

## The Influence of Cognitive Load and Learning Styles on Personalized Learning Outcomes: An Untapped Variable Perspective

Dr. Mohammad Abedrabbu Alkhalwaldeh<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Mohamad Ahmad Saleem Khasawneh<sup>2</sup>

### Abstract

*The complex relationship between cognitive load and learning styles is dissected in this research to provide light on how these factors interact to affect individualized learning outcomes in the Saudi Arabian classroom. The present research uses a quantitative approach to examine the intricate connection between cognitive load and pedagogical strategies among a sample of 100 students and 50 teachers from various academic settings. The idea of cognitive load may be broken down into three different yet interrelated classes: intrinsic, extraneous, and relevant. The idea of "learning styles" is a multifaceted one that is encountered in the study of educational pedagogy. A few examples of these dimensions are the contrast between doing and thinking about learning, between using one's senses and one's intuition, between using pictures and words, and between taking a step-by-step approach and a more global view. The present study endeavors to shed light on the complex interplay between these variables by means of a thorough examination. The findings illuminate the importance of effectively managing cognitive burden and the value of accommodating diverse learning style preferences for optimizing the efficacy of personalized learning.*

**Keywords:** Cognitive Load, Learning Styles, Personalized Learning, Saudi Arabia.

### Introduction

The concept of personalized learning has garnered considerable attention as a pedagogical strategy that holds great promise in captivating students, augmenting their motivation, and ultimately elevating educational achievements (Papadopoulos & Shin, 2021). In an era where personalized learning is increasingly taking center stage in educational discourse worldwide, it becomes imperative to meticulously examine the multifaceted elements that shape its efficacy. Within the dynamic realm of personalized learning, an intriguing and underexplored domain lies at the convergence of cognitive load and learning styles, specifically within the educational context of Saudi Arabia. This uncharted territory holds immense potential for further investigation and analysis.

In line with numerous nations, Saudi Arabia has ardently adopted the concept of personalized learning as a means to cater to the multifaceted requirements of its student body (Algahtani et al., 2019). Nevertheless, in spite of the burgeoning corpus of scholarly inquiry into personalized learning, there persists a conspicuous paucity of investigations that explicitly delve into the intricate interplay between cognitive load and learning styles

---

<sup>1</sup> Assistant Professor, Special Education Department, King Khalid University, Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia, mohammadabedrabbua@gmail.com, <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7670-4387>

<sup>2</sup> Assistant Professor, Special Education Department, King Khalid University, Saudi Arabia, mkhasawneh@kku.edu.sa, <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1390-3765>

within the educational framework of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The present study endeavors to bridge the existing gap in knowledge by investigating the intricate relationship between cognitive load, learning styles, and the resultant outcomes of personalized learning within the context of Saudi Arabia. Furthermore, the primary objective of this study is to explore and reveal any latent factors that have yet to be identified, which could potentially interact with cognitive load and learning styles, ultimately impacting the overall effectiveness of the learning process. By doing so, this research aims to offer a distinctive viewpoint on the concept of personalized learning within this specific framework.

According to the seminal work of Sweller (1988), the cognitive load theory postulates that individuals engaged in the process of learning possess a finite cognitive capacity for information processing. When the limits of this cognitive capacity are surpassed, it can result in a state of cognitive overload, thereby impeding the process of learning and hindering the overall comprehension of information. The theory under consideration has garnered significant attention and scrutiny within diverse educational settings across the globe, as evidenced by the extensive research conducted by Kalyuga et al. (2015). Nevertheless, the utilization and significance of personalized learning within the distinct framework of Saudi Arabia have yet to be thoroughly investigated.

The concept of learning styles pertains to the diverse methodologies that individuals favor when engaging in educational endeavors (Coffield et al., 2004). The scholarly discourse surrounding the notion of learning styles has been the subject of considerable attention, with numerous scholarly works delving into the topic. Within this body of literature, several models have emerged, seeking to classify learners according to their individual inclinations (Felder & Spurlin, 1991); Kolb, 1984). In light of the widespread utilization of learning style assessments and the acknowledgment of individual differences in cognitive processing, it is noteworthy to highlight the dearth of comprehensive investigations exploring the interplay between these assessments and personalized learning methodologies, particularly within the educational context of Saudi Arabia.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been diligently undertaking the task of modernizing its education system, placing significant importance on the seamless integration of technology and the implementation of pioneering pedagogical methods (Alshumaimeri et al., 2020). The nation's Vision 2030, an ambitious blueprint for comprehensive societal progress, places considerable emphasis on the imperative of educational reform and the integration of cutting-edge pedagogical approaches. As the adoption of personalized learning gains momentum within Saudi Arabian educational institutions, it becomes crucial to delve into the intricate interplay between cognitive load and learning styles in the context of this pedagogical transformation.

The present study endeavors to bridge a notable void in the existing body of knowledge by directing its attention towards the hitherto uncharted convergence of cognitive load and learning styles within the realm of personalized learning in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The intricate interplay between cognitive load theory and learning styles has garnered considerable attention in scholarly research. However, the exploration of their collective impact on personalized learning outcomes has been relatively limited, especially within the distinctive socio-cultural and educational context of Saudi Arabia.

### **Objective of the Study**

The purpose of this research is to identify unexplored factors that could interact with cognitive load and learning styles to influence retention and transfer. These may be aspects unique to Saudi Arabian schools, such as cultural norms, technical resources, or instructional approaches. Educators, policymakers, and curriculum creators in Saudi

Arabia and other areas with comparable educational environments might benefit from a deeper understanding of these factors and their impact.

## **Literature Review and Previous Studies**

Individualized learning has been a key component of the successful education reform in Saudi Arabia (Algahtani et al., 2019). The goal of customized learning is to help students succeed by customizing instruction to their individual needs (Papadopoulos et al., 2021). Alqurashi (2019) provides a summary of Saudi Arabian studies that discuss the benefits of personalized learning.

According to the notion of cognitive load proposed by Sweller (1988), utilizing too much of one's mental capacity might have a negative impact on one's ability to learn. Multiple research show that the use of cognitive load theory to instructional design yields positive results (Kalyuga et al., 2015). In the context of personalised instruction, however, there is a paucity of studies on cognitive load in Saudi Arabia.

People's unique approaches to learning are sometimes referred to as "learning styles" (Coffield et al., 2004). The Felder-Silverman model (Felder & Silverman, 1988), for instance, categorizes pupils into four categories based on their preferred learning style. The Kolb Experiential Learning Model (Kolb, 1984) categorizes people into four different categories of learners, each with their own particular strategy for understanding new information. Popularity aside, research on whether or not students' favorite learning styles predict their performance in the long run has shown mixed results (Pashler et al., 2008).

There is a lot of room for nuanced exploration at the intersection of personalised education and cognitive load. Managing one's mental workload is essential for effective learning in a customized learning environment (Lundberg et al., 2018). In differentiated instruction settings, the cognitive demands placed on pupils may vary widely due to the use of adaptive content and instruction (Guerra-Carrillo et al., 2017). Studies in Saudi Arabia that examine the connection between student workload and differentiated teaching are few.

The impact of pedagogical approaches on pupils' unique learning styles is another area crying out for research. It seems to reason that the notion of learning styles would mesh well with customized learning approaches, which adapt instruction to each student's individual interests and requirements. Adapting instruction to each student's unique learning style has been shown to improve student achievement, however the data behind this claim is scant (Pashler et al., 2008). While it may seem intuitive that students of different learning styles might benefit from tailored lessons, there has been surprisingly little study of this phenomenon.

The impact of customized teaching on student motivation and performance was investigated by Algahtani et al. (2019) in Saudi Arabia. Although the study found promising outcomes, it did not investigate how students' cognitive loads or preferred learning styles would change as a consequence of receiving personalised teaching. Individualized learning was the subject of Alqurashi's (2019) research on higher education in Saudi Arabia. The positive impacts of individualized instruction on students' motivation were emphasized, but little consideration was given to the role of students' cognitive loads or their own unique learning styles.

Kalyuga et al. (2015) conducted an extensive analysis of cognitive load theory and its applications in the classroom. However, neither Saudi Arabia nor personalised learning environments were brought up, despite the importance they placed on minimizing mental burden. Felder and Silverman's (1988) model of learning styles is widely referenced

within the educational community. However, just the surface of the model's potential for individualized education has been explored.

It is unclear how well the Kolb Experiential Learning Model (1984) fits with personalised learning in Saudi Arabia, despite the fact that it is also frequently employed. It is crucial to accommodate students' unique learning styles, concludes a meta-analysis by Pashler et al. (2008). The results of their study were mixed, suggesting more investigation into the effectiveness of this approach in personalized learning environments.

## Methods

The study collected data from a diverse group of Saudis with varied levels of education at the same moment in time using a cross-sectional research design. The improved productivity is a direct consequence of the design's implementation, which allowed for a comprehensive study of the relationships between cognitive load, learning styles, and individual learning results.

One hundred students and fifty teachers from different Saudi Arabian educational institutions made up the study's quantitative sample. Using stratified random sampling, we were able to recruit students from elementary, secondary, and higher education institutions. People were chosen to take part in the research based on their availability and their own free will.

### Data Collection

Felder & Spurlin (1988) Felder-Silverman Learning Style Model was used to evaluate the students' preferred methods of instruction. Learners are categorized in this research along four dimensions: active/reflective, sensing/intuitive, visual/verbal, and sequential/global. Participants took an adapted version of the Learning Styles Inventory (LSI) designed for use in Saudi Arabia. There were four categories for each dimension, and each participant was assigned to one.

Cognitive strain was assessed using the Cognitive strain Scale (CLS), which was developed by Paas and van Merrinboer in 1994. The Cognitive Load Scale (CLS) measures internal, external, and contextual aspects of mental work. Participants used a Likert scale to rate how much mental strain they were under. These scores were used to compare the mental exertion required for various forms of education.

Grades, test scores, and other academic results were gathered from the institutions where the participants were enrolled. In order to examine the connection between mental effort required to learn, preferred methods of instruction, and final grades, we collected and utilized the aforementioned information as markers of unique learning outcomes.

### Data Analysis

In order to examine the connections between cognitive load, learning styles, and person-specific learning outcomes, this research employed statistical tools like SPSS for quantitative data analysis. Descriptive statistics were produced by the researchers in order to give a synthesis and description of the participants' learning styles, cognitive load, and academic accomplishment. Associations among cognitive load, learning styles, and academic performance were measured using Pearson correlation coefficients. In essence, the focus of this study was to find out how different types of cognitive load—intrinsic, extraneous, and relevant—are connected to different learning styles, such as active/reflective, sensing/intuitive, visual/verbal, and sequential/global. That was why a full multiple linear regression analysis was done to see how brain load and learning styles can be used to predict different learning results. What exactly about the students' chosen teaching methods and mental workload had a big effect on how well they did in individual learning settings? That was the main goal of this study.

## Results

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics for Cognitive Load

	Intrinsic Load	Extraneous Load	Germane Load
Mean	3.85	2.70	4.15
Standard Deviation	0.94	0.68	0.72
Minimum	2.10	1.50	2.80
Maximum	5.00	3.80	5.00

The data collected from the individuals revealed an intriguing connection. The responses from the respondents had a mean of 3.85 with a standard deviation of 0.94, suggesting some mental strain. This data provides insight into the cognitive load encountered by the participants. According to the results, most individuals place a modest amount of cognitive demand on themselves throughout their individualized learning experiences. The research found that, on average, participants had a score of 2.70 for extraneous cognitive burden, with a standard deviation of 0.68. The results of this research suggest that the instructional materials and methods used in customized learning resulted in a somewhat decreased impression of extraneous cognitive burden among participants. The participants' mean score on the germane cognitive load scale was 4.15, which is rather high; the standard deviation was just 0.72. This conclusion is encouraging for the efficacy of individualized learning since it indicates that, on average, the participants had a greater feeling of active engagement in relevant cognitive activity.

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics for Learning Style Dimensions

	Active/Reflective	Sensing/Intuitive	Visual/Verbal	Sequential/Global
Mean	4.20	3.50	4.10	3.80
Standard Deviation	0.75	0.90	0.82	0.88
Minimum	2.80	2.00	2.90	2.10
Maximum	5.00	4.80	5.00	5.00

The second table showcases the descriptive statistics pertaining to the various dimensions of learning styles observed among the participants, namely Active/Reflective, Sensing/Intuitive, Visual/Verbal, and Sequential/Global. The data reveals that the average score obtained by individuals who possess the Active/Reflective learning style is 4.20, accompanied by a standard deviation of 0.75. This finding indicates that, on average, the participants demonstrated a predilection for engaging in an active learning approach. The average score obtained for the Sensing/Intuitive learning style was 3.50, accompanied by a standard deviation of 0.90. The data suggests a balanced inclination towards both sensing and intuitive learning styles among the participants. The data collected from the participants revealed an average score of 4.10 for the Visual/Verbal learning style, accompanied by a standard deviation of 0.82. This observation implies a predilection towards the utilization of visual and verbal learning modalities. The average score obtained for the Sequential/Global learning style was 3.80, exhibiting a standard deviation of 0.88. The participants demonstrated a commendable equilibrium in their inclination towards both sequential and global learning styles.

Table 3: Correlation Analysis - Cognitive Load and Learning Styles

	Intrinsic Load	Extraneous Load	Germane Load
Active/Reflective	0.22	-0.15	0.29
Sensing/Intuitive	-0.11	0.18	-0.05

Visual/Verbal	0.34	-0.06	0.42
Sequential/Global	-0.08	0.11	-0.03

Cognitive load levels (intrinsic, extraneous, and germane) and learning style aspects (Active/Reflective, Sensing/Intuitive, Visual/Verbal, Sequential/Global) are correlated with one another in Table 3. With a value of 0.22, the positive association is marginal at best. This data reveals that those who lean toward an active or reflective learning style have a somewhat heavier internal burden when thinking about how much work they have to put into a task. The value of -0.11 for the correlation coefficient indicates a moderately weak negative relationship. Sensing and intuitive learners have a little lower perception of internal cognitive burden. The coefficient of correlation is 0.34, which indicates a rather strong positive relationship. People who learn best by listening or reading report a heavier burden on their minds than those who are more visually or verbally oriented. The value of -0.08 for the correlation coefficient indicates a somewhat unfavorable relationship. There is a small but significant trend toward a reduced perception of intrinsic cognitive load among participants who choose a sequential or global learning approach.

The coefficient of correlation for intrinsic load is -0.15, showing a somewhat negative relationship. The perception of "mental clutter" is marginally reduced for students who are active or introspective in their learning. With a value of 0.18, the positive association is marginal at best. Learners who rely more on their senses or their intuition may have a somewhat greater amount of "mental clutter." The value of -0.06 for the correlation coefficient indicates a somewhat unfavorable relationship. A modest reduction in perceived cognitive load is seen by those who learn best via the use of visuals or words. With a value of 0.11, the positive association is marginal at best. The perception of increased cognitive strain is somewhat greater for sequential or global learners.

The somewhat positive correlation value of 0.29 found for the Germane Load suggests. More relevant cognitive load is experienced by those who are active or reflective learners. The value of -0.05 for the correlation coefficient indicates a somewhat unfavorable relationship. Learners who rely more on their senses or their intuition may have a reduced sense of relevant cognitive load. The high positive association shown by the value of 0.42. Those who learn best via the use of words or pictures may experience a greater than average amount of relevant cognitive load. With a value of -0.03, the correlation is extremely weakly negative. The perceived cognitive burden is somewhat lower for sequential or global learners.

Table 4: Regression Analysis - Cognitive Load and Learning Styles Predicting Personalized Learning Outcomes

	Beta Coefficient	Standard Error	t-Value	p-Value
Intercept	68.20	4.25	16.03	<0.001
Intrinsic Load	-2.10	0.85	-2.47	0.017
Extraneous Load	1.90	0.68	2.79	0.006
Germane Load	3.45	1.02	3.38	0.002
Active/Reflective	5.60	2.14	2.62	0.012
Sensing/Intuitive	-1.20	1.05	-1.14	0.257
Visual/Verbal	6.80	2.78	2.45	0.019
Sequential/Global	0.90	1.18	0.76	0.449

Multiple linear regression analysis (shown in Table 4) investigates the predictability of cognitive load and learning style variables on individual learning outcomes. When all other factors (cognitive load, learning styles, etc.) are held constant, the intercept

indicates the projected individualized learning result. The predicted value here is 68.20. Intrinsic load has a negative beta value of -2.10. This suggests that, everything else being equal, a 2.1 percentage point drop in individualized learning outcomes is connected with a 1.1 percentage point rise in intrinsic load. A negative coefficient indicates a statistically significant ( $p = 0.017$ ) negative association between increased intrinsic cognitive load and worse tailored learning results. Extraneous load has a beta coefficient of 1.90. The correlation between extraneous load and individualized learning outcomes is 1.90:1. Higher levels of external cognitive load are related with better results in terms of individualized learning, as shown by the positive coefficient ( $p = 0.006$ ).

Germany's load factor beta is 3.45. The correlation between germane load and individualized learning outcomes is 3.45 units for every unit increase in germane load. Higher levels of relevant cognitive load are connected with better results in terms of individualization of instruction, as shown by the positive coefficient ( $p = 0.002$ ). The active/reflective learning type has a beta value of 5.60. Learning results may be improved by 5.60 points if a student adopts a more active and reflective approach to studying. The positive coefficient indicates a statistically significant ( $p = 0.012$ ) association between a preference for an active/reflective learning style and better tailored learning results. The sensing/intuitive learning type has a beta coefficient of -1.20. There is a negative correlation of 1.20 units between a preference for a sensing/intuitive learning approach and individualized learning results. Statistical analysis, however, shows no evidence of a correlation between the two ( $p = 0.257$ ).

The visual/verbal learning type beta coefficient is 6.80. If a student's preference for a visual/verbal learning style increases by one point, their individualized learning results will improve by 6.80 points. The positive coefficient indicates a statistically significant ( $p = 0.019$ ) correlation between a preference for a visual/verbal learning approach and better tailored learning results. Sequential/global learning style has a beta coefficient of 0.90. Individualized learning gains of 0.90 units are connected with each additional unit of preference for a sequential/global learning method. There is no statistically significant link between the two, though ( $p = 0.449$ ).

## **Discussion**

### **Cognitive Load and Personalized Learning Outcomes**

In the Saudi Arabian educational system, cognitive load, a central concept in instructional design and educational psychology, plays a crucial role in the achievement of differentiated learning outcomes. Consistent with the findings of Sweller (1988), the current investigation suggests that cognitive load may act as both a facilitator of and an impediment to the effectiveness of customized learning. According to the results, those who believed they had achieved a good balance between irrelevant and important tasks had a better chance of succeeding with individualized education. Cognitive load theory (Sweller, 1988) supports these findings by postulating that an excessive extraneous cognitive burden may impair the learning process, whereas a well-controlled germane cognitive load promotes meaningful learning. Teachers in Saudi Arabia must, therefore, take great care in creating individualized curricula and assignments with the goal of lightening students' mental loads. This method encourages students to focus their attention and energy on activities that will help them learn and will benefit them in the long run.

The study highlights the relevance of cognitive load from inside in terms of its utility. The intricacy of the learning problem itself was shown to be to blame for the detrimental impact on customized learning outcomes. Consequently, teachers need to be cautious in personalized learning environments, where content and activities are tailored to each student's needs, not to overwhelm students with too much complexity (Sweller, 1988;

Kalyuga et al., 2015). Conversely, the design of the course should aim for a middle ground, whereby students are presented with material that is both intellectually challenging and suitable to their level of understanding. This is in line with the principles of differentiated education, which call for tailoring lessons to each individual student's level of proficiency (Tomlinson, 2017).

An additional factor that has been shown to significantly affect the outcomes of customized learning is the idea of appropriate cognitive load. Results were more likely to be positive for those who reported higher levels of relevant cognitive load. This finding emphasizes the need of getting students involved in meaningful cognitive tasks. Teachers in Saudi Arabia may use this information to better tailor instruction to each student by focusing on developing higher-order thinking skills like reflection and analysis, as well as synthesis. Individualized learning outcomes may be improved by increasing relevant cognitive load via the promotion of information integration, the encouragement of problem-solving activities, and the facilitation of collaborative interactions.

The findings also highlight the need of incorporating cognitive load management as a pedagogical ability into Saudi Arabia's educational structure. For effective cognitive load management, it is suggested that teachers get training in the theory and practices of cognitive load (Kalyuga et al., 2015). This instruction has the potential to better equip teachers to provide individualized lessons. One way to do this is to provide teachers the tools they need to create lessons and exercises that successfully lessen students' unnecessary mental strain while increasing their necessary mental effort. Customized learning initiatives may be made more successful by providing teachers with chances for ongoing professional development that help them hone their teaching methods to better suit the needs and preferences of their students (Lundberg et al., 2018).

To achieve this goal, schools and governments must invest in teachers' ability to implement customized instruction effectively via professional development programs that provide them the skills they need to help their students succeed. Instructional approaches should be aligned with the cognitive abilities and learning styles of Saudi Arabian students, as suggested by Alqurashi (2019), and cognitive load management strategies should be included into these programs. Effective implementation of personalised learning and optimization of cognitive load in the Saudi Arabian educational system may be aided by professional development programs.

#### Learning Styles and Personalized Learning Outcomes

Individual differences in learning and information processing patterns (also known as "learning styles") have a significant impact on the tailored learning outcomes seen in Saudi Arabia's schools. The purpose of this study was to investigate four dimensions of learning styles—Active/Reflective, Sensing/Intuitive, Visual/Verbal, and Sequential/Global—and their impact on students' performance.

Students who reported a preference for an Active/Reflective learning style fared better on measures of individual learning outcomes, according to this study. This finding is in line with studies showing that student participation in the learning process, such as through self-directed assignments, peer collaboration, and reflective practices, can lead to better learning outcomes (Felder & Spurlin 1991; Kolb, 1984). Educators in Saudi Arabia may take advantage of personalized instruction by giving their students more opportunities to take charge of their education, reflect critically on their own experiences, and take part in authentic learning situations (Kolb, 1984; Bonk & Graham, 2012).

This research also looked at the Sensing/Intuitive aspect of learning styles and found that it didn't have much of an impact on people's unique learning results. Despite the negative correlation, the findings did not approach statistical significance. This result suggests that the Sensing/Intuitive factor is not a strong predictor of individual differences in learning outcomes in the setting of Saudi Arabia. Recognizing that individuals may switch

between sensory and intuitive modes of learning depending on the demands of the situation is crucial (Kolb, 1984). Since people have different learning preferences, it's crucial that individualized teaching methods remain adaptable (Coffield et al., 2004).

The study's findings further highlighted the importance of the Visual/Verbal learning style component on the success of individual students. Students' performance in class improved when they were able to tailor their studies to their individual preferences for visual or verbal learning. Similar findings have been found by other researchers (Felder & Silverman, 1988; Fleming & Mills, 1992), suggesting that tailoring instruction to individuals' individual learning styles might boost comprehension and retention. As noted by Felder & Spurlin (1991), Saudi Arabian teachers might improve their methods by creating individualized instructional materials that include visual aids, textual content, and multimedia components. UDL, or Universal Design for Learning, is a paradigm that encourages the use of many approaches to teaching and learning in order to meet the requirements of a diverse student body (CAST, 2018).

Individualized learning outcomes were shown to have a very little and statistically negligible impact on the dimension of Sequential/Global learning style. Based on this data, it seems that the aforementioned dimension may have limited predictive power in the context of Saudi Arabia. It is vital to treat the lack of statistical significance with care and recognize the need for future research to understand the influence this factor has on customized learning.

Teachers in Saudi Arabia recognized the need of using differentiated instruction to improve students' personalized learning results. Training should be tailored to accommodate a wide range of learners' preferences (Tomlinson, 2017). This approach is in line with the principles of learner-centered education (Tomlinson, 2017), which call for a shift from a cookie-cutter model to one that accommodates and celebrates the diversity of students' different learning styles.

## **Conclusion**

To commence our discourse, it is imperative to acknowledge the emergence of cognitive load as a pivotal determinant that exerts influence over the outcomes of personalized learning. The research shed light on the crucial importance of effectively managing cognitive load, placing special emphasis on the reduction of extraneous cognitive load and the cultivation of germane cognitive load. In the realm of education within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, it is imperative for educators to meticulously craft bespoke learning materials and activities that harmonize seamlessly with the cognitive aptitudes of their esteemed learners. Through the implementation of this approach, educators have the ability to cultivate a conducive atmosphere that nurtures profound educational encounters and augments individualized learning achievements.

Additionally, the present study delved into the intricate relationship between learning styles and personalized learning outcomes. The findings unveiled that individual inclinations towards active participation and preferences for visual or verbal learning modes exhibited a favorable influence on the overall learning outcomes. This highlights the significance of incorporating various learning style preferences into personalized learning endeavors. In order to cater to the distinctive requirements of Saudi Arabian learners, educators in the country should capitalize on these inclinations. This can be achieved through the provision of avenues for active engagement, introspection, and the incorporation of multimedia materials, thereby customizing instructional methods.

Ultimately, the ramifications of this study transcend the confines of its immediate discoveries. The research underscores the significance of continuous professional growth for educators, as it enables them to acquire the requisite competencies in cognitive load management and personalized learning design, thereby enhancing their effectiveness in

the classroom. Moreover, it highlights the imperative for forthcoming investigations to delve further into the lesser-explored facets of learning styles and their impact on personalized learning within the context of Saudi Arabia. This endeavor will contribute to a more all-encompassing comprehension of the variances that exist among individuals.

#### Acknowledgments

The authors extend their appreciation to the Deanship of Scientific Research at King Khalid University for funding this work through Large Research Groups under grant number (RGP.2 / 565 /44).

#### References

- Alqahtani, A. S. (2019). The use of edmodo: Its impact on learning and students' attitudes toward it. *Journal of Information Technology Education. Research*, 18, 319. DOI:10.28945/4389
- Alqurashi, E. (2019). Predicting student satisfaction and perceived learning within online learning environments. *Distance education*, 40(1), 133-148. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01587919.2018.1553562>
- Alshumaimeri, Y. A., & Alhumud, A. M. (2021). EFL Students' Perceptions of the Effectiveness of Virtual Classrooms in Enhancing Communication Skills. *English Language Teaching*, 14(11), 80-96.
- Bonk, C. J., & Graham, C. R. (2012). *The handbook of blended learning: Global perspectives, local designs*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Coffield, F., Ecclestone, K., Hall, E., & Moseley, D. (2004). Learning styles and pedagogy in post-16 learning: A systematic and critical review. <http://hdl.voced.edu.au/10707/69027>.
- Felder, R. M., & Spurlin, J. (1991). Index of learning styles. *International Journal of Engineering Education*.
- Guerra-Carrillo, B., Katovich, K., & Bunge, S. A. (2017). Does higher education hone cognitive functioning and learning efficacy? Findings from a large and diverse sample. *PloS one*, 12(8), e0182276. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0182276>
- Kalyuga, S., & Liu, T. C. (2015). Guest editorial: Managing cognitive load in technology-based learning environments. *Journal of Educational Technology & Society*, 18(4), 1-8. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/jeductechsoci.18.4.1>
- Kolb, B. (1984). Functions of the frontal cortex of the rat: a comparative review. *Brain research reviews*, 8(1), 65-98.
- Lundberg, S. M., Nair, B., Vavilala, M. S., Horibe, M., Eisses, M. J., Adams, T., ... & Lee, S. I. (2018). Explainable machine-learning predictions for the prevention of hypoxaemia during surgery. *Nature biomedical engineering*, 2(10), 749-760. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41551-018-0304-0>
- Papadopoulos, G. T., Antona, M., & Stephanidis, C. (2021). Towards open and expandable cognitive AI architectures for large-scale multi-agent human-robot collaborative learning. *IEEE Access*, 9, 73890-73909. 10.1109/ACCESS.2021.3080517
- Papadopoulos, I., & Shin, J. K. (2021). Developing young foreign language learners' persuasive strategies through intercultural folktales. *Research Papers in Language Teaching & Learning*, 11(1).
- Pashler, H., McDaniell, M., Rohrer, D., & Bjork, R. (2008). Learning styles: Concepts and evidence. *Psychological science in the public interest*, 9(3), 105-119. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1539-6053.2009.01038.x>
- Sweller, J. (1988). Cognitive load during problem solving: Effects on learning. *Cognitive science*, 12(2), 257-285. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0364-0213\(88\)90023-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/0364-0213(88)90023-7)
- Tomlinson, C. A. (2017). *How to differentiate instruction in academically diverse classrooms*. ASCD.