Teaching, learning and examination in veterinary anatomy: what do students tell us?

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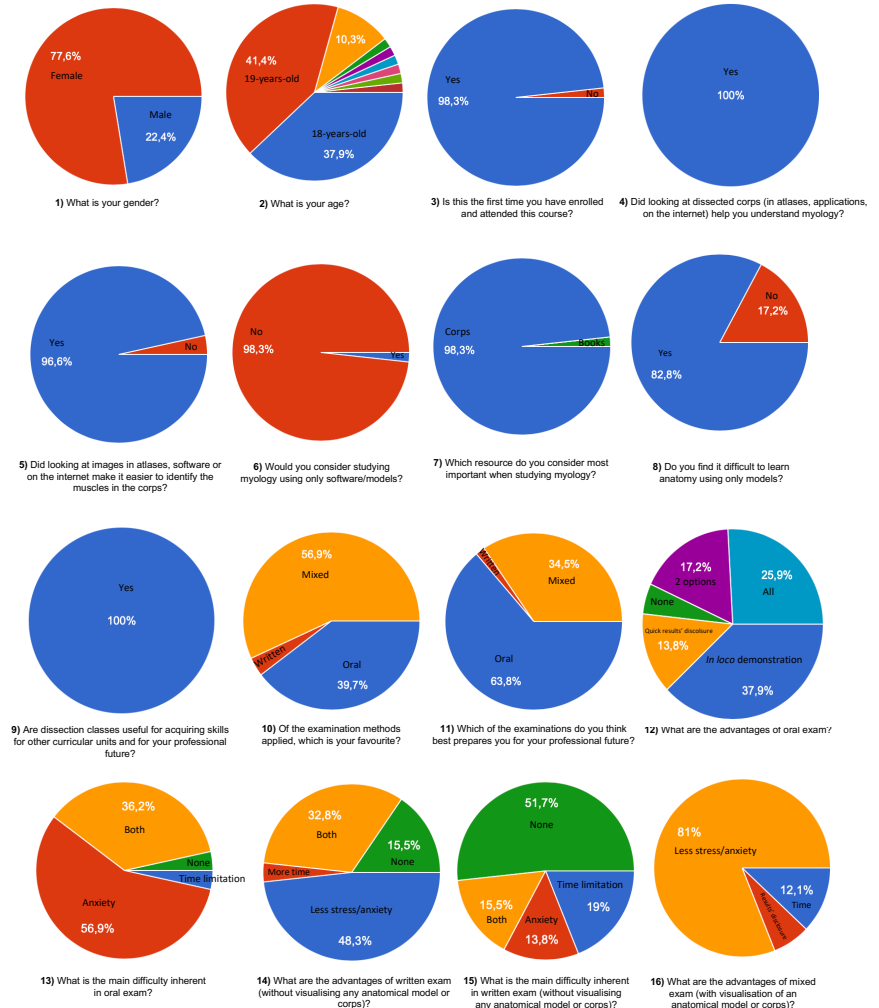
Introduction

With the changes in society, the presence of students in an increasingly digital world, and the controversy associated with the use of corps for educational or experimental purposes, for ethical reasons and issues related to animal welfare, much has been done to circumvent and improve this practice. Our teaching team has been focused on developing pedagogical and examination practices that stimulate students and meet the programme objectives. With this work, we intended to evaluate the perception of the students of the Anatomy I curricular unit in relation to the new examination methods implemented.

Methods

The students belong to the Integrated Master degree in Veterinary Medicine, at University of Évora, Portugal. Using the Google Forms platform, a questionnaire was drawn up with 16 questions and sent out via the Moodle platform. The students answered the questionnaire anonymously.
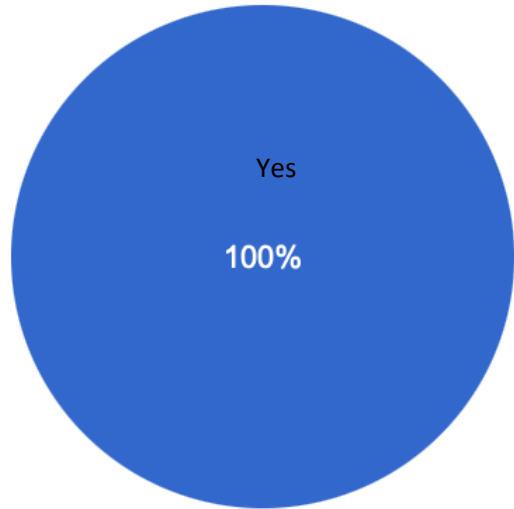
Conclusions

Despite all the alternative methods available for teaching and learning Veterinary Anatomy, students consider the corps to be essential in medical education. Regarding examination methods, students prefer mixed exam, but consider that oral exam is the method that prepares them best.

1) What is your gender?
2) What is your age?
3) Is this the first time you have enrolled and attended this course?
4) Did looking at dissected corps (in atlases, applications, on the internet) help you understand myology?
5) Did looking at images in atlases, software or on the internet make it easier to identify the muscles in the corps?
6) Would you consider studying myology using only software/models?
7) Which resource do you consider most important when studying myology?
8) Do you find it difficult to learn anatomy using only models?
9) Are dissection classes useful for acquiring skills for other curricular units and for your professional future?
10) Of the examination methods applied, which is your favourite?
11) Which of the examinations do you think best prepares you for your professional future?
12) What are the advantages of oral exam?
13) What is the main difficulty inherent in oral exam?
14) What are the advantages of written exam (without visualising any anatomical model or corps)?
15) What is the main difficulty inherent in written exam (without visualising any anatomical model or corps)?
16) What are the advantages of mixed exam (with visualisation of an anatomical model or corps)?
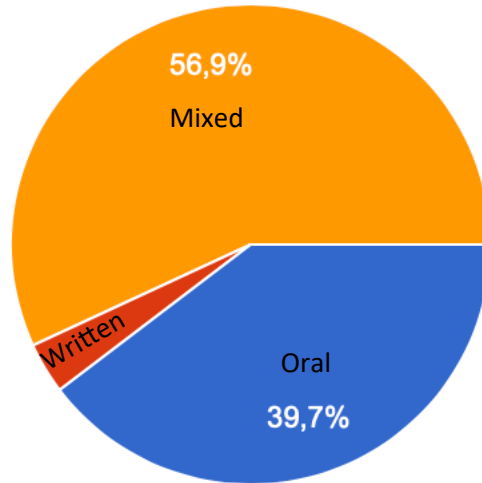
Methods

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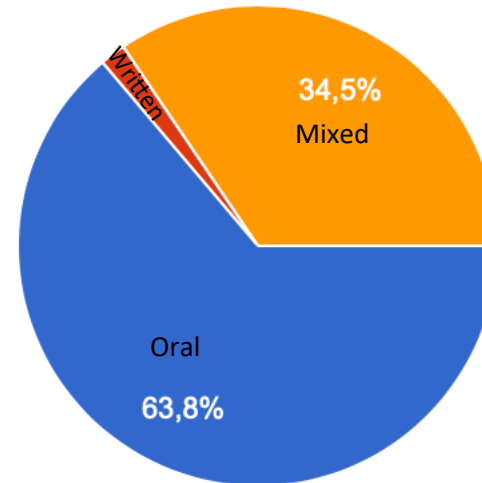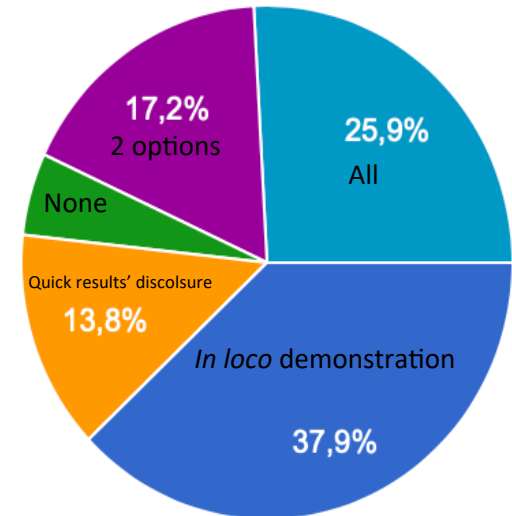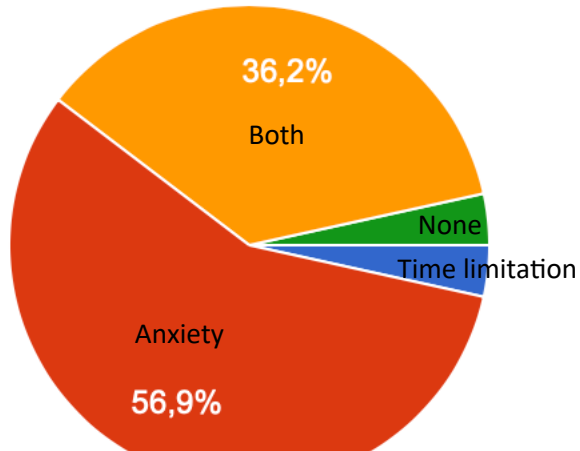
5) Did looking at images in atlases, software or on the internet make it easier to identify the muscles in the corps?

Yes
100%

6) Would you consider studying myology using only software/models?

56,9%
Mixed

Written

Oral
39,7%

7) Which resource do you consider most important when studying myology?

Written

34,5%
Mixed

Oral
63,8%

8) Do you find it difficult to learn anatomy using only models?

17,2%
2 options

None

Quick results' discolsure
13,8%

25,9%
All

In loco demonstration

37,9%

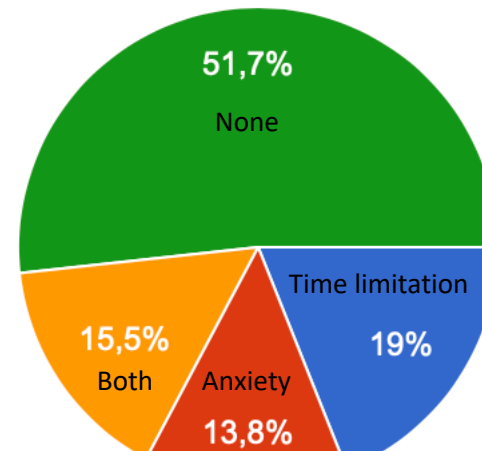**9)** Are dissection classes useful for acquiring skills for other curricular units and for your professional future?

36,2%
Both

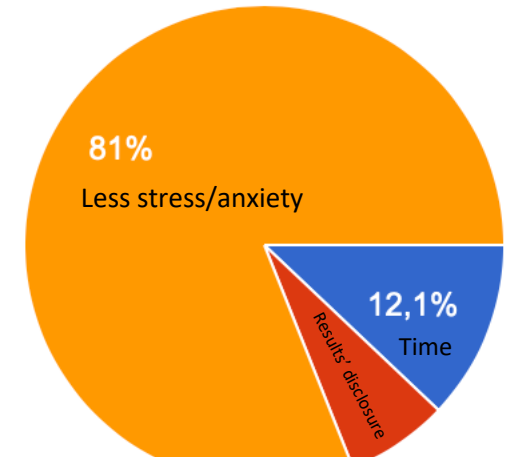None

Time limitation

Anxiety

56,9%

10) Of the examination methods applied, which is your favourite?

32,8%
Both

15,5%
None

More time

Less stress/anxiety

48,3%

11) Which of the examinations do you think best prepares you for your professional future?

51,7%
None

Time limitation

15,5%
Both

Anxiety

19%

13,8%

12) What are the advantages of oral exam?

81%
Less stress/anxiety

12,1%
Time

Results' disclosure

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