

“RESEARCH-BASED TRANSFORMATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION: TRADITION AS A BASIS FOR INNOVATION” International Conference on Teacher Education

THE EFFECTIVENESS AND CHALLENGES OF ONLINE LEARNING

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Abstract. *Online learning is spreading all over the world. Exploring the realm of virtual education unveils both its promising effectiveness and challenges that it presents. In this article delves into the dynamic landscape of online learning, examining its efficacy in facilitating education while also navigating the obstacles it poses. This article is a collection of necessary information about online learning using by the articles, as well as, it serves as a comprehensive resource on the topic.*

Keywords: *online learning, effectiveness, challenges, method.*

Introduction

All over the world, most of students want to learn several field at the same time, but when they face to some challenges, they just use online teaching method. This method can help to make comfortable participating to students from long distance. A survey of 2,500 U.S colleges and universities found 5,6 million students were enrolled in at least one online class (Allen and Seaman 2010). This method increase the learners' ability to technically access online courses (Gina, Valentin, Alexandra & Geanina 2021). The goal of this essay is to examine all the effectiveness and conundrum of this method.

Although online learning is a tool, which is useful, learners sometimes face some difficulties. It should be stated that especially during the Covid-19 pandemic, everyone demanded to switch to gadgets with online learning system, which was covered by Yurtinus and Veronika in 2021.

Online learning has become increasingly popular in recent years, offering students the flexibility to access education from anywhere, at any time. While this form of learning can be highly effective, it also comes with its own set of disadvantages. The benefits of online learning have been extensively researched, and the drawbacks and limitations that students may experience have also been taken into account. Studies by Irfan and Iman (2020), Hazwani et al. (2017), Awal et al. (2020), Wildana et al. (2020), Muhammad and Kainat (2020), and Nurul Haidah et al. (2020)

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are a few of them. One of the main benefits of online learning is the personalized approach it allows for students. With the ability to learn with their own schedule, students can tailor their education to fit their needs. This can lead to a deeper understanding of the material and a more engaging learning experience. Additionally, online learning often provides access to a wider range of resources and materials, allowing students to explore different perspectives.

Effectiveness of Online Learning

One of the key advantages of online learning is its flexibility. Students can access course materials and lectures at their own convenience, allowing them to learn at their own pace. This flexibility is particularly beneficial for individuals who have other commitments such as work or family responsibilities.

Furthermore, online learning eliminates geographical barriers, making education accessible to a wider audience. Students from different parts of the world can enroll in courses offered by prestigious universities and educational institutions without the need for relocation. Heng and Sol (2021) stated that this accessibility promotes diversity and inclusivity in education.

Another huge advantage of online learning is that it provides self-paced learning options, enabling students to study at a speed that suits their learning style and abilities. This personalized approach can enhance the learning experience and allow students to focus on areas where they need more time and practice.

Therefore, online learning platforms offer a variety of resources such as multimedia content, discussion forums, interactive quizzes, and virtual simulations. These resources engage students in different ways and cater to various learning preferences, promoting a richer learning experience.

Challenges of online learning

However, online learning also presents unique drawbacks. One of the main challenges is the lack of face-to-face interaction with instructors and classmates. This can make it difficult for students to ask questions and engage in meaningful discussions. Additionally, the self-discipline required for online learning can be a struggle for some students. Without the structure of a traditional classroom setting, it can be easy to procrastinate and fall behind in coursework.

Online learning has become increasingly popular in recent years, and especially so during the COVID-19 pandemic. Basar and et all (2021) stated that it offers numerous advantages such as flexibility, accessibility, and a wide range of course options. However, online learning also presents certain challenges. As it is mentioned above, online learning lacks the face-to-face interaction found in traditional

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classroom settings. This can limit social interactions, peer-to-peer learning, and immediate clarification of doubts. Some students may find it challenging to stay motivated and engaged without the physical presence of classmates and instructors. As we know that online learning heavily relies on technology, and technical issues can hinder the learning process. Poor internet connectivity, software glitches, or hardware problems can disrupt lectures, assignments, and assessments. Students and instructors need to have the necessary technical skills to navigate online learning platforms effectively.

Regarding another downside of online learning can be considered that it requires self-discipline and effective time management skills. Without a fixed schedule and regular classroom attendance, students must take responsibility for organizing their study time, meeting deadlines, and staying motivated. Agustina, Matra and Karimah. (2020) discussed that procrastination and lack of structure can negatively influence learning outcomes. In addition, some subjects, such as laboratory-based sciences or certain vocational courses, require hands-on and practical learning experiences. Online learning may face challenges in providing equivalent practical training or opportunities for real-world application, which can influence the overall learning experience in these fields.

As a last drawback of online learning can be stated that it involves spending long hours in front of screens, which can lead to eye strain, fatigue, and other health issues. Balancing screen time with breaks and physical activity is essential for students' well-being.

Conclusion

In conclusion, online learning offers flexibility, accessibility, and a variety of resources, making it an effective mode of education. However, challenges such as limited face-to-face interactions, technical issues, self-discipline requirements, limited hands-on learning, and increased screen time need to be addressed to ensure a successful online learning experience. Institutions and learners must adapt to these challenges by providing adequate support, fostering engagement, and leveraging technology effectively.

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