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ONLINE LEARNING BY MEANS OF ZOOM IN THE PERIOD OF THE COVID-19 CRISIS, AS PERCEIVED BY STUDENTS IN HIGHER STUDIES [ABSTRACT]

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ABSTRACT

Aim/Purpose	This study examined students' attitudes to characteristics of learning in Zoom, attitudes to the quality of teaching in Zoom and ways of learning, about a year after the outbreak of the COVID-19 crisis.
Background	COVID-19 crisis caused exposure to online learning on the largest scale known in human history, and that together with the challenges of the transition to online learning, there are also opportunities to change perceptions of teaching and learning, and to include new ways in the learning and teaching process in higher education.
Methodology	The research question was: What are students' attitudes to the characteristics of learning in Zoom, the quality of teaching in Zoom and ways of learning in Zoom? The study is a quantitative one, the questionnaire contained closed questions, and 712 students who study in higher education institutions in Israel participated in the study.
Contribution	Facilitators, inhibitors, implications and recommendations were identified.
Findings	The findings showed that most students are satisfied with learning in Zoom, and that there was a significant improvement in the students' attitudes towards learning in Zoom during their studies in the shadow of Covid-19. It was found that older students have more positive attitudes towards learning in Zoom, and learning disorders are connected to more negative attitudes towards learning in Zoom; however, there was also an improvement in the attitudes of students

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	with learning disorders, during their learning experience in the shadow of COVID-19.
Recommendations for Practitioners	This study shows that most students are satisfied with learning in Zoom and that there was a significant improvement in students' attitudes towards learning in Zoom during their studies in the shadow of COVID-19, a year after the outbreak of the COVID-19 crisis.
Recommendations for Researchers	It was found that older students have more positive attitudes towards learning in Zoom, and learning disorders are connected to more negative attitudes towards distance learning; however, among students with learning disorders there was also an improvement in attitudes during their studies in the shadow of COVID-19.
Impact on Society	The present crisis could be a catalyst for processes that have been taking place in recent years in the use of technology in teaching and learning and in the transition to online learning.
Future Research	Future research on the effectiveness of learning by means of Zoom in higher education could examine parameters such as evaluation of the learners' achievements, the quality of the assignments presented by the students, meeting schedules, whether lecturers manage to teach all the subject matter, the quality of the discussions in Zoom, use of technological tools, use of 21st century skills and similar.
Keywords	information and communication technology (ICT); distance learning; digital environment; Zoom; Zoom fatigue; COVID-19

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