Recent Trends in E-Teaching and Learning Context

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Abstract

The idea of electronic-learning is based on technology intervene globally, this learning approach has attained greater attention in view of educational perspective and the advantages of e-learning in educational viewpoint. The present study will provide insights of face-to-face teaching as well as e- learning and teaching importance and how it influenced the 21st century teaching learning process. However, the number of diverse e-learning programs available to crutch teaching and learning process which is found to be expanding robustly. The chief concern for educational developers as well as teachers in education sector was selection of e-technology. However, it is well ball parked that whichever teaching need best supports as well as provide optimum learning opportunities is regarded as beneficial and best e-learning technology. Hence, the present study highlights diverse e-technologies utilized in educational sector and which would be better in educational institutes for towards online learning to bridges the gap between a student and a teacher from whichever different geographical location they are present. The educational system around the world is undergoing increasing pressure to use the new information and communication technology to acquaint students with the knowledge and information and require in this techno-savvy Era. To develop a knowledge society, it is essential to integrate ICT at all levels of the education system, e-content is a very powerful tool of education. It is the latest method of instruction that has attracted the attention of learners and teachers of all instruction systems. It is a valuable resource for the development of an information rich society where everyone, irrespective of caste, religion, race, region, gender bias is empowered to create, receive share and utilize information and knowledge for their economic, social, cultural, political, etc. upliftment and development. E-learning and e-teaching systems are involved in teachers' professional activities and development if e-learning/e-teaching is the technology which supports the process of teachers' learning of university courses, the teacher is in the position of e-learner, if e-learning/e-teaching is the content of the teachers' institution curricula to be applied in the teaching process, the teacher switches from the position of 21st century e-Learner to the one of e-teacher in blended/ e-learning systems.

Keywords: Blended Mode, Digital, E-Platform, E-Teaching and Learning, Programs, Students, Teacher Role, Technology

Introduction

E-Learning provides access to higher education for a wide range of learners, which include traditional students in educational institution classrooms, individuals in the workplace seeking to formalize their work experience through the pursuit of a degree/to transition into a different career path, and those who need flexible scheduling options or prefer to not participate in traditional learning environments. These learners can select courses and degree programs from institutions of higher education in their local areas/providers across the globe.

E-Learning increases access, which has historically been denied to many due to elite education systems and offers a choice in providers, programs, scheduling, cost, and content. Despite the demand, involving university instructors in developing, implementing, and teaching online courses can be challenging due to concerns with quality, nontraditional methods of interaction with students, low student performance, pedagogical skill, technological knowledge, workload, time intensiveness, large class sizes, and course ownership. Learners may struggle with the discipline needed in eLearning contexts, which are generally less structured than face-to-face settings, feel intimidated by the 21st century technological expertise required to navigate courses and submit assignments, lack motivation, or simply be convinced that learning in a more traditional format in which they can engage in class with other learners and an instructor is preferable.

Methodology

The study has been done the secondary sources of data related to "Recent Trends in E-Teaching and Learning Context"

Concept of Digital Learning

In accordance to Aparicio et al., 2016 from earlier period the electronic-learning concept was present but was not recognized by many. There are several educational learning carried out with the use of computers from online learning, virtual learning, distance education, m-learning and MOOC to several other e-learning's The E-learning pattern should not be mixed with the concept of hybrid learning, which clearly defines that education is always beneficial when we combine the active learning of face to face and electronic learning based on needs of students (Garrison 2009) and common kinds of e-learning technology are Information technology utilized to deliver training programs/conduction of workshops, the educational learning program from electronic platforms, the online platform training programs with digital tools involves interactivity between teachers/peers/students and the educational oriented concept to sustain teaching learning process (Sangrà et al., 2012). However, the main concept of digital learning is to rely on the web-based system of e materials for students to learn their subjects in an enjoyable, creative thinking along with open interactive learning environment to support and increase the learning process (Rodrigues et al., 2019). Moreover, the usage of this technology sometimes disturbs the learning process in accordance to (Garrison 2017). Every latest technology has certain drawbacks along with positive impact. Thus, the concept of e learning must be focused on student centric and next generation needs to follow such emerging educational practice. E-Learning is imparting and facilitating knowledge on media, electronic devices like that on the Internet, CD-ROMs, and DVDs, streaming media etc. It has drifted the method of learning imparted to the students. Unlike conventional chalk and board style of schooling, eLearning makes giving and receiving simpler, prolific, and productive. The word e-learning is used synonymously with virtual knowledge, online education, computer-based training, web-based knowledge, and networked education. Whatever may be the explanation of e-learning, it is revamping the style traditional academia teaches and the learners' grasp.The idea of e-learning is to empower learners to absorb personal accomplishment, basic schooling or to obtain a degree certificate, without actually attending the school or university or any other academic institute. Another idea is to apply Elearning to all levels of schooling to ensure students grasp the lessons adequately. Psychologists believe that the audiovisual method of teaching creates a disciplined learning environment and fosters effective student engagement in the class. The next benefit of learning online or on electronic media assures you are in sync with advanced learners. Also, digital and self-initiated learning can be acquired at the desired locations. One need not wander in search of learning. E-Learning is versatile and ample to suit all learning methods.

E-Learning Programs

The online based learning of education has been categorized into computer based and secondly internet-based e learning procedure (Algahtani 2011). Nevertheless, these categorizations are solely based on the extent of their engagement in education along with their timing of interaction. The computer-based learning depends on both software as well as hardware which is commonly regarded as computer assisted learning technology. Nonetheless, nowadays the instructors are using the software for taking classes. The smart class rooms have been established in all educational institutes and the computer assisted learning method is conventional method within the classrooms and employed as an interactive software for teaching learning process and the importance of computer-based learning is we can store our information and retrieve it when needed. The advancement of web-based learning which is more improved in comparison to computer based educational learning program as all contents are easily accessible form internet, email, several books available online which can be freely downloaded (Almosa 2001). Thus, the easy access from any geographical location with or without assistance is an exclusive network for learning (Almosa, 2005 and Zeitoun 2008).

Types of e-Learning
- Completely online
- Online and direct communication
- Chat rooms/ video-audio conferencing
- Emails, google, etc.
- Self-study and web-based learning
- Audio and Visuals

Electronic Teaching

Electronic Teaching involves computational systems that communicate and cooperate with learners at many levels. These systems might use the World Wide Web/CD/DVD-ROM and asynchronous learning environments to provide lectures outside the classroom. They might provide customized responses and on-demand advice through intelligent interfaces, inference mechanisms and cognitive models of the learner. Much of the machine teaching research in computer science is multi-disciplinary, with strong ties to research in cognitive science, education, engineering, and to other computer science researchers in artificial intelligence, networking, machine learning, information retrieval and multimedia. E-education or e-learning is the delivery of education/training by electronic teaching methods. This electronic method can be a computer/smartphone where teaching material is accessed by use of the internet usually. Other than the internet, CDs, DVDs, television and other similar tools can also be used for E-learning. Several E-learning portals are offering online courses in India and abroad now. Many people avail these professional certificate courses to enhance their learning and career. E-learning has several benefits over traditional modes of learning in 21st century India.

Technology and Educational System

Nevertheless, there are many well accepted Internet based online education system. Among them the blackboard tool is traditional which can be opted both in traditional teaching pattern as well as in web-based learning. It provides a structure to learners for delivery of the course in more appropriate manner so that can enhance learning outcomes (Iskander, 2008). The blackboard learning always remained as a comprehensive technology for teaching learning process as it helps to share the content appropriately and supports the learning power among students (BlackboardInc.

2012). Furthermore, blackboard also supports academic staff in course management, ranking, interaction with students, and observing the class progression (Tarhini et al., 2016). The readiness and keen interest shown by students to adapt the latest trend of using digital mode environment for learning has created a successful educational environment. MOOCs have enhanced the Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) (Holt 2007). Various courses are being offered to different subject areas from beginning to advanced stage for the benefit of students and based on available information from several literature MOOCs was found to be effective as well as collaborative learning process for communication and interactions. Therefore, MOOCs is initiating the theory of connectives with much satisfaction among the students and instructors (Siemens 2005; Ajzen 1991 and Liyana Gunawardena 2013).

Blended Learning Importance

The effectiveness of blended learning and its crucial role in academic achievement is not based on gender (Oxford Group, 2013). The attainment of program outcomes is specifically based on the connectivity/linkage of online and offline participation using latest trends of smart class with help of computer applications (Picciano & Seaman, 2007). Therefore, with blended form of learning there is high proficiency in achieving success in student learning outcomes. Several researchers agree and have given confirmation on establishment of blended learning which built confidence in teachers as well as students (Hadad, 2007). However, several other literature reports pointing on the lack of skills in utilizing the ICT tools both by students as well as instructor (Shraim and Khlaif 2010) Hence, the lack of proper utilization resulted in failure in e-learning and blended learning. Therefore, user must have well practice in computer applications for the success of blended learning to become effective method of teaching learning process (Abubakar & Adetimirin, 2015).

Advantages of e-Learning in Education

- The online learning style is best suited for all.
- This is a revolution in the learning genre.
- The information, now, can be accessed, talked, absorbed and shared anywhere.
- E-Learning has made education easy for everyone including office-goers, housewives etc., without compromising much.
- E-Learning is effective and powerful.
- It makes information easy to grasp and absorb. It imparts enhanced ability to learn and implement among the learners.
- The Audio-Visuals help in remembering knowledge for a longer time.
- E-Learning allows teachers a higher degree of coverage to deliver the content regularly.
- Student Benefits
- Improves attitude and confidence especially for 'at risk' students
- Provides instructional opportunities otherwise not available
- Increase opportunities for student-constructed learning
- Maximize student collaboration on projects
- Develop mastery of vocational and workforce skills
- Significantly improves student problem-solving skills
- Improves writing skills and attitudes about writing for urban LEP students
- Improves writing skills as a result of using telecommunications
- Increases the preparation of students for most careers and vocations.

Teacher Role

Teachers can be in a position of the creator of the e-teaching process or the user of the e-teaching/ e-learning attainment. Teachers need to re-think their underlying assumptions about teaching, about the learning process, and, most fundamentally, about their role as educators. He/she activities in e-teaching scenarios can be broken into two major tasks: providing the content for the students and supporting communication between students and tutors. Both tasks pose problems to teachers who are used to follow more traditional teaching methods so far. Therefore, 21st century teachers and e-teachers must be able to organize different types of e-learning and e-teaching scenarios.

Conclusion and Summary

Current study prime focus is on the recent trends in e-learning context and the face to face plus the digital mode when combined together, is termed as blended learning and regarded as effective learning environment for better attainment of 21st century student outcomes. All educational institutions must follow the digital approaches through installation of learning management systems along with strong internet connections so as to progress the effective learning through the latest technology especially in India. The administration and management of e-learning have rapidly become an important component in addressing education at all levels. An ever-increasing number of academic programs are developing e-learning courses and programs, while those already involved are expanding their activities. While these opportunities are welcome developments, new and untried delivery systems test conventional assumptions, raising questions as to the essential nature and content of an educational experience and the resources required to support IT and e-learning. To make a standard of quality, which will reinforce the intent of the e-learning programs and the quality of instruction that students receive, programs must incorporate standards, which are evaluative through a formative and summative format. Access and inclusion should be the main values encouraging the use of 21st century technologies to deliver/enhance instruction. The pursuit of technology, for the sake of technology itself, can become a deterrent for developing human and fiscal resources and can impede the mission of institutions and their capacity to meet the needs of all modern students.

Educational Implications and Suggestions

- E-learning can functionally explain the processes and dimensions of e-education, e-teaching, e-learning, etc.
- It selects and apply the adequate technologies and tools in the effective creation of different e-learning solutions
- It understands the functioning of the hardware, software and communication e-learning infrastructure
- It creates a configuration and apply different multimedia devices, software tools, video conferencing solutions in the process of e-learning development and realization
- It designs, develop and realize e-learning procedures based on the specific educational needs of individuals, groups and systems
- It realizes the multimedia project and teaching procedures on his or her own
- It assesses instructional frame for infrastructure defining and net demands for e-learning
- It analyses and improve roles of e-educator, e-manager, e-administrator
- It manages one's learning and make plans for professional development
- It resolves e-educational problems and innovate e-learning, e-teaching process, etc.

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