Procrastination in Blended Learning
The Role of General Self-efficacy, and Active and Passive Procrastination

Abstract

Despite the growing empirical interest in academic procrastination in the distance learning, there are only limited studies on the determinants of this phenomenon in the blended learning programmes. The present study investigates the relationships between general self-efficacy, two types of procrastination (active and passive procrastination), and the behavioural tendency to postpone learning activities in a blended learning university course using Moodle platform. Results indicate that passive procrastination is strongly positively associated with procrastination in blended learning, while perceived self-efficacy and active procrastination are unrelated to the self-reported task delays during the blended learning course. In addition, the negative link between the reported number of previous completed blended-learning courses and procrastination in blended learning is observed. Practical and theoretical implications of these findings for a blended learning environment are discussed.

Keywords: procrastination, blended learning, self-efficacy, active procrastination, passive procrastination
Introduction

The rapid growth of web-based technologies in the last years has radically changed learning environments, contributing to the increased popularity of blended learning systems in the work and educational settings (Graham, 2006). In general, such systems integrate traditional (synchronous) classroom face-to-face learning activities with (asynchronous) online learning experiences (Garrison & Kanuka, 2004). The results of meta-analysis by Means et al. (2013) proved the effectiveness of blended learning in the education context. However, successful participation in a blended learning course requires the learner to possess self-regulation attributes, including perceived self-efficacy, which plays a key role in motivation to participate in distance learning programmes (Lynch & Dembo, 2004). Thus, due to the self-directed character of learning in the technology-mediated environments, many researchers explore academic procrastination in web-based education from the self-regulatory perspective (Cerezo et al., 2017; Shea & Bidjerano, 2010).

In line with this approach, the present study aimed to investigate the relationships between general self-efficacy, active and passive procrastination, and self-reported procrastination in the blended learning course via Moodle platform among Polish students. Although previous findings show that academic procrastination is a cross-cultural phenomenon, it has been mainly explored in the individualistic countries (Ferrari, O'Callaghan, & Newbegin, 2005; Klassen, Krawchuk, & Rajani, 2008). Moreover, several past studies on procrastination in the academic sphere among Polish students concentrated only on the learning activities during traditional, face-to-face courses (e.g., Jaworska-Gruszczyńska, 2016; Markiewicz & Dziewulska, 2018; Stępień & Topolewska, 2014). Therefore, this study focused on investigating procrastination in blended learning on the sample from the Polish student population.

Theoretical Background of the Research

In general, procrastination is usually identified with a dispositional tendency to engage in a task delay, stemming from self-regulatory deficits (van Eerde, 2003; Steel, 2007). Although some research indicates its prevalence among adults from the general population, who often procrastinate chronically (Ferrari et al., 2005), to date most studies have concentrated on investigating procrastination among university students (Klingsieck, 2013b). Academic procrastination has been found as not only a common, but also costly and problematic phenomenon, negatively affecting students’ achievements and performance at various levels of university
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education (van Eerde, 2003; Kim & Seo, 2015). Moreover, its negative long-
term consequences were also observed in reference to students’ health and well-
being (Sirois & Pychyl, 2013). Given the problematic nature of the dysfunctional
form of procrastination, according to Steel and Klingsieck (2016) the analysis
of its antecedents is of particular significance for projecting the evidence-based
interventions in academic settings. The current study alludes to this research
framework by investigating potential individual differences determinants of
academic procrastination in the online learning context, including general self-
efficacy along with active and passive procrastination.

The tendency to voluntarily delay different activities needed to complete the
scholastic tasks was noted during both traditional and online courses conducted
by universities (see: Dunn, 2014; Gafni & Geri, 2010). Additionally, the negative
consequences of procrastination were also observed in online learning (Goda et
al., 2015), as procrastinators were reported to achieve worse learning outcomes
than non-procrastinators in the blended learning classes on the Moodle learning
platform (Cerezo et al., 2017). The detrimental effects of procrastination during
web-based programmes may be even more severe in comparison to the traditional
classes because of increased intensity of task delays, which is typical of this
form of education. As several authors indicated, the online learning environments
seem to foster the tendency to procrastinate due to the increased autonomy
of the participants, who have to organise their learning activities individually
(Artino & Stephens, 2009; You, 2015). Moreover, Romano et al. (2005) found
that students enrolled in the blended learning courses procrastinated even more
than more independent learners, who preferred less structured online courses
with greater transitional distance. These results are in line with the notion that
self-regulatory processes are critical in distance learning (Cho & Schen, 2013).
Thus, as previous findings demonstrated, the successful participation in the online
programmes involving self-regulatory learning mainly depends on the motivational
factors, metacognition, critical thinking, self-control, and time-management skills
(Broadbent, & Poon, 2015; Michinov et al., 2011, Yamada et al., 2015). For
example, Rakes and Dunn (2010) showed that intrinsic motivation and effort
regulation among online graduate students resulted in decreased tendency to
procrastinate in the academic context, which, in turn, might lead to poorer outcomes
during the online course.

Given the importance of the self-regulatory processes in online learning
(Michinov et al., 2011), the key role in the blended learning environment seems
to be played by another motivational variable – general self-efficacy. According
to Bandura (1994), perceived self-efficacy refers to people’s beliefs that they are
able to influence important life events and constitutes a major factor in the self-
regulation. Consequently, in line with the self-efficacy theory, the character of
individuals’ self-beliefs affects the motivational processes, especially by influencing
the personal goals and standards, determination to succeed, perseverance, and
ability to cope with difficulties. Academic procrastination – on the motivational level described as a self-regulatory failure (Steel, 2007) and widely analysed from a self-regulated learning perspective (Wolters, 2003) – is treated as a result of a poor self-regulation and motivational deficits, accompanying students’ less favourable judgements about own capabilities, mostly noticeable in the academic sphere (Klassen et al., 2008). A large body of research indicates that general self-efficacy along with the domain-specific, academic self-efficacy are negatively related to procrastination in academic settings during traditional, face-to-face classes (e.g., Ferrari, Parker, & Ware, 1992; Haycock, McCarthy, & Skay, 1998; Klassen et al., 2008). The negative relation between both constructs was confirmed in previous metanalyses on procrastination (Steel, 2007; van Eerde, 2003). More recently, Wäschle et al. (2014) found that the interplay between self-efficacy and procrastination is dynamic in nature, and people with low self-efficacy who did not possess the record of previous goal achievement were prone to repeatedly engage in task delays. However, the effects of perceived self-efficacy on procrastination in blended learning have been much less studied. To date, most studies have concentrated on the role of self-efficacy in self-regulation learning with the exclusive usage of online platforms (Broadbent & Poon, 2015). For instance, Cho and Shen (2013) showed that academic self-efficacy played an important role in academic achievement during e-learning courses. Thus, although the motivational factors affecting self-regulation processes during blended learning courses are widely analysed in the pedagogical and psychological literature, only several pieces of quantitative research have focused on students’ self-beliefs, including their academic self-concept (e.g., Broadbent, 2017; Van Laer & Elen, 2019; Yamada et al., 2016).

Additionally, the observable differences in the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in blended learning may stem from the individual differences in general propensity to procrastinate. A useful conceptual framework for investigating academic procrastination in the web-based programmes my provide the distinction between active and passive procrastination proposed by Chu and Choi (2005). According to this concept, active procrastination represents a potentially adaptive side of a deliberate task delay, connected with proper time management, effective self-regulation, high self-efficacy, and positive consequences. Passive procrastination, in turn, embodies a dysfunctional type of procrastination, characterised in terms of self-regulatory deficits, difficulties in coping with time pressure, negative self-efficacy beliefs, and poor personal outcomes (Choi & Moran, 2009; Chu & Choi, 2005). Because procrastination in online learning context in large part derives from deficits in self-regulatory processes (Dunn, 2014; Rakes & Dunn, 2010), it was expected that learning patterns during blended learning courses would be positively associated with a more general concept of passive procrastination, in which procrastination is treated as a self-regulatory failure (Steel, 2007). The existing empirical data indicate that traditional, passive procrastination may
manifest in the form of putting off important learning activities in blended learning courses, which involve self-regulated learning, and are largely based on motivation to work remotely (Broadbent, 2017; Cho & Shen, 2013; Michinov et al., 2011). In contrast, active procrastination may be unrelated to the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in online learning, resulting from motivational deficits.

Research Methodology

Aims and Hypotheses

The current study was a preliminary attempt to identify the individual differences predictors of the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in the blended learning environment among university students from Poland. Given previous findings on the nature of education with the use of e-learning platforms, two categories of potential determinants of procrastination in blended learning were proposed. Firstly, general self-efficacy was tested as a predictor of procrastination in blended learning. Additionally, two kinds of procrastination differentiated by Choi and Moran (2005) within the individual differences framework – active and passive procrastination (c.f. Klingsieck, 2013a) – were analysed in relation to behavioural indicators of procrastination during the face-to-face university courses involving the usage of the Moodle e-learning platform. Thus, the main aim of the present study was to investigate the associations between general self-efficacy, active and passive procrastination, and procrastination in blended learning.

Since self-regulatory deficits may manifest in the form of ineffective time management during the e-learning university course (e.g., Broadbent & Poon, 2015; Cho & Shen, 2013; Yamada et al., 2016), it was hypothesised that general self-efficacy would be negatively related to procrastination in the blended learning environment. In addition, to better understand which factors determine the individual behavioural tendency to engage in putting off learning activities during the blended learning courses, the associations between active and passive procrastination, and self-reported procrastination in blended learning were examined. Because postponing different activities during the online courses in higher education is regarded as an ineffective learning behavioural strategy (Goda et al., 2015), procrastination in e-learning and blended learning was identified with a socially undesirable form of task delay in the academic context. Given the dysfunctional nature of passive procrastination, the significant positive link was expected between passive procrastination and the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in blended learning. Active procrastination was not expected to be significantly correlated with procrastination during the blended learning courses based on the usage of the Moodle platform and face-to-face classes, since this
form of procrastination embodies more adaptive, deliberate task delays leading to positive outcomes rather than impulsive acts of dysfunctional procrastination resulting from poor self-regulation (Corkin, Yu, & Lindt, 2011).

Participants and Procedure
The present study relies on a convenience sample, comprising 108 undergraduate students (90 female, 18 male) from the University of Silesia in Katowice, participating in human resource management programme. The age of participants ranged from 17 to 47 years ($M = 21.33$, $SD = .38$). Of this group, 40.7% were in the first year of studies, while the remaining 41.7% and 17.6% were in their second and third years of studies, respectively. The number of Moodle courses into which respondents were enrolled during their studies varied between 1 and 11 ($M = 5.21$, $SD = 2.51$). Throughout the study, 82 participants (75.9%) were taking part in at least one blended learning course via Moodle platform at the university, combining traditional, face-to-face, and online classes. The present study was anonymous and voluntary. All students provided informed consent and obtained no financial compensation for participating in the study. During the management classes they received general written information about the nature of the study, provided sociodemographic data, and completed four self-report measures grouped in the standardised order.

Measures
The scales applied in the present study assess university students’ general self-efficacy, active and passive procrastination along with the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in blended learning. The scales used to measure different types of procrastination were back-translated.

**General self-efficacy.** General self-efficacy was measured with the General Self-Efficacy Scale (GSES; Schwarzer & Jerusalem, 1995) in Polish adaptation by Schwarzer, Jerusalem, and Juczyński (2001). The 10-item scale makes it possible to assess the perceived overall ability to effectively cope with different life stressors and challenges by the individual (Luszczynska, Scholz, & Schwarzer, 2005). Participants responded to each statement (e.g., “I can always manage to solve difficult problems if I try hard enough”) on the 4-point scale, ranging from 1 (“no”) to 4 (“yes”). Higher scores in the GSES indicate higher levels of general self-efficacy. In the present study the internal consistency of the scale was satisfactory ($\alpha = .84$).

**Active procrastination.** Active procrastination was assessed using the Active Procrastination Scale (APS) developed by Choi and Moran (2009) as a measure of intentional delay in completing the task activities. The APS consists of 16 statements (e.g., “In order to make better use of my time, I intentionally put off some tasks”) rated on a 7-point scale (1 – “not at all true”; 7 – “very true”) with
higher scores reflective of greater active procrastination. In this study the APS demonstrated good reliability ($\alpha = .83$).

**Passive procrastination.** The passive, dysfunctional type of procrastination in the academic context was measured using the Tuckman Procrastination Scale (TPS; Tuckman, 1991). This instrument comprises 16 items with a 7-point, Likert-type response scale (1 – “That’s not me for sure”; 4 – “That’s me for sure”). The scale includes such exemplary statements as “I am an incurable time waster” or “I needlessly delay finishing jobs, even when they’re important”. Higher scores in the TPS indicate grater passive procrastination. The reliability of the scale was good ($\alpha = .85$).

**Procrastination in blended learning.** To assess the university students’ behavioural tendency to procrastinate in a blended learning environment, the 5-item scale by Artino and Stephens (2009) was used. The measure is a modified version of the scales earlier applied by Wolters (2003; 2004) in the research concerning academic procrastination during traditional, face-to-face courses. Respondents were asked to rate each statement on the 7-point response scale, ranging from 1 (“Completely disagree”) to 7 (“Completely agree”). Sample items are: “I often find excuses for not starting the work for this course” and “I frequently put off getting started on the readings and assignments for this course.” Reliability for this scale in the present study was satisfactory ($\alpha = .89$).

**Data Analysis**

In the present study SPSS version 25.0 was used to perform all statistical analyses. In the first step, means, standard deviations, and intercorrelations among the study variables were calculated. Secondly, to test the hypotheses concerning the relations between general self-efficacy, active and passive procrastination, and procrastination in the blended learning environment, the multiple hierarchical regression analysis was conducted.

**Research Results**

Table 1 contains descriptive statistics and zero-order correlations among the study variables. As hypothesised, passive procrastination was positively correlated with the tendency to engage in task delays during the blended learning course ($r = .61$, $p < .001$). On the other hand, active procrastination was not significantly correlated with behavioural procrastination during the university programme using Moodle learning platform ($r = -.08$, $p > .05$). Contrary to the expectations, general self-efficacy was unrelated to procrastination in blended learning ($r = -.15$, $p > .05$). Additionally, two sociodemographic characteristics of the undergraduates
(i.e., year of study and past experience in blended learning) were negatively linked to behavioural procrastination in blended learning. Students from higher years \((r = -0.26, p < .01)\) and those who previously participated in larger numbers of online learning courses \((r = -0.24, p < .01)\) reported lower levels of behavioural procrastination in blended learning. Other sample characteristics, including age, gender, and present participation in a blended learning course, revealed no significant associations with procrastination in blended learning.

Table 1.  
**Descriptive statistics and zero-order correlations among study variables**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>1.</th>
<th>2.</th>
<th>3.</th>
<th>4.</th>
<th>5.</th>
<th>6.</th>
<th>7.</th>
<th>8.</th>
<th>9.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Age</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Gender ((\text{male} = 0, \text{female} = 1))</td>
<td>-13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Year of study</td>
<td>.28**</td>
<td>.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Present participation in a blended learning course ((\text{no} = 0, \text{yes} = 1))</td>
<td>-.37***</td>
<td>-.19*</td>
<td>-.69***</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Number of previous online learning courses</td>
<td>.13</td>
<td>.08</td>
<td>.71***</td>
<td>-.29**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Self-efficacy</td>
<td>.16</td>
<td>-.22*</td>
<td>.01</td>
<td>-.04</td>
<td>.10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Active procrastination</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>-.13</td>
<td>.17</td>
<td>-.04</td>
<td>.16</td>
<td>.40***</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Passive procrastination</td>
<td>-.17</td>
<td>-.01</td>
<td>-.12</td>
<td>.01</td>
<td>-.20*</td>
<td>-.17</td>
<td>-.26*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Procrastination in blended learning</td>
<td>-.12</td>
<td>.02</td>
<td>-.26**</td>
<td>.15</td>
<td>-.24*</td>
<td>-.15</td>
<td>-.08</td>
<td>.61***</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(M)</td>
<td>21.33</td>
<td>.83</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>.76</td>
<td>5.17</td>
<td>30.72</td>
<td>63.23</td>
<td>41.12</td>
<td>21.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(SD)</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>.37</td>
<td>.73</td>
<td>.43</td>
<td>2.51</td>
<td>4.55</td>
<td>14.34</td>
<td>8.18</td>
<td>7.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: \(N = 108, * p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001.\)

To determine if general self-efficacy along with active and passive procrastination significantly predicted the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in blended learning, hierarchical multiple regression analysis was conducted. The results of this analysis are presented in Table 2. In the first step, two control variables were entered into the model, such as year of study and past experience in web-based educational programmes measured by the number of previous online learning courses in which the students had participated. Those variables were significantly linked to procrastination in the previous correlation analysis. Although the first
model, including control variables, was statistically significant \((F(2, 105) = 4.18, p < .05, R^2 = .07)\), year of study and past experience connected with blended learning in higher education were insignificant in predicting procrastination in blended learning. In the second step of the regression analysis, the three hypothesised variables (i.e., self-efficacy, active and passive procrastination), were entered simultaneously into the model. The final model remained statistically significant \((F(5, 102) = 15.05, p < .001, R^2 = .40)\). In this model, year of study was a significant negative predictor \((\beta = -.24, p < .05)\), whereas passive procrastination was a significant positive predictor \((\beta = .60, p < .001)\).

Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Predictors</th>
<th>Procrastination in blended learning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Step 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year of study</td>
<td>-1.84 (1.35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of previous online learning courses</td>
<td>-.32 (.39)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Step 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year of study</td>
<td>-2.41 (1.09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of previous online learning courses</td>
<td>.12 (.32)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-efficacy</td>
<td>-.18 (.13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active procrastination</td>
<td>.08 (.04)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passive procrastination</td>
<td>.54 (.07)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: \(N = 108, * p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001\).

**Discussion**

The phenomenon of academic procrastination both in traditional and web-based courses is widely studied from the individual differences perspective (Steel & Klingsieck, 2016). Additionally, as the online learning environment is described in terms of high autonomy, many studies concerning e-learning or/and blended learning include analyses of self-regulatory strategies accompanying the process of learning (Broadbent, 2017). The current study adopts this approach by examining relationships between general self-efficacy, active and passive procrastination, and the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in the blended learning course delivered via the Moodle online learning platform.
As hypothesised, passive procrastination positively predicted postponing learning activities in the blended learning programme via the Moodle online platform. This result suggests that those students who procrastinate online exhibit more dysfunctional learning habits, which derive from more general individual differences in passive procrastination (cf. Choi & Moran, 2009; Chu & Choi, 2005; Romano et al., 2005). In line with this view, passive procrastination – defined as a dispositional variable (van Eerde, 2003) – manifests in the academic context, among others, in putting off learning activities in the blended learning environment. Moreover, the strong positive linkage between passive procrastination and the behavioural tendency to postpone important tasks during the blended learning course suggest that both constructs are conceptually similar, or even redundant, and may reflect individual deficits in self-regulation (Steel, 2007). However, the problem of potential conceptual overlap of both variables needs further studies.

In contrast to passive procrastination, active procrastination did not serve as a significant predictor of procrastination in blended learning. From the motivational perspective, this finding seems to reflect behavioural differences among passive and active procrastinators, stemming from characteristic for each group’s self-regulatory processes (Choi & Moran, 2009; Chu & Choi, 2005). In accordance with the existing empirical evidence, the adaptive qualities of active procrastination in the educational context were not noted with regard to behavioural procrastination (Hensley, 2014). Consequently, due to the grater self-control, individuals high in active procrastination may use relatively more effective time management strategies and exhibit less detrimental behavioural patterns during the blended learning courses in comparison to passive procrastinators. Nevertheless, the tendency to engage in active procrastination in the web-based courses still may lead to worse personal outcomes than forming a regulated learning habit in the online learning environment (Goda et al., 2015, Corkin et al., 2011).

Contrary to the expectations, general self-efficacy was not associated with procrastination in blended learning. Such a result is inconsistent with the existing literature on self-regulated learning in academic settings (Dunn, 2014; Cho & Shen, 2013) and may derive from using a short, 5-item scale to assess procrastination in blended learning, which could not capture all important aspects of this phenomenon, especially connected with the characteristics of self-regulated learning. Alternatively, the insignificant correlation between both variables may indicate that different factors (e.g., personality, contextual, cognitive) play a key role in this form of academic procrastination (Steel & Klingsieck, 2016). For instance, the construct of academic self-efficacy might be better for estimating individual self-beliefs in the academic domain than the concept of general self-efficacy. Prior results proved that academic self-efficacy played important role in predicting academic achievement in e-learning (Cho & Shen, 2013), and academic procrastination largely depended on self-variables different than general self-efficacy (Klassen et al.,
Thus, further studies on procrastination in blended learning analysed from the self-regulatory perspective should also involve these motivational variables.

An additional negative correlation was found between the number of previous e-learning courses in which the respondent participated and behavioural procrastination in blended learning. These findings suggest that other dispositional factors affect the preference for self-regulated learning during studies. For example, as previous empirical evidence indicates, conscientiousness may affect the individual willingness to engage in procrastination (Steel, 2007). Thus, as Romano et al. (2005) noted, self-selection may be an important factor influencing preference for e-learning programmes, and, in turn, more independent and diligent students tend to choose distant learning university courses that do not require strict supervision. However, future research should test the role of conscientiousness and other personality traits as predictors of procrastination in the blended learning environment. Furthermore, the negative linkage between year of study and procrastination in blended learning suggests that students over time acquire better learning habits and new learning skills useful in the blended learning environment.

Although the present study emphasised the important and largely understudied in Polish culture problem of procrastination in blended learning, it had several significant limitations. First of all, this investigation was correlational in nature and relied exclusively on the self-reported data, including a single, 5-item, comprehensive scale used to measure procrastination in blended learning. Meanwhile, prior findings indicate that further experimental studies on procrastination in blended learning based on observable data are needed, especially as the basis of determining implications of learning styles for online instructors and students (Artino & Stephens, 2009). The further limitation is connected with the relatively small size and convenience character of the research sample. Taking into account the preliminary nature of the present study, it is worth to replicate it on a larger, more diverse community sample, comprising students from different faculties. Despite the worldwide popularity of Moodle as an open source online management learning system in higher education, future research on procrastination in blended learning should also involve other web-based course platforms (Brandl, 2005). Adopting a broader perspective in studies concerning distance learning is all the more important as past findings indicate that various learning solutions differ significantly in terms of usability (Martin et al., 2008) and adaptivity (Reyes et al., 2009). An additional problem with this study was that it included only general self-efficacy along with active and passive procrastination as possible predictors of the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in blended learning. However, as the psychological antecedents of academic procrastination may be examined from different perspectives (Steel & Klingsieck, 2016), the approach involving solely individual differences variables, which was adopted in this study, should be extended in the next studies. Especially, as previous research shows, interesting findings could emerge by testing potential personality, cognitive, affective, and
situational predictors of procrastination during the web-based programmes dedicated to universities (Fernie et al., 2017; Steel & Klingsieck, 2016; You & Kang, 2014). For example, Krause, Stark, and Mandl (2009) found that such contextual variable as the teacher’s feedback interventions had beneficial effects on the student’s objective learning outcomes by reducing knowledge deficits. Accordingly, taking such a broad approach in studies on determinants of blended learning might lead to establishing new methods of intervention in online education aimed at minimalising academic procrastination.

The present study has several important theoretical and practical implications in the context of online learning. Firstly, it contributes to the existing literature on academic procrastination in asynchronous, online classes by examining the associations between individual differences variables and the behavioural tendency to procrastinate during online learning courses in higher education. As mentioned earlier, in line with past findings (Steel, & Klingsieck, 2016), the obtained results highlight the importance of analysing academic procrastination from different theoretical perspectives, not only from the perspective concentrating on the self-regulatory mechanisms in learning and teaching processes. However, given the preliminary and cross-sectional character of the current study, further research in the field of educational psychology is needed. Moreover, the obtained results may be useful in planning online teaching strategies (cf. Cho & Shen, 2013). The strong positive linkage between passive procrastination and its behavioural manifestations in the online learning environment demonstrates that the strategies for intervention and prevention of procrastination in higher education should focus on the more general tendency to delay scholastic tasks. This notion is consistent with the recommendation by Kachgal, Hansen, and Nutter (2001), who postulate increasing students’ self-awareness of own tendency to procrastinate as a primary intervention in the online learning environment.

Conclusions

To summarise, this study aimed to investigate relationships between general self-efficacy, active and passive procrastination, and the behavioural tendency to procrastinate in blended learning. As hypothesised, passive procrastination was positively linked to procrastination in blended learning, indicating that both constructs might share the same conceptual core, connected with self-regulatory deficits. In contrast, active procrastination revealed statistically insignificant correlation with behavioural procrastination in blended learning. These results highlight the conceptual differences between active and passive task delays. Moreover, contrary to expectations, perceived self-efficacy displayed nonsignificant
relationship with procrastination in blended learning. Such findings suggest that future research on procrastination in blended learning should involve other dispositional and situational factors, which might better predict the tendency to put off learning activities in web-based programmes. The additional analysis of relationships between the sociodemographic characteristics of the sample and the hypothesised variables revealed that students’ previous experience in the blended learning environment (measured by the number of successfully completed blended learning courses in the past) was negatively associated with procrastination in blended learning. This relation might be explained in light of the hypothesis of self-selection in distance learning courses (Romano et al., 2005). Probably more conscientious and independent individuals are prone to choose classes involving online learning activities that require and promote such dispositions. However, future research, based on a larger and more diverse sample from the general population, is needed in order to test this assumption.

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**Streszczenie**

Pomimo wzrastającego zainteresowania empirycznego prokrastynacją akademicką w kontekście kształcenia na odległość, istnieje niewiele badań poświęconych temu zjawisku w odniesieniu do programów blended learning. W przeprowadzonym badaniu analizowano zależności między uogólnionym poczuciem własnej skuteczności, dwoma rodzajami prokrastynacji (aktywną i pasywną prokrastynacją) oraz behawioralną tendencją do odkładania w czasie aktywności związanych z nauką w trakcie uniwersyteckiego kursu z wykorzystaniem platformy Moodle. Uzyskane wyniki pokazały, że pasywna prokrastynacja wykazuje silny negatywny związek z prokrastynacją w blended learningu, podczas gdy spostrzegane poczucie własnej skuteczności oraz aktywna prokrastynacja są niepowiązane z deklarowanym odkładaniem w czasie zadań podczas kursu blended learning. Dodatkowo wykazano istnienie negatywnego związku między zgłaszaną liczbą ukończonych wcześniej kursów blended learning a prokrastynacją w blended learningu. Praktyczne i teoretyczne implikacje otrzymanych wyników w odniesieniu do nauczania z wykorzystaniem metody blended learning zostały omówione w podsumowaniu.

Słowa kluczowe: prokrastynacja, blended learning, poczucie własnej skuteczności, aktywna prokrastynacja, pasywna prokrastynacja
Elżbieta Sanecka

**Procrastination in Blended Learning: The Role of Own Productivity and Active or Passive Procrastination**

**Annotation**

Despite the growing empirical interest in academic procrastination in the context of distance education, there is insufficient research dedicated to this phenomenon in the blended learning environment. In the course of the conducted study, the dependence between the generalized feeling of own productivity, two types of procrastination (i.e., active and passive) and a behavioral tendency to postpone actions, related to the acquisition of knowledge through the platform Moodle, was analyzed. The obtained results showed that passive procrastination demonstrates a strong negative relation with procrastination in blended learning, whereas the perceived feeling of own productivity and active procrastination are not related to the declared postponement of tasks during the blended learning course. Moreover, it was shown a negative relation between the number of blended learning courses completed in a shorter period of time and procrastination, associated with blended learning. The practical and theoretical implications of the obtained results, related to teaching using the blended learning method, are discussed in the conclusions.

**Keywords:** procrastination, blended learning, self-efficacy, active procrastination, passive procrastination

Elżbieta Sanecka

**Procrastinación en el blended learning: el papel de la autoeficacia y la procrastinación activa y pasiva**

**Resumen**

A pesar del creciente interés empírico en la procrastinación académica en el contexto del aprendizaje a distancia, hay pocos estudios dedicados a este fenómeno en relación con los programas del blended learning (aprendizaje combinado). El estudio realizado analizó la relación entre la autoeficacia generalizada, dos tipos de procrastinación (es decir, la procrastinación activa y pasiva) y una tendencia conductual a posponer las actividades relacionadas con el aprendizaje durante el curso académico utilizando la plataforma Moodle. Los resultados obtenidos mostraron que la procrastinación pasiva muestra una fuerte relación negativa con la procrastinación en el blended learning, mientras que la autoeficacia y la procrastinación activa no están relacionadas con el aplazamiento declarado de tareas durante el curso del blended learning. Además, se mostró una relación negativa entre la cantidad de cursos del blended learning completados previamente y la procrastinación en el blended learning. Las implicaciones prácticas y teóricas de los resultados obtenidos en relación con la enseñanza utilizando el método del blended learning se describen en las conclusiones.

**Palabras clave:** procrastinación, blended learning, autoeficacia, procrastinación activa, procrastinación pasiva