



EFFECTIVENESS AND CHALLENGES OF ONLINE LEARNING: A CASE STUDY ON STUDENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Authors

¹Dr. Shivendu Kumar Rai

Assistant Professor

Department of Journalism & Mass Communication
Tecnia Institute of Advanced Studies, Delhi

²Ms. Priyanka Singh

Assistant Professor

Department of Journalism & Mass Communication
Tecnia Institute of Advanced Studies, Delhi

ABSTRACT

In the virtually connected society of the 21st century, students are facing various challenges related to teaching-learning pedagogy. Especially, among college going students, problems like digital divide, usage of e-learning based methods, tools and techniques are prominent. So, in this paper, the researcher discussed about the requirements, meaning and challenges related to usage of online teaching-learning pedagogy by the students of higher education institutions. With this, this paper is majorly focused on the utilization of the updated and advanced Information and Communication tools (ICT) by the students for adopting the current teaching-learning pedagogy.

For this, the quantitative research methodology has been utilized by the researcher. The sample has been taken mainly from the private institutions which make use of online platform for teaching-learning process. An online survey was conducted in order to target the age bracket (18 to 22). The result of the analysis suggested that after the era of covid, the utilization and usage of information and communication tools has been increased and with this the challenges associated with it has also surged.

Keywords: Online learning, Traditional learning, Information and Communication tools, Challenges.

INTRODUCTION

“Online learning can be broadly defined as the use of the internet in some way to enhance the interaction between teacher and student. Online delivery covers both asynchronous forms of interaction such as assessment tools and the provision of web-based course materials and synchronous interaction through email, newsgroups, and conferencing tools, such as chat groups. It includes both classroom-based instruction and as well as distance education modes. Other terms synonymous with online learning are ‘web-based education’ and ‘e-learning’. (Curtain, 2002)”

Online education offers many benefits and advantages while providing programs and courses of high quality. All levels of certificates and degrees are available online. Here, you can learn about some of the positives which helps in knowledge enhancement through online education. Online learning has been on the rise in recent years. On the one hand, e-learning courses have become hugely popular by the simple virtue of being so much more convenient than traditional face to face courses. Students can fit them around their existing responsibilities and commitments, and can engage with multimedia content and learning material. Whatever time is most convenient to them. Even better they don't have to travel anywhere to study, they can simply log in to the virtual campus from the comfort of their own home or office.

Online Teaching is important' this is all about understanding various topics through online videos and online lectures. Here we will explore why online teaching is relevant to your teaching practice, and you'll have an opportunities and challenges you face in your own context. In Online learning, Open and Institutionally Supported Technologies' focuses on helping you understand the benefits and restrictions of both broad categories of technologies. We're all familiar with different social media technologies, and many of us will be aware of larger institutional online learning systems.

Students need to determine if online learning is an option for them because not everyone does well with this type of study. Some questions that any potential online students should ask is whether or not they can learn independently and how organized they are with their time, whether they are computer savvy sometime their level of reading comprehension and if they have at least ten hours a week to devote to each course. Many students make mistakes of assuming that an online class will be easier than one taken in a traditional classroom. Often online instructors assign more reading materials than required in a regular classroom to ensure that students are engaged. Motivation is key to an online student's success as is his ability to reach out to both instructors and fellow students using software such as Blackboard.

That software program seamlessly integrates social media, making it possible to create online communities that are course specific. Blogs, tweets, podcasts, webcasts, online chats, discussion boards, and virtual study jams are all part of the online mix. Success in an online course often depends on how connected a student feels to his instructor and fellow students.

Review of Literature

1. Education system and recent market of e-learning procedure. This study shows that globalization of education, cross-culture aspects and culturally complex student support system in distance education as well as in e-learning environment is a prospective research area. Improvements in these areas could be made by integrating new technologies and ICT tools. The ELAM (E-learning Acceptance Model) identifies four determinants of e-learning acceptance are (1) Performance expectancy, (2) Effort expectancy, (3) Social influence and (4) facilitating conditions. Performance expectancy is based on beliefs about perceived usefulness, interactivity and flexibility. Effort expectancy is based on the beliefs about ease of learning, perceived ease of use and efficacy. Social influence is based on subjective norm and image. The main contribution of the paper is that it presents a framework to understand e-learning acceptance as governed by the teacher, students and institutional factors. **Ventatesh, et.al. (2003)** identifies the key factors in acceptance of e-learning as measured by behavioural intention to use the technology and actual usage in the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology.
2. **“Impact of E- learning on student learning and employability – A study in India”**
Thesis Submitted to the D. Y. Patil,2015 has evolved considerably because of advances in Web technology. The Internet enables the ordinary person to have access to never-ending quantities of information and knowledge efficiently and conveniently. The growth of the World Wide Web, high-capacity corporate networks, high-speed desktop computers and all kinds of

mobile devices will make learning available to people 24 hours a day, seven days a week around the globe. Since many traditional education organizations are using Web technology to deliver educational content, it is possible now for a high school student to seek assistance with mathematics questions at any time of the day or a graduate student at home to take some courses through long distance education.

Web-based learning not only improves the achievement of students from kindergarten to university, but also enhances the productivity of the corporate workforce. Turbulent corporate environments, caused by market dynamics, have made knowledge and skills indispensable for effective performance in the workplace. Knowledge in the workplace is no longer implied but required at different times and different quantities. Traditionally, corporate training has existed in organizations to impart knowledge to individual workers as off-the shelf learning packages. In this model, learning takes a reactive approach to problem solving encountered by organizations, and learning programs take place in a specific location. However, recent advances in the fields of distributed and ubiquitous computing, artificial intelligence, cognitive learning theory, and multimedia have converged to provide more distributed learning systems over the Internet and World Wide Web (WWW). A requirement for knowledge and skills distribution across different systems, space, and time is pertinent to unique learning requirements of individual learners within all kinds of organizations.

- 3. RESEARCH ON ONLINE LEARNING, Karen Swan, Research Center for Educational Technology.** Find that the Internet has a profound impact on higher education by enabling the phenomenal growth of online learning. Moreover, just as we were getting used to fully online courses, blended courses, courses which integrate online and face-to-face instruction, seem to be growing in similar, perhaps even more spectacular, manner. Add to that a plethora of emerging digital technologies such as wikis, blogs, podcasting, social software, and serious gaming technologies that are increasingly being incorporated into online or online portions of courses, and one is tempted to despair of ever making sense of online learning. The altered learning environments created by web-based technologies, not only eliminate barriers of time, space and arguably learning styles, providing increased access to higher education, they challenge our traditional notions of teaching and learning, and indeed higher education itself.

OBJECTIVES

- To identify the problems faced by the higher education students for using online teaching learning pedagogy.
- To study the effectiveness of online learning among higher education students.
- To scrutinize the state of seriousness among higher education students in online learning mode.

RESEARCH METHOD

This paper incorporates the quantitative approach to study the research objectives. Sampling has been done effectively and the tool that has been employed to work on the data collection is particularly questionnaires where the questions were close ended with usage of tools as pie charts. An online survey was conducted in order to target the age bracket (18 to 22). The sample has been taken mainly from the private institutions which make use of online platform for teaching-learning process.

In this research paper the focus is on collecting primary data and secondary data collection, the responses have been collected from students through questionnaire. This research also includes some data which has taken from through articles, magazines and various different websites. The data collected is used to draw further inferences and conclusion after analyzing the data minutely. Here, the convenience sampling is done for collection of data which done through survey. The research is exploratory in nature as this type of research is done to study the issue which is not define yet and this helps in bringing more understanding about the topic. The structured questionnaire is number of standardized questions in a symmetric scheme.

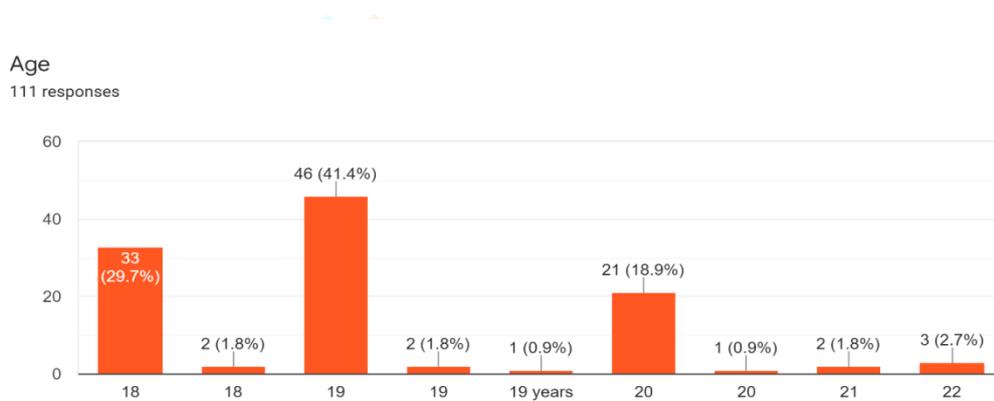
Sample size- 111 Students

Research Design- Exploratory Research.

Primary data sources: Structured Questionnaire

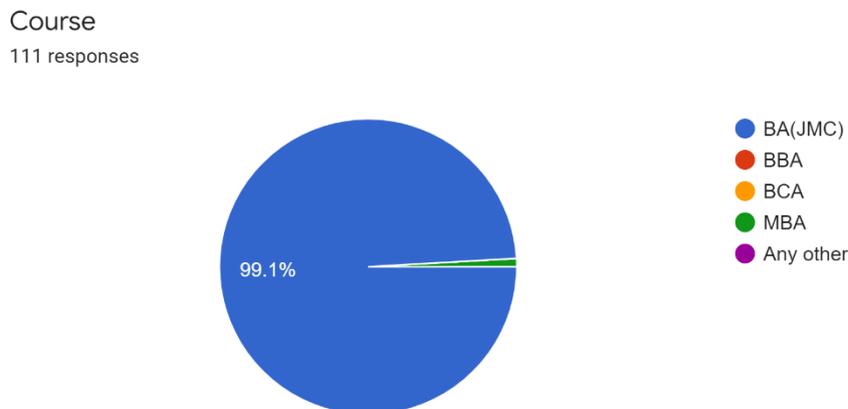
DATA Interpretation-

1) Age group



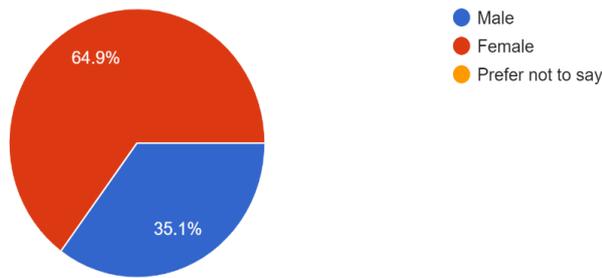
Since the study is based on higher education students, the age group lies between 18-22. Average number of the respondents were of the age of 19.

2. Respondent's Course



Maximum % of respondents are from BA(JMC) Bachelor of Arts journalism and Mass Communication which is 99.1%.

Gender
111 responses

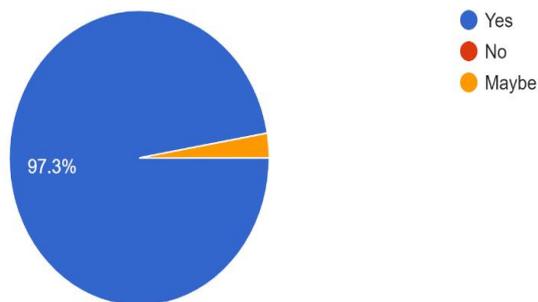


3. Gender?

64.9% of respondents are male and rest 35.1% are female. This shows that male was use to about online learning as compare to females.

5. Do you know about online learning?

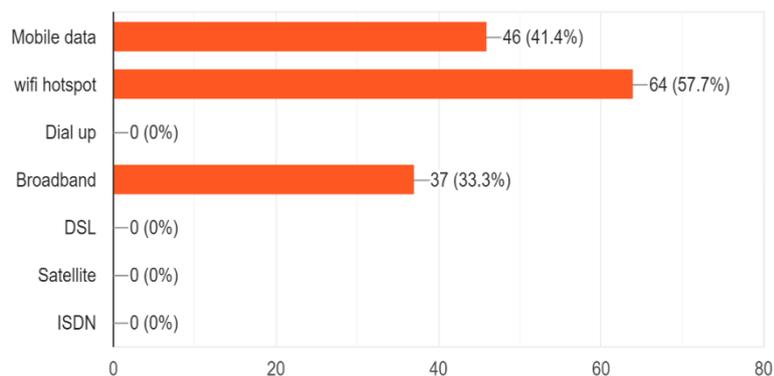
Do you know about online learning
111 responses



Maximum number of respondents which is 97.3% were aware of online learning.

6. Which type of internet connection you use?

Which type of internet connection you use ?
111 responses

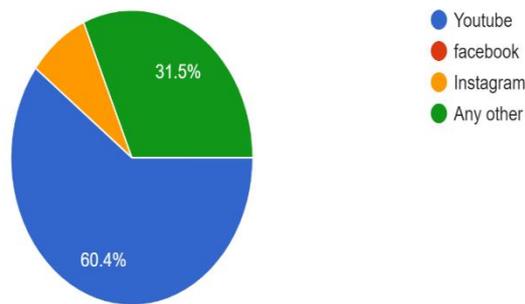


Maximum percentage of respondents use wifi hotspot which is 57.7% , followed by 41.4% use mobile data and about 33.3% use broadband .

7. How do you know about online learning?

How do you know about online learning ?

111 responses

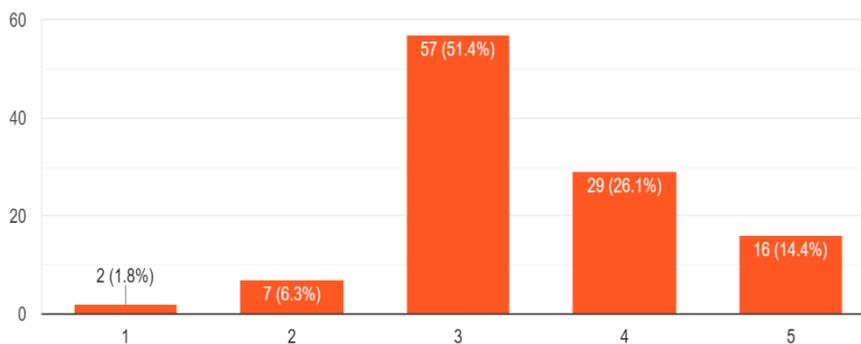


Mostly respondents knew about online learning through You tube which is 60.4%. It means You tube is playing major role in spreading awareness about online learning among youth.

8. On a scale of 1 to 5 how much you rate to online learning?

On a scale of 1 to 5 how much you rate to online learning ?

111 responses

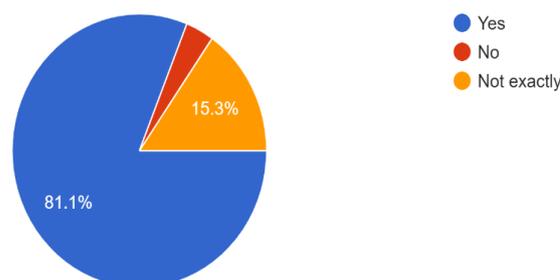


On a scale of 1 to 5, highest rating given to 5 & lowest rating given to 1, 51.4% of respondents believe that online learning is effective for students.

9. Are you familiar with the process of using online media for learning purpose?

Are you familiar with the process of using online media for learning purpose?

111 responses

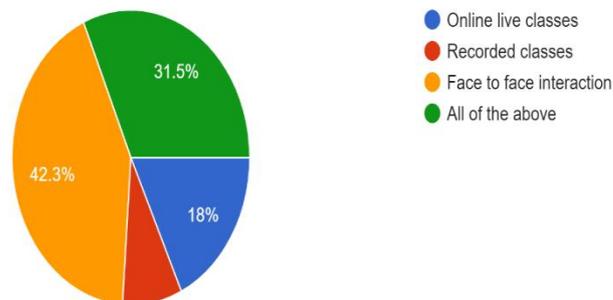


81.1% of respondents are familiar with the process of using online media for the purpose of learning.

10. Which type of classes is most liked by students?

Which type of classes is most liked by students ?

111 responses

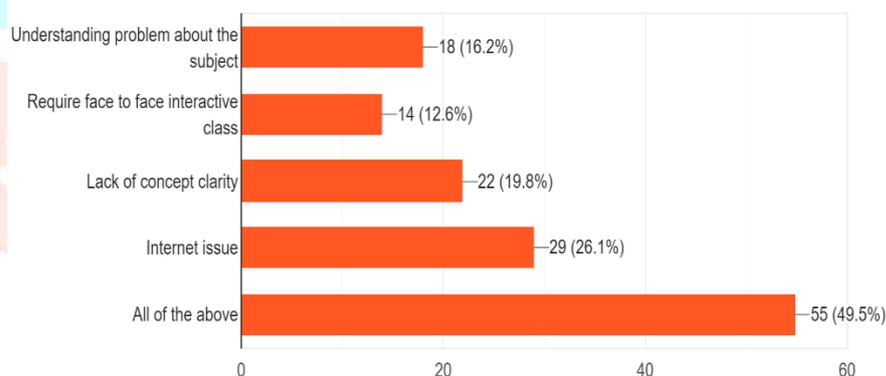


Maximum number of respondents liked face to face interaction which is 42.3% and followed by all of the above which include online live classes, recorded classes, face to face interaction and the least number of students like recorded classes.

11. What problem faced by the student during online classes?

What problem faced by the student during online classes.

111 responses

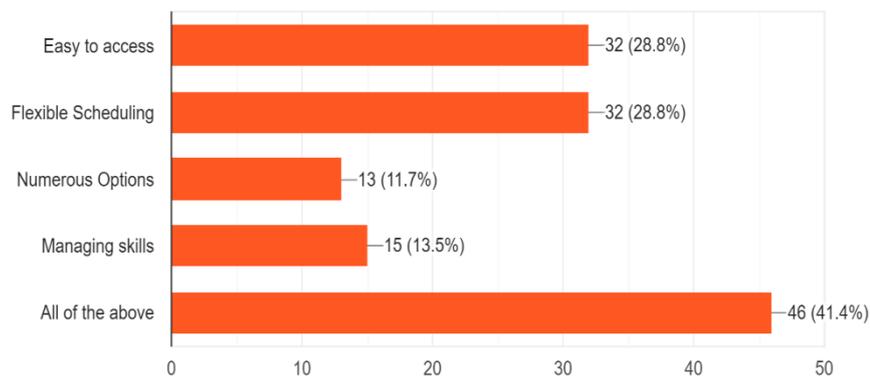


49.5% of students choose all of the above option, followed by challenges like about 26.1% internet issue, 19.8% lack of concept clarity, 16.2% faced understanding problem about the subject and about 12.6% require face to face interactive classes.

12. Which among these is most liked feature of Online Education?

Which among these is most liked feature of Online Education?

111 responses

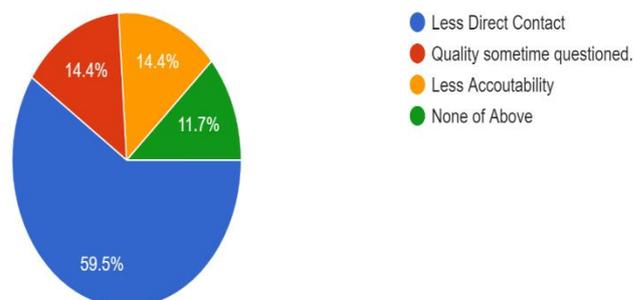


The pie-chart represents that student like several features of online learning which include Easy access, Flexible scheduling, Availability of options and help in managing skills. It represents that 32% of the students like online learning process due to its easy accessibility, 32% of the students like the online learning process due to the flexible scheduling facility, and 15% of the students be fond of it for the sort of help it provides in managing skills, 46% of the students like online learning because of all these features it provides.

13. According to you which among these reflect negative effect, of Online Courses?

According to you which among these reflect negative effect, of Online Courses?

111 responses

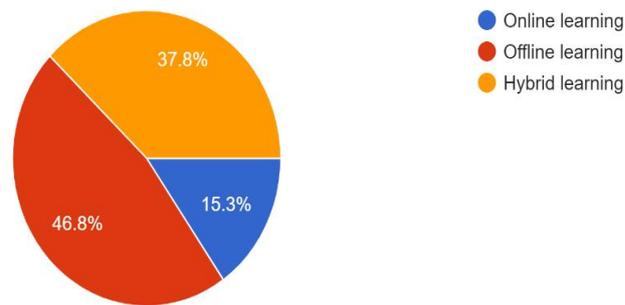


Maximum number of respondents believe less direct contact reflect negative effect which is 59.5%, and there was just equal contribution to quality sometime questioned and less accountability which is 14.4%.

14. Which type of learning is more preferred by students?

Which type of learning is more preferred by students?

111 responses



As per the chart, maximum number of respondents preferred offline learning which is 46.8% and followed by 37.8% prefer hybrid learning and about 15.3% online learning .

CONCLUSION-

During the Covid era and afterwards the online learning is the mostly known and operated platform in education sector. The outcome of the survey has been observed that online learning is also one of the effective ways for students to grab education. Whereas, on the other hand classroom learning comes first then online learning and student also want teacher to practice brainstorming method and gaming method in their teaching ways. No matter which task we are performing because every task has their challenges which we have to heel with time.

There are ample of information available on internet in various infotainment forms like text format, pdf file format, audio & video format and teacher explanation and live class videos. But the information on internet get waste if there is no one to study and to read and learn it so, we have to aware more and more about online learning and similarly students has to be active to grab and enhance knowledge and skills in a particular field. And this is also proven that social media is one of the important tool for students in their practice of problem solving process but, using internet in a right way is another challenge in student life mostly they pick up phone for some study purpose later on playing games, doing chatting and many more. It is also seen that about 35% of student spend their time for playing games and then around 25% use YouTube videos for study and 25% still busy in their social networking sites and rest 15% watch online movies.

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