Improving education through online Learning

Sharareh Khodamoradi 1 and Mohammad Abedi 2

¹ Department of Agricultural Extension Education, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

²Department of Agricultural Management, Islamic Azad University, Qaemshahr Branch, Iran *Corresponding author: abedi114@yahoo.com

Abstract: In its original form, teachers using distance education traveled to remote sites and taught a class, or corresponded with students through mail, telephone, or fax machine. Individualized study has been a method of reaching the remote student for some time. Detailed course instructions are sent to the learner who performs the assigned tasks and returns the completed work to the teacher for evaluation and reassignment if necessary. rural women take different responsibility and roles such as producers of crops, ranching and keeping poultry, children education, housekeeping, supervising family economy and managing it, collecting firewood, weaving carpet, so illiterate women who haven't possibility to utilize mass media properly too, wouldn't able to do their duties and roles and also wouldn't be affective to develop rural societies. So importance of education is very critical for rural women especially extensional educations. Approximately in most UN reports, women has been considered as greatest deprived group at human societies, while at global level, about two third of all affairs is done by women. But only one third of all recorded affairs relates to women. And also just 1% of proceeds of estates and assets of world belong to women and two third of illiterates of world are women, however they form 50% of workforce at agriculture part and they produce half of foods at all over the world.

[Sharareh Khodamoradi and Mohammad Abedi]. **Improving education through online Learning.** Report and Opinion 2011;3(3):44-]. (ISSN: 1553-9873). http://www.sciencepub.net.

Keywords: education, online Learning

Introduction:

But distance education in America and for the first time at the University of Illinois Veslin was implemented in 1874. In 1900, university education through correspondence, face became more public. National Association of Home Education in 1926 and led the establishment of distance education and related programs in universities and schools, and more important aspect to find drivers. Education in 1920 invented the radio and TV appearance in 1940 led to important new techniques in communications

that the nature of the field of distance education also created dramatic changes.

Trainers using these new technologies were successful educational programs to millions seek learning opportunities and thereby reach out to the educational spaces, training centers to expand. With the development of long-distance telephone system in the early twentieth century method of capacity and distance learning methods for students to access educational opportunities in the world increased Translation. But until the invention of mobile tele conference ever in the 80 and 90 and the main role in the concept of distance education did not play. Telemetry system, allowing for teachers conference provided that without the slightest delay at a time when your students can listen to them talk and sometimes they see.

Expansion of computer networks in the decade 1990 and connect millions of people through lines to the telephone networks made it possible to simply distance learning via computers and computer conferences around the world is possible (a) and Today with the development of control technology in science and technology around the world are.

Definition of distance learning:

In distance education teachers often are separate and comprehensive. Preparation of educational materials, supporting learners under the supervision of a training center takes place almost never do as a group are not. For services to education and electronic learning aids such as printed materials, computers and the Internet rely on. Another look at the educational system of a new e-business and artistic and is a comprehensive solution to the institutions that want to move in the direction that technology and change their teaching methods and environments are possible to achieve the new educational approach provides.

Key factors in the process of distance education:

The process of remote training, the following factors contribute:

- Students:

Regardless of educational content, role and main element in the learning process students are responsible.

- Coaches and Teachers:

Success depends on a lot of educational activities the ability, skills and knowledge are the coaches and professors.

Facilitators of communication:

Facilitator bases, as the bridge between students and mentors are. Must base expectations of teachers and educational needs of students and service coordination and communication to create.

Support staff:

One of the important pillars of any development of distance education programs, by development group finds. Operational support staff such as student registration, copy and distribute their resources, order textbooks, security and copyright, and are responsible for the report.

- Management:

The group decision makers, builders and judges are considered to be educational and should be considered among the factors above, establish the correct relationship formation.

Benefits of Distance Learning:

Benefits and opportunities that distance education provides, include:

- training a wide range of audiences.
- meet the needs of students and students who can not attend in place.
- Possible connection between students and students with cultures, beliefs and experiences are different.
- Benefiting from coaches and speakers who do not live in the country.

EFFECTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH DISTANCE EDUCATION

Students in distance education settings perform as well or better on assignments, class activities, and exams when compared to campus-based students (St. Pierre, 1998). Nevertheless, students must maintain persistence and a clear focus to succeed in a distance learning situation. Self-direction, a passion for learning, and strong individual responsibility are important influences on achievement. There are indications that distance education works best for more mature, motivated, well-organized, and already accomplished learners (Rintala, 1998).

Garrels (1997) describes five critical elements for successful teaching at a distance:

- 1. Instructor enthusiasm. This requires animation and comfort in front of the camera, or with the technology utilized. Faculty support and interest are critical to the success of distance learning endeavors.
- 2. Organization. Teaching materials must be prepared in advance; timing, variation, and smooth transitions must be planned. Instructors should allocate from 3 to 5 hours of preparation for each hour of distance instruction. Great attention to detail is required long before the actual classroom activity occurs (Summers, 1997).
- 3. Strong commitment to student interaction. Whatever the modality used to teach at a distance, the instructor must encourage and facilitate ongoing communication between the students and the instructor.
- 4. Familiarity with the technology used in the class format. Faculty development is important before beginning any distance activities, and instructors should be trained in video use, computer use, or other forms of instructional technology used.
- 5. Critical support personnel. Production staff, graphic designers, and technical staff members will help the instructional setting produce successful teaching at a distance.

What is online Learning? Definition of Online Learning:

The main principle of Online Learning – also called e-learning, distance learning, etc – is very simple: Online Learning allows students to remain at home or anywhere they like and still be able to study, nowadays mostly via computers and the Internet.

But the cultural implications of this simple thing are vast and unprecedented in the history of civilization.

What online learning is all about?

Let us define the main aspects of online learning -

How Online Learning Works?

The principle simple: Online Learning works like traditional education, but happens entirely online. Lectures are viewed on the screen of a computer,

with written supplementary material, lecture transcripts, and academic sources provided electronically.

There is email and forum communication between classmates and teachers, as well as video meetings.

Exams are taken online, assignments are submitted electronically (uploaded or sent by email). Some institutions still require exams to be taken in special learning centers, but this is most likely to change over time to total virtual education experience.

What Online Learning can offer?

- Students no longer need to work in snatches during summer vacations, they can combine more easily then ever before full time jobs and studies
- Students do not need to commute, saving great amounts of time, money, and personal energy, as well as global energy.

This seems very simple, and it is, but its implications are, again, enormous. It means much more time spent on actual education and personal life. It means money saved. It even means significantly less traffic and green house gasses.

It also means students:

- Construct their own schedules
- Can finish four-year programs in two years

Disadvantages of Online Education: Drawbacks to Consider

This article reviews the main disadvantages of the online education. As online services in general are revolutionizing Internet activity and the business industry – Online Education is becoming increasingly popular.

It is not merely a new trend – for many people it is the only convenient way to acquire education. Online education already provides unique new opportunities which hadn't exist before.

The distance/online Education has not come to replace Traditional Education yet. The number of online universities and colleges is still relatively small and their services are not as well established as the services of traditional institutions.

Online Education – Disadvantages

The following are its 4 main drawbacks one would want to consider -

1. Human Interaction

Online classes means there is not live, face-to-face classroom and office interaction between students and teachers. For many this is highly significant. Consulting lecturers in person and being able to discuss matters in groups, in and outside the class is, for many, an important motivational activity and learning strategy. Moreover, for many programs interpersonal communication is crucial, but it is not easy to seriously practice online. Many people also prefer traditional campus-based education simply for the on-campus atmosphere and the opportunity to meet many people there face-toface between and during class, conferences, campus parties, concerts, fairs, and various cultural events.

2. Study Materials

Online institutions provide all or much of their material online, which may be convenient, since you have to buy and photocopy less. But while online information in general is, of course, extensive, approved and trusted scholarly academic material is not easily to be found online.

The resources of online universities and colleges are not yet as extensive as those of traditional institutions with their on-campus libraries (and the private libraries of generous lecturers who will always lend you that hard-to-find book you absolutely must have for your paper).

3. No Lab Sessions:

Degrees science, especially the natural sciences, require lab hours. Online education as yet cannot provide a substitute for actual hands-on experience that students find in the labs on campus. Such experience is crucial in general, and it is often noted in particular by employees. One reason why graduates from traditional institutions are preferred is that they have extensive and relevant lab experience.

4. Difficulties of Self-Discipline:

For many a significant advantage of traditional education is that it leaves little room for procrastination. You have to show up on campus and be in class, and for many this is a great motivational aspect and the reason for their eventual success.

With online education the student has much more freedom. This can be both an advantage and a disadvantage. For many it is a disadvantage because it encourages procrastination. This leads either to unnecessarily prolonged studies or even failure to fulfill requirements, simply because there was too much freedom.

Conclusion:

In general, new methods of educational systems to countries around the world as a necessity and need for learning and training opportunities to study in areas with different climatic features and conditions of learning and education according to their gender and cultures, has been. Each method is mentioned with regard to changes in features and creates an education system, and evaluation is used. Judgment of distance education in an educational way, first as a necessity to eliminate barriers to educational climate and geographical areas, age and gender restrictions learners began their work And more in a death education system, especially in the philosophy and goals based on theories of learning theories have evolved to find and promote professional growth. Approach to distance education with regard to the necessity of education in countries formed.

Emergence and development of information societies is the consequences of industrialization. Despite the diversity of information in various forms of media in local, national and international, access, exchange and use of various information easier than last time is. Information society, a member of your buddies know that open information system in terms of geographical location and the last 25 years, organizational development, are limited. Distance learning faster than other forms of training has been. Growth factor in the economic interests of this type of educational approach, flexibility and remove the distance can be named. The methods of distance education, required for building physical education is not providing services. Teachers and trainers in this method - compared with traditional methods - and have more opportunities to more people than are being trained. In this type of teaching style of each person in each academic field, and each job can be arbitrary in time and space, trained without having to leave the house for work or business is education. This method requires that students are dispersed over long distances provides. Distance learning advantages of distance education in comparison with traditional education, the need for physical locations and training programs limited to no specific time period. In this type of teaching style, learning for life without possibility of spatial and temporal constraints for each individual there. In distance education, problems related to lack of qualified teachers and appropriate educational environment - as it posed in the traditional method of M is - is resolved. In this way the use of advanced features in digital libraries and search the various sites during the study, time and cost savings are.

*Corresponding Author:

Mohammad Abedi Department of Agricultural Management, Islamic Azad University, Qaemshahr Branch, Iran E-mail: abedi114@yahoo.com

References:

- 1. Alharthi, Mohammad A (2003). a High quality portal frame work for asynchronous learning networks: intellectual capital aggregation and organization, doctorate thesis, Vanderbilt university.
- 2. Allison. chlin.& others (2002). an integrated framework for distributed learning environments.
- 3. Almogbel. Ali N (2002). distance education in Saudi Arabia: attitudes and perceived contributations of faculty, students, and administrators in technical college, doctorate thesis, university of Pittsburgh.
- 4. Bates,T (1995) .Technology, open learning and distance education London:Routledge.
- 5. Beetham. H., & Sharpe, R. (eds.) (2007). Rethinking pedagogy for a digital age: Designing and delivering e-learning. London: Routledge.
- 6. Boltone, sharon Bauer (2002). Developing an instrument to Analze the application of adult learning principles to world wide web distance education courses using the Delphi technique. EdD.university of lousville.
- 7. Bonk, C., & Graham, C. (eds.). (2006). Handbook of blended learning: Global perspectives, local designs (pp. xvii - xxiii). San Francisco: Pfeiffer.

- 8. Carter, A (2001). Interactive distance education: implication for adult learner, Interactional Media, 28(3), PP: 249-261.
- Chizari, M, Mohammad ,H and linder ,J.R (2002). Distance education competencies of Faculty members in Iran
- Crossfield, N. L. (2001, May/June). Digital reference: the next new frontier. Latitudes, 10(3). Retrieved July 16, 2005, from http://nnlm.gov/psr/lat/v10n3/digitalref.html
- 11. Dodds, T., Perraton, H., & Young, M. (1972). *One year's work: The International Extension College 1971-1971*. Cambridge, UK: International Extension College.
- 12. Faulhaber, C. B. (1996). Distance learning and digital libraries: Two side of a single coin. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science* 47(11), 854-856.
- 13. Gandhi, S. (2003). Academic librarians and distance education challenges and opportunities. *Reference & User Services* Quarterly, 43(2), 138-154.
- 14. Garrels, M. (1997). Dynamic relationships: Five critical elements for teaching at a distance. Faculty Development Papers. Available online at: Indiana Higher Education Telecommunication System (http://www.ihets.org/distance_ed/fdpapers/1997/garrels.htm l).
- 15. Garrison, D. R.; H. Kanuka (2004). Blended learning: Uncovering its transformative potential in higher education. *The Internet and Higher Education* 7 (2), 95-105.
- 16. Garrison, R., & Vaughan, N. (2008). Blended learning in higher education: Framework, principles, and guidelines. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Garrison, J. A., Schardt, C., & Kochi, J. K. (2000). web based distance countinuing education: a new way of thinking for students and instructors. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*, 88(3), 211-217.
- 18. Grimes, G. (1992). Happy 100th anniversary to distance education. Retrieved August 25, 2005, from http://www.macul.org/newsletter/1992/nov, dec 92/going.html
- 19. Husler, R. P. (1996). Digital library: content preservation in digital world. DESIDOC-Bulletin of Information Technology, 16(1), 31-39.
- 20. Jeffres, M. Research in distance education. Retrieved August 20, 2005, from http://www.ihets.org/distance-/ipse/fdhandbook/research.html

- 21. Katsirikou, A., & Sefertzi, E. (2000). Inovation in the every day life of library. *Technovation*, 20(12), 705-709.
- 22. Littlejohn, A., & Pegler, C. (2007). *Preparing for blended e-learning*. London: Routledge.
- 23. McLean, D. D. (1996). Use of computer-based technology in health, physical education, recreation, and dance. ERIC Digest 94-7. Washington, DC: ERIC Clearinghouse on Teaching and Teacher Education. ED 390 874.
- 24. Moore, M. (ed.). (2007). *Handbook of distance education*. New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- 25. Oliver, M., & Trigwell, K. (2005). Can blended learning be redeemed? *Elearning*, 2 (1), 17-26.
- Parrott, S. (1995). Future learning: Distance education in community colleges. ERIC Digest 95-2. Los Angeles, CA: ERIC Clearinghouse on Community Colleges. ED 385 311
- 27. Rintala, J. (1998). Computer technology in higher education: An experiment, not a solution. Quest, 50(4), 366-378. EJ 576 392 Romiszowski, A. (1993). Telecommunications and distance education. ERIC Digest 93-2. Syracuse, NY: ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources. ED 358 841
- 28. St. Pierre, P. (1998). Distance learning in physical education teacher education. Quest, 50(4), 344-356. EJ 576 391
- 29. Summers, M. (1997). From a distance: Or, how I learned to love my "tv" class. Faculty Development Papers. Available online at: Indiana Higher Education Telecommunication System (http://www.ihets.org/distance_ed/fdpapers/1997/summers.html).

3/21/2011