.

Terdapat dua rekomendasi yang diajukan, yaitu bagi mahasiswa PBI disarankan untuk mengikuti dan berpartisipasi aktif dalam kelas *Play performance* untuk meningkatkan kemampuan keterampilan sosial mereka pasca-covid. Kedua, bagi peneliti selanjutnya, sangat disarankan untuk melakukan penelitian yang mencakup kemampuan siswa lainnya seperti komunikasi, kreativitas, atau berpikir kritis di kelas *Play performance* secara offline.

**Kata Kunci:** Third-year ELESP student, student perceptions, Post-Covid Collaborative Learning, social skills, Play Performance class