

MODERN TRENDS OF DISTANCE LEARNING AND THEIR ADVANTAGES

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Abstract

This paper investigates major points of the peculiarities and advantages of distance learning. On this case, methodological and theoretical knowledge have been emphasized as a major aspect of the investigation. Authors have focused on international experience of the topic and analytical features of the outcomes of the distance learning as the whole.

Keywords

Distance learning, innovative learning process, online study, Uzbekistan

I. Introduction

Distance education is proved to be regarded as an independent form of training in the organization of lifelong learning. It can be called the 21st century education system. Results of social progress, previously concentrated in the area of technology, is now focused on the information field. Today, the distance form of learning and teaching provides an opportunity to create continuous self-study, universal exchange of information, regardless of time and place.

The distance learning system allows to acquire necessary skills and new knowledge through a personal computer (PC) and access to the Internet. The location of the PC does not matter, so you can study at home, at work, in the online classroom of one of the distance learning centres, or anywhere else where there is a PC with an Internet connection. This is a major advantage of distance learning over traditional forms of education.

In addition, the distance education system provides equal opportunities to all people, regardless of social status (schoolchildren, students, civil and military, unemployed, etc.) in any part of the country and abroad to realize human rights to education and information.

Methods, organizational forms, means of learning are three components in distance learning determined by the specifics of the technological basis used (e.g. computer only, computers and printed media, CDs, so-called case technology, etc.).

Let's define the peculiarities of distance learning. It consists in that the distance form ensures systematic and effective interactivity. Distance learning is built according to the same objectives and content as face-to-face learning. But the ways in which the material is presented and the ways in which teachers and students interact with each other are different. The didactic principles of the organization of distance learning (the principles of science, consistency and regularity, activity, the principles of developing learning, visibility, differentiation and individualization of learning, etc.) are similar to face-to-face learning, but they are not the same.

Their implementation is excellent, which is due to the specifics of the new form of education, opportunities of the Internet information environment, its services.

Thus, on the one hand, distance learning should be considered in general terms as continuous education system.

On the other hand, distance learning should be distinguished as a system and a process.

Distance education courses involve careful and detailed planning including learner's activity, its organization, clear setting of learning objectives and goals, delivery of necessary education materials, which

should ensure interactivity between learner and teacher, feedback between learners and learning material, to provide group training opportunities. Effective feedback allows the learner to be informed about the correctness of their progress from ignorance to knowledge. Teaching methods in higher education with modern media

The quality of education is expected to increase as a result of enrichment. In this regard distance learning is of particular importance with a number of conveniences for both the teacher and the students. Internet, technological methods such as multimedia were necessary for students' development of computer programs based on educational materials, manuals puts the task. After all, distance learning is universal in any field of methodological literature of educational centers, modern and up-to-date provides access to information.

II. Distance learning systems

Today, progress is evolving and changing very rapidly. Almost every minute there are changes, updates and surprises in different parts of the planet. Every day is spent under a strong flow of information. The flow of information follows us at home, at work, and on vacation. Man cannot function normally without the influence of information. Understanding and studying life takes place through the collection and assimilation of information. A person's level of knowledge is also determined by the amount of information that a person learns over a period of time.

Therefore, the effective use of new information technologies in improving education, opening the way to modern knowledge has become a requirement of today. The National Training Program and the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Education" impose the same responsibility on us.

However, significant changes are taking place in the education system. Forms of distance learning are used in the education system. Distance learning is a new form of distance learning. Distance learning is independent learning. Independent reading develops a person's ability to think independently, assess the situation, draw conclusions and predict.

Another advantage of distance learning is that the student can study at a convenient time and even without leaving work. It is because of these advantages that this style is widespread in the world today. Many large companies save millions of dollars a year by using this method to upgrade or retrain their professionals.

Another advantage of distance learning is that the duration of training is determined by the student, that is, the student begins to study at any time, masters the materials under the supervision of the teacher. Assimilation is determined by the performance of tasks, tests. The sooner a student masters the program, the sooner he or she will graduate and receive a certificate. If he is unable to master the program, he will be given the opportunity to work independently and continue his studies.

It is well known that this method has many advantages. All higher education institutions are working on the implementation of distance learning techniques and technologies. The development of information technology requires a new approach to the organization of distance learning. Modern models of distance learning are based on communication and network technologies.

It is not necessary to gather a certain part of the population who want to study at the location of the educational institution in order to provide education on the basis of distance learning. Second, there is no need for the listener or student to overspend. Third, it is possible to exclude age restrictions for those involved in this type of education. The contingent involved in the distance learning can be members of the following social groups:

- those who want to get a second higher or additional education, training and retraining;
 - heads of regional authorities and administrations;
- young people who do not have access to education due to the limited opportunities of the traditional education system;
- employees of companies and enterprises who want to raise the status of their education to the level of distance learning requirements;
 - listeners who want a second parallel information;
 - people from distance learning, underdeveloped areas;
 - persons with limited freedom of distance learning;
 - persons with disabilities;
 - military personnel, etc.

III. Distance learning models.

Distance learning (DL) is a type of education that uses information technology because the teacher and the student are separated by distance or time.

There are several distance learning models of this type of education, which differ in the circumstances that led to the organization of distance learning: geographical reasons (country area, the presence of geographically distance learning regions), the level of computerization and informatization of the country, the level of transport and communications, availability of specialists for distance learning, the level of use of information and communication technologies in education, the country's educational habits.

Primary distance learning model. This distance learning model is designed to work only with redistance learning students. Each of them is attached to a virtual teacher. There should be regional offices for consultations and final inspections. In such training courses, teachers and students are given great opportunities and freedom in choosing the form of education.

An example of this distance learning model is education at the Open University in the UK (<http://www.ou.uk>).

Secondary distance learning model. This distance learning model is designed to work with distance and full-time students. Both groups have the same curriculum and syllabus, exams and assessment criteria. The number of full-time courses in such educational institutions is higher than in distance learning ones. These distance learning courses are used in the search for new directions in pedagogy and methodology.

An example of this distance learning is education at the University of New England and Australia (<http://www.une.edu.au>).

Mixed distance learning. This distance learning is designed to integrate distance and full-time education. Students study part of the course full-time and part-time. This type of education also includes virtual seminars, presentations and lectures.

An example of this distance learning is education at Massey University in New Zealand (<http://www.massey.ac.nz>).

IV. Consortium.

This distance learning requires that the two universities merge with each other. One of these institutions organizes the training courses and provides the work, while the other approves them and provides the courses to the students. However, not only the whole university, but also enterprises working in the field of education instead of one department or center or university can take part in this process. In this distance learning, it is necessary to constantly check the copyright.

An example of this distance learning is training at the Open Education Agency in Canada (<http://www.ola.bc.ca>).

Franchising. In this distance learning, the two universities exchange courses with each other. A leading educational institution in the field of distance education offers its courses to the institution that is taking the first step in this field. In this distance learning, students of both institutions receive the same education and diplomas.

Examples of this distance learning are the Open University School of Business and Eastern European Universities.

Validation. This distance learning is similar to the relationship with the university and its affiliates. In this distance learning, one university guarantees courses and diplomas, while several other universities provide students.

Distant audiences. In this distance learning, information and communication capabilities are widely used. Training courses held at one educational institution are transmitted to other audiences in the form of synchronous television through videoconferencing, radio broadcasts and telecommunication channels. The difference with the mixed distance learning is that in this distance learning students do not participate in full-time education.

Examples of this distance learning are education at the University of Wisconsin in the United States and the Central University of Radio and Television in China.

Projects. This distance learning is created to implement programs for government or research purposes. The main work falls on the scientific-methodical center, which brings together specialists and teachers of

distance education. The courses created in this distance learning will be shown to a large part of the population and will be discontinued after the Facebook task is completed.

Examples of this distance learning include various courses on agriculture, taxation, and ecology in less developed countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Advantages and disadvantages of distance learning.

Distance education has methodological, economic, social advantages and disadvantages, as well as disadvantages and disadvantages.

Methodological achievements and advantages include:

Convenience of lesson schedule. The student can participate in the learning process at any time.

Easy to use addresses. The student can participate in the learning process from an Internet cafe, home, hotel, workplace and other places.

Convenient reading pace. Education is carried out at the pace of students' understanding of new knowledge.

Convenient curriculum. Curriculum can be organized for students in accordance with the requirements of individual and state education.

Database collection. Opportunity to collect and use the knowledge of previous students.

Distance learning facilities. Full access to multimedia capabilities.

Involvement of qualified teachers in the educational process.

Economic benefits and advantages include:

Teaching infinite distance. The distance between the teacher and the students does not matter.

Not to interfere with the work process. The student receives education inseparably from work.

Increasing the number of students. The number of students in an educational institution that fully uses distance learning technologies can increase by 2-3 times.

Cost. Distance learning courses are 2 and 3 times cheaper than regular courses.

Social achievements and benefits include:

No division into social groups. Recipients of the second higher or additional education in the distance learning course, those wishing to improve their skills and retrain; students wishing to obtain a second parallel information; population of redistance learning, underdeveloped areas; persons with physical disabilities; persons serving in the army; persons with limited free distance learning; and others may participate.

No age restrictions. Age restrictions on enrollment are excluded.

However, it should be noted that distance education also has its disadvantages. These include:

Insecurity in e-learning and communication processes. For this reason, students prefer to study not in the form of virtual education, but in the form of ordinary (full-time and part-time) education.

Lack of state distance education standards and, as a result, non-issuance of state-issued diplomas. For this reason, many graduates of distance learning courses are issued only certificates of completion of this course.

Virtual environment and hardware connection. Distance education refers to the availability of the Internet, the cost of using it, the speed and availability of services, the availability and operation of special communication techniques.

Technologies of distance education and its participants.

The main technologies of distance education include:

INTERACTIVE technologies:

- *Internet distance learning portal.*
- *Video and audio conferencing.*
- *Email training.*

- *Independent learning through the Internet.*
- *Redistance learning control systems.*
- *Online simulator and training programs.*
- *Testing systems.*

Non-interactive technologies:

- *Video, audio and printed materials.*
- *Television and radio broadcasts.*
- *Programs located on disks.*

Video and audio conferencing is a way of learning by connecting two distant audiences in a telecommunication situation using the Internet and other telecommunications channels. Video and audio conferencing will require a large a distance learning of specialized equipment, a high-speed communication channel and the involvement of service professionals to organize the training.

Independent learning through the Internet is a way to work independently and gain new knowledge on a large a distance learning of information available on many sites on the Internet.

E-learning is a way to learn through the distance learning popular Internet services, through correspondence between students and teachers. With its help we can send and receive various tests, tasks, questions and answers (in the form of text, graphics, multimedia, programs, etc.).

Distance learning control systems are a way to acquire knowledge using special systems that allow you to control and work with complex software, systems and equipment in real time. The main task of redistance learning control systems is to provide students with only practical knowledge.

Simulators, e-textbooks and training programs are a way to get theoretical and practical knowledge to students offline through computer programs. Simulators and e-textbooks are widely used in education today.

Testing systems - this is a test of practical and theoretical knowledge of students using special programs, the main task of which is to check and evaluate the knowledge of students.

Internet distance learning portal is a special Internet sites (online resources). The main task of these sites is to organize the educational process, or in other words, to establish an electronic online communication between the student and the teacher, to place teaching materials for teachers and to provide students with this to work with data and use other distance learning services.

According to IDC (<http://www.idc.com>), the global online education market was worth \$ 2.2 billion in 2000, and by 2005 it was the world's largest. Internet applications are expected to sell for \$ 18.5 billion.

According to a study by Nielsen-NetRatings, in March 2000, the number of Internet users reached 379 million. 211 million of them are active users of the Internet. According to the company, the distance learning active users are located in South Korea - 2164 web pages per distance learning (774 web pages worldwide). It is followed by Singapore, Germany, Japan and Canada. The United States is in 7th place.

By 2005, the number of Internet users is expected to reach 1 billion. 135 million US citizens have regular access to the Internet, and in 2002, half of every dollar used was spent online.

The following must be involved in the distance learning process: distance course author, methodologist, teacher (tutor, coordinator), psychologist, administrator, documentary, telecommunications and software group, and students.

An author is a person who creates, updates, and edits a distance course.

A methodologist is a person who consults and edits a course.

A teacher is a person who communicates with students during the learning process and helps them and checks their knowledge.

Psychologist - a person who organizes the psychological distance learningnitoring of the learning process.

Administrator - a person who solves the problems of admission and expulsion of students and attracts qualified teachers.

Telecommunications and software group - individuals who provide the work of programs and telecommunications resources.

Students - a person involved in the learning process.

In the organization of the educational process, of course, we need to take the following steps:

Defining course objectives. What knowledge (topics, science, etc.) and for whom to teach.

Choice of reading methods. It is necessary to identify sources and methods of diagnosis and testing of the level of knowledge and skills during the learning process.

Development of methodical requirements to educational material. It is necessary to determine the methods and volumes of imparting new knowledge.

Production of lesson plans. It is necessary to divide the whole course into several distance learning modules, to determine what knowledge the student will have after the completion of each distance learning module.

Organization of distance learning monitoring of the educational process.

Inspection process planning.

Planning independent work of students.

Predicting the results of the learning process.

Identify and analyze the results.

Development of distance education in Uzbekistan.

Uzbekistan, like other countries of the distance learning wealth of Independent States, is making great efforts to bring its education to world standards. The large area of our country and the presence of geographically distance learning regions are the main reasons for the development of e-learning, which leads to its great importance. In the current era of financial scarcity, this type of education should be widely used. It is natural that there are some problems with the introduction of this type of education. These are mainly the lack of funds, technical equipment and qualified engineers and teachers in this field, but we need to solve these problems as much as possible, because the organization of distance learning in Uzbekistan is very effective.

At present, many decrees of the President and resolutions of the Oliy Majlis have been issued on the computerization of education and production and the development of information technology in these areas. As a result, a lot of exemplary work has been done in the Republic over the past five years. For example, the Tashkent University of Information Technologies was established in 2002, and since this year the university has been training specialists in the field of computers and communications, radiotelephone and information networks, software and e-commerce. These and other higher education institutions are creating many new programs and e-books in the field of education.

At the same time, the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and the International Council for Scientific Research and Exchange (IREX) have been working in Uzbekistan since 2000. "Unit program" (<http://www.iatp.uz>) and "Internet in schools of Uzbekistan" (<http://www.connect.uz>). The main task of these programs is the development of the Internet and its services in our country and their widespread introduction a distance learning the population. As a result of these programs, there are "Free Internet access" centers in 16 cities of the country, as well as Internet centers in 60 schools in 6 regions of the country.

At the same time, we believe that the development of the Uzbek-language Internet and the emergence of special sites in the field of education. In the first quarter of 2004 alone, the number of Internet users reached about 511,000 (275,000 at the beginning of 2003). At the same time, compared to the beginning of 2003, the number of Internet providers and operators increased by 263 (an increase of 94.8%), the number of websites in the UZ zone exceeded 2,600 (an increase of 188.4%), the number of state-owned enterprises connected to the Internet increased by 470 (increase by 63.6%), the number of business entities was 8600 (increase by 68.9%), the number of Internet access points was 228 (increase by 115.1%).

"Distance Learning Portal" (<http://dl.freenet.uz>), created as a result of Internet grants of the IATP program and operating since 2002, or organized by many Universities and Institutes of the Republic on their websites " Distance education courses "(for example, courses organized on the website of the National

University of Uzbekistan <http://nuu.uz>). Many useful and interesting websites related to education are being created, (<http://www.bilim.uz>, <http://www.bilimdon.uz>, <http://www.ilm.uz>, <http://www.student.uz>, <http://www.study.uz> and others). The distance learning is an exciting thing is that not only universities, institutes, colleges and academic lyceums, but also schools have their own websites on the Internet.

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