Original Research Article

CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ONLINE DISTANCE LEARNING

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Abstract:

This test examines online distance learning (ODL) as a tool and challenges faced by the institution as applied education programmes at different educational levels with a special focus on the digital tools employed in such programmes. It aims to provide an overview of the current online curriculums focusing on the potential benefits and drawbacks of ODL from the perspectives of teachers involved in online learning courses. This article presents the benefits and challenges faced by educators as well as learners in distance digital learning. It demonstrates that there are variations among different programmes in their requirements of online communication and interaction based on the nature of a programme. Finally, the article sets out some future challenges for traditional education specialists using information and communication technology and discusses the kinds of improvements needed in digital tools and virtual environments.

Keywords: *Online Learning, Challenge of Distance Learning, ODL, Online Education.*

Introduction:

Merriam Webster defines distance learning as, "a method of study where teachers and students do not meet in a classroom but use the Internet, e-mail, mail, etc., to have classes." Simply put, distance learning is when students are separated from teachers and peers. This means that students learn remotely and do not have face-to-face learning with instructors or other students.

In a developing country like India, education remains a dream for several. Though we live in the 21st century there are many barriers within the formal education system. As formal education isn't so economical Non-Formal education system has been gaining more popularity in recent years. Distance learning could be a modern way of learning allowing students to check within their own space and time without being physically present within the school/college/university. As distance learning plays a vital role in today's education system it's increased the quantity of programs year on year.

Challenges of Online Distance Learning:

Research has proven that successful "time management is related to greater academic performance and lower levels of tension in students. "Unfortunately, the identical research also uncovered that "many students find it hard to seek out a balance between their studies and their day-to-day lives" — and worse, that ineffective time management was related to outcomes like "poor sleep patterns" and "increased levels of stress." Effective time management will be especially difficult during a distance learning environment, where students are challenged to pace themselves — without the support from friends and peers that might help them stay focused at school. In an in-person setting, communication happens instantaneously, making it easy for college kids to induce answers

and clarify points of confusion. In an e-learning setting, communication is usually asynchronous, which implies there's a spot between teacher and student. It's easy for misunderstandings to develop in these gaps — sometimes, allowing a controversy to snowball before it is often corrected.

Not Receiving Timely Feedback:

Providing feedback is one of the foremost important and meaningful ways in which a tutor engages with a student. When feedback is delayed by additional days or weeks due to an internet format, students can become confused or uncertain about your expectations, their progress, and their performance in your class.

Not Receiving Clear Instructions or Expectations:

It's always crucial to line clear expectations for college kids. Otherwise, they'll only guess whether they're performing tasks and projects correctly. While setting clear standards could be a challenge in any classroom, asynchronous communication can make it a greater obstacle

Review of literature:

There are many definitions of online learning. Khan (1997) has defined online learning as the delivery of instruction to a remote audience using the web as an intermediary. Elaine Allen, Jeff Seaman (2011) have defined Online courses as those in which minimum 80 percent of the course content is delivered online and Face-to-face instruction are those courses in which less than 30 percent of the content is delivered online.

According to Stack, Steven Dr. (2015), online education has proliferated in the last decade. His research has not found any major difference in the scores of the students taking an online course and Face to face classes.

Another research done by Dr. Fahad N. Al-FAHAD investigates the students' attitudes and perceptions of 186 University Student's from different colleges towards effectiveness of mobile learning in their studies. Their research findings indicate that students perceive Mobile technologies as an effective tool in improving their communication and learning.

Herman, T., & Banister, S. had done a research on comparison of cost and learning outcomes of traditional and Online coursework. Their findings shows that online course engages students in the learning process, supports strong student learning outcomes, and saves cost for the university also.

According to a report by Google and KPMG, the online education market in India at the end of December, 2016 was $247 million and it will reach $1.96 billion by 2021. Also, India's online education market is the second-largest market after the US. The findings of the report also state that the paid user base for online education services will also grow at least by six times i.e. approximately 9.6 million users by 2021.

Finding of the study:

- It found that online distance learning gives an opportunity to the learners that they can gain sufficient knowledge at their home, workplace, or what so ever place without spending a huge amount on traveling, accommodation, etc.
- Online Distance learning facilities for all learners without any discrimination on the basis of social status, gender, nationality, etc.
- It gives freedom and flexibility to learners that he/she can access the learning material at any time as per his / her convenience.
- Learners can gain versatile knowledge of any field in which he/she is interested whether they are from that stream or not.
- Online distance learning is less costly compared to traditional education.
- Online distance learning provides updated, newest digital research content.
- It motivates self-learning in students.

- Students will learn various skills like time management, teamwork, problem-solving, critical thinking, adaptability, communication skills, personal growth, etc.

Conclusion:

After looking at the boom in the modern education system the education institution is become more efficient to provide a variety of knowledge in one place. In Addition to expanding the learning in different nations. It is also important that the outcome of education should be in a positive way. Online learning eliminates the physical barrier in the learning process. While online learning is becoming part of the modern education system but it is also kept in mind while framing the course which can go hand in hand with the traditional educational system.

Recommendation:

1. **Apply for Independent Grants:**

   Regardless of our students' home circumstances, we as teachers work very hard to confirm that our classrooms are the place for equitable access to instructional materials. We confirm that everybody has the supplies that they have to be told, whether that's pencils, crayons, manipulatives, or books. When remote learning began, many of you instantly realized that that equity would disappear when your students had to find out reception. So, you applied for independent grants from organizations like DonorsChoose.org or area people organizations to induce the supplies and materials that your students would want to achieve success. And once funded, you drove to all or any of your students' houses to lovingly gift them their materials. This brought smiles and relief to such a big amount of families in need.

2. **Meet All Needs:**

   One of the largest challenges of distance learning was trying to fulfil the requirements of all of your students. In any given classroom there's such a good range of readiness levels, language levels, and backgrounds. And in many cases, this pandemic has exacerbated those inequities. Yet, you didn't let that stop you from doing all you may to satisfy your students' needs.

   You put together packets of labour and supplies on an everyday basis and mailed or drove them to your students' houses in order that they didn't just print things or gather materials on their own. You made tutorial videos for folks to assist them to navigate and troubleshoot the new digital platforms and expectations for his or her role as "parent-teacher" from home. You creatively had students use common home goods as manipulatives or for projects/activities to eliminate the requirement for fancy materials. Small group Zoom calls became your new guide dreading platform. And you even made differentiated BINGO choice boards to permit students to figure on projects and assignments that they were most curious about and will complete at their level.

3. **Schedule Guest Appearances:**

   Even with the foremost engaging lessons, students thrive when special visitors come to the classroom or after they are able to last field trips to find out from local experts and have hands-on learning opportunities. To recreate these experiences in a very virtual learning environment, you found local and famous authors to try to live or recorded read-aloud that you just could share together with your students. Some of you even had local people members make guest "appearances" in your live Zoom classroom or Google Meets instructional time. One teacher in Missouri even had the local news meteorologist teach a lesson sooner or later. The scholars have to be compelled to ask him questions at the tip and loved the chance to speak with someone who they see on TV.

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