

PSYCHOMETRIC STUDY OF GRADES OF SOME COURSES AT THE DEANSHIP OF THE PREPARATORY YEAR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DAMMAM (CASE STUDY)

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***ABSTRACT_** Based on a psychometric-analysis, the purpose of this study is to examine exams' results from a sample of courses undertaken at the Deanship of Preparatory Year and Supporting Studies in the University of Dammam that took place during the second semester of academic year 2014/2015. The data consists of results collected from 189 sections of the 2 academic tracks (engineering and science). The results show an increase in the mean for most courses and a left skew in all courses. It also reveals a significant statistical difference in the mean of the common courses of the engineering track compared to the science track. Furthermore, the study indicates the existence of a significant statistical difference in the mean for females' students compared to their male's counterparts in both academic tracks. Additionally, the results show an acceptable level of reliability where the coefficient of 88% of the courses was over 0.70, and that 49% of the sections studied came under the highest reliability mean level (more than 0.8), as regards the correlation coefficient between the Assessment Tasks for Students During the Semester and final test degrees the results show out that 75% of the courses in which the correlation coefficient of more than 0.70. Finally, chi-square shows that there was no difference in the reliability distribution over the sections in the common courses for both academic tracks.*