The Concept and Development of far Distance Teaching and the Electronic Learning Analyse

By Omar Al Zoubi, Bilal Alzoubi

Abstracts - The express on learning of far distance is used in many ways and it means many usages and concepts. It is used as a means of abolishing the time and place distance which separates between the learner and teacher compared with the traditional learning based on attendance face to face between the learner and teacher in a fixed place and time. It also means using certain technical means meaning this distance and abolishing the consequent results. Correspond once and radio teaching and the electronic learning and the open universities are all means for far distance learning. but all these kinds are different from each other and really represent stages of the development of far distance learning.

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The Concept and Development of Far Distance Teaching and the Electronic Learning Analyse

Omar Al Zoubi\textsuperscript{a}, Bilal Alzoubi\textsuperscript{b}

Abstract - The expression on learning of far distance is used in many ways and it means many usages and concepts. It is used as a means of abolishing the time and place distance which separates between the learner and teacher compared with the traditional learning based on attendance face to face between the learner and teacher in a fixed place and time. It also means using certain technical means meaning this distance and abolishing the consequent results. Correspond once and radio teaching and the electronic learning and the open universities are all means for far distance learning, but all these kinds are different from each other and really represent stages of the development of far distance learning.

I. Introduction

Far distance learning or training began at the end of the nineteenth century, exactly in 1840 and the begging of the twentieth century by means of postal correspondence. As means of far distance teaching and training developed in the middle of the twentieth centuries together with the technical progress and the use of video as a means of correspondence learning.

At the end of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty first century, the third phase began which includes using the internet and the mobile in teaching as using the internet now in teaching is considered a change and development equal to using the machine in the economical development in the fields of agriculture, industry and transport. And as it was very important for using the machine in the life of people it is expected that using the internet in the field of learning is not less than using the machine by its strength and effect. In 1971 the Open University was initiated in England which result in crediting and opining many open universities in many different countries and as the South African university is considered the biggest one in this filed as the number of its students using the far distance learning reached to 200000 students in 2000.

San Diego university in America defined electronic learning as a kind of official teaching where most of teaching and participating between parents take place as the student and the teacher are not in the same place (1).

Electronic learning uses techniques produced by interknit and electronic learning can take place at many levels according to the techniques used and the simplest is that the teacher puts a fixed page on the interknit where the student can have a look for certain information or the teacher presents the scientific material in a from of electronic book on a C.D.

In this kind there is no communication between the student and the teacher or between the student and the other learners.

Using the technique produced by the internet can be developed so that the teacher can use many techniques like the conversation technique where the students and the teacher make live conversations around the subjects of the syllabus.

Means of electronic learning can develop from a form of materials being taught partially by the internet and can be a supporter to lectures following the traditional syllabus to a form of material taught completely by the internet without direct attendance for both the teacher and the student in educational operations face to face.

Electronic learning varies in most of universities and institutions in the world to include many levels of using internet techniques.

II. Techniques Used in Learning

Most means of learning used universally in the far distance teaching discipline is one of the followings:

Heard Tapes:
Which is tapes the teaching material is recorded on and it is a cheap means of teaching and it is easy to be carried and an active means as well especially when it is accompanied by printed books or booklets.

Seen Tapes:
Educational video and cinema tapes scientific material is recorded on and they are usually heard and seen together.
It is more effective and more popular than the heard tapes if accompanied by a book or a booklet as a means of teaching.

CDS:
It is a means using the computer CDS for learning.
It is a variable comprehensive means allowing for many teaching activities and developing different skills and allows chance for photographing reality by means of supposed imitation of reality.
Portable Labs:
Equipped cars with teaching means similar to scientific labs. This means goes to where the learner is.

Broadcast:
This means uses the heard broadcast for learning. It is recognized for being cheap and ideal for many teaching active and developing different skills and it allows chance for photographing reality by means at supposed imitation at reality.

Portable labs:
Equipped cars with teaching means similar to scientific labs. This means goes to where the learning is.

Broadcast:
This means uses the heard broadcast for learning. It is recognized for being cheap and ideal for many teaching situations. But it is not efficient for not being active for cooperating with the teacher when being cooperative it increases its efficiency. Telephone calls can be used as a means at acting between the student and the teacher.

Television:
Television was used in teaching through common TV. Channels open to all or channels owned by educational establishments such as schools and universities through closed circles within these establishments.

Far Distance Conferences:
This means uses electronic communication among a group of people spread at far geographical places. This means can be used only for heard communication only or seen and heard communication together.

This means uses equipment and program WES and communication disciplines of high cost.

E-Mail:
It is an electronic un contemporary means; which means:
Sending at a fixed time and the answer for that comes later.
By this, special files are sent to the students attached to the electronic message. The student then sends their answers to the teacher at another time.
This means is effective in inenitiring the learning operation of the learner and also developing his writing and communication skills.

The web Pages:
This means is used in handling the scientific material through internet either in handling parts of a certain syllabus or the course curriculums as a whole. The Electronic Heard and seen autonomous conferences it is a communication means used video for acting between the student and the teacher at far distance geographical places either inside the country or among many countries through dual autonomous communication.
This discipline may be established by connecting one point to another for connecting two fixed places or at a basis of connecting many communication points where individuals in many places can hear and see others in many different other places.

Correspondence learning:
It is a means depending on printed material sent by usual post or fax and usually doesn’t need communicating by internet.

III. The Concept of Electronic Learning

The concept relating with the electronic learning is various, some of which need clarification and some need correction.

Many names are related to electronic learning, they need clarification as well.

These various concepts and names related to electronic learning go back may be to the modernity of this kinds of learning disciplines and mostly to the traditional discipline.

So it requires to clarify these concepts and names so those having relation with this field to know them perfectly, either if he was a student studying curriculums through internet or a teacher wants to invest this discipline in the process of teaching or a manager in educational establishments willing to apply this discipline.

Mixing among electronic learning, far distance learning and the open universities:
Many mix among electronic learning, far distance learning and open universities and consider them as one kind.
But really there are basic differences among these kinds although they have one common qualification which is that the learning process takes place in two separated time and space.

Electronic learning is a kind of far distance learning using the net of the internet, the tools and programmers connected with it, and it is qualified by its continuity and never stopping among students themselves on one side and the teacher on the other side.

It is marked also by forming educational society and giving the student a bigger chance in the learning process.

On the other hand, far distance learning in its general shape, it uses many techniques such as television conferences technique and others. But which is not mostly different from traditional learning concerning the philosophy and the bases of credited learning.
The techniques of the electronic learning and the bases for choosing them:

The electronic learning is divided into three kinds according to the techniques used:

The first kind which is called the internet curriculum where the materials of the syllabus are put on site on the internet and the students can enter to the educational site at any time during the study course and from any place qualified with communication through the internet this kind allows big numbers of students to be recruited in the course from within the educational establishment or from outside and there can be some lectures.

This kind is marked by its little or non-acting between the students on one side and the teacher of the course on the other side because of the great number of students.

Advanced and various techniques are used.

2- as for the second kind called curriculum provided with internet.

This kind is similar to the first but different in mixing between teaching through direct relation – face to face- between the student and the tutor through lectures using internet so that students can enter to the educational site at any time during the course and from any place provided with communication through internet.

This kind is marked by acting between the students on one side and the tutor of the course on the other side.

Many and advanced complicated techniques are used (2).

As for the third kind which is called a focused internet course.

It is similar to the second kind, but different by focusing all the things related to the course wholly on a certain site on the internet and being also focused completely on acting among the students themselves and between them and the tutor, with no need for lectures or the attendance of the students face to face with the teacher.

Advanced and complicated techniques are used (3).

Educational technique is defined as a mixture of tools and learning methods the educational development principles and teaching methods aiming at solving educational problems.(4).

In spite of the importance of the various developed techniques used in far distance learning discipline, they are not more than tools.

Choosing the appropriate technique is the basic cause for the success of electronic learning operation.

So, choosing the right tool which suits the student, course and the teacher is essential.

Various studies and experiments have shown that basic rules are helpful in choosing the appropriate technique for every one as a student, course and the teacher.

**Rule 1:**

It is important to take into consideration the nature of the scientific material in choosing the technique and it is not necessary that all the contents of the course are available on the site of internet because the nature of the material may suppose using the printed book and using the internet in the communication and acting with the student and exchanging the duties.

**Rule 2:**

Studies carried in this field have shown that the student being able to get technique is a fundamental case should be taken into consideration.

Getting the technique means that the student have a computer, certain programmers and communication with internet.

**Rule 3:**

The enthusiasm of the teacher to use several techniques may be confusing for him and his students.

So the teacher should be practical in choosing the technique because teaching any course by the electronic learning method takes a long time compared with the traditional one.

**Rule 4:**

It is important to be sure that the required technique is suitable to the students abilities in the course because used programmers may represent a new thing for them and find difficulty in treating with it and may make students make evaluation for cooperation and participation in what they are required to do.

**Rule 5:**

Putting plans including alternatives for the techniques used.

The tutor may find some students – if not most of them- active participants in the learning process.

He may find that the technique used is suitable for the course being taught, but the student may find that sometime his time doesn’t allow him to participate at a certain time should be put for such students.

**Rule 6:**

One of the important rules in choosing the appropriate technique is that the teacher himself should be able to use it easily.

**IV. Conclusions**

It can be concluded that the outcome of these rules related to choosing the various electronic techniques at aiming at getting sure in realizing the use
of the student and achieving the educational goals.

It should be also assured that the technique itself is not but a tool and not a goal.

The benefit of a technique cannot be realized without the ability of who stands behind it making it capable of making success of the educational process, successful teaching is successful teaching either it was traditional or electronic teaching in the same way bad teaching is especially if was electronic (5).

To construct the fundamental elements requires decisions taken by the managers of the educational establishment related to many things: for example for those who are responsible for teaching, the establishment should have knowledge of their preparations and their training needs as well as the policies followed for incentivizing them to enter to this field.

The outcome of the above presented is that choosing the technique should be as a result of comprehensive plan knowing no withdrwals.

The absence of a comprehensive plan costs the establishment a lot of money and it may create a situation where instructors resist the electronic teaching, the plan should insure the educational goals when choosing the technique.

Looking at it as a tool for achieving educational goals and not looked at only for its availability.

Some techniques are alluring for the student and the teach, especially in conversation programmers.

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1. Omar Al Zoubi, Assistant Prof. and Dept. Head at Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering, Taibah University, Yanbu Branch, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, email: dr_omar1978@yahoo.com, Tel: (+966)530634650.
2. Bilal Alzoubi, Assistant Prof. Faculty of Computer Science, OmAlqora University, ALQunfudah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, email: bilal_14879j@yahoo.com, Tel: (+966)507233770.
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