

PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS INFLUENCING STUDENT MOTIVATION

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Abstract: This article analyzes psychological variables that influence student motivation in educational settings. Drawing from theories of intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, the study identifies key factors such as self-efficacy, goal orientation, emotional climate, and teacher–student relationships.

Keywords: motivation; self-efficacy; learning psychology; student engagement; goal orientation

Introduction

Motivation plays a crucial role in determining how actively and effectively students participate in learning processes. Psychological research shows that motivation is shaped by personal beliefs, emotions, and environmental influences.

Main Discussion

Self-efficacy directly affects a learner's persistence and confidence. Students with high self-efficacy are more likely to take on challenging tasks. Goal orientation defines whether learners seek mastery or merely performance. A supportive emotional climate reduces anxiety and fosters engagement. Teacher–student relationships influence feelings of belonging and trust, which are essential motivators.

External factors such as rewards and feedback can boost motivation, but internal factors like autonomy, meaning, and interest produce stronger, long-lasting engagement.

Conclusion

Understanding psychological factors that shape motivation helps educators foster environments where students feel competent, supported, and empowered. Motivation develops best when instruction promotes autonomy, relevance, and emotional well-being.

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