

WHAT “DIGITAL EDUCATION” MIGHT LOOK LIKE IN THE FUTURE

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Abstract: This article examines the advantages and disadvantages of the transition to a “digital education” system in higher education. The benefits of the transition to a digital education system for future generations and their impact on their lives have been explored.

Key words: higher education, student, digital education, traditional education, collective experiences, teachers.

The belief that the future of learning in higher education will be better than the present runs counter, we suspect, to how many think about academia in the years ahead. Indeed, the immediate future for many colleges and universities looks bleak. Just as we are acknowledging more and more the systematic and institutional racism that pervades higher education -- and understand that any change will require fundamentally rethinking our systems and institutions -- we know we are trying to do so at an incredibly tenuous time in the future of higher education.

Digital education has taken over traditional education system in cases which involve short term course or certified courses but in cases where a degree is involved, traditional ways of education still dominates the digital method. Students often work faster in the subjects of their interest and may get slower through those that they need more time on. Hence, e-learning gives a comfortable environment to help them learn quickly, and this helps to retain more information than traditional learning.

However, classroom learning helps students and teachers know each other in a better manner. Also, classroom learning is more helpful due to a continuous interaction between students and teachers, as it helps students to get rid of their fears regarding exams, which can rarely happen with online guidance. Online

learning cannot offer human interaction. Another disadvantage refers to the fact that online courses cannot cope with thousands of students that try to join discussions. Also, online learning can be difficult, if it is meant for disciplines that involve practice. One disadvantage of traditional education is the tendency of teachers to exhibit favoritism towards students. Though this is typically because of performance, it can also be from students “sucking up” to teachers, lending them an unfair advantage over others who spilled blood and tears just to get a passing

E-learning is one of the causes of social isolation because you don't see your teachers and classmates face-to-face anymore that leads to a lack of a social interaction. Inaccess to others requires self-motivation and proper time management skills and there is more focus on theory.

However there are some benefits of digital learning that is some of your classes will be recorded, 24-hour resources, connected learning, self-directed study and familiarity with technology.

Not really – because both have their unique characteristics that make them worthwhile. People will learn to use the two together. However, when it comes to the debate of one over the other specifically for college education, the truth is that online learning can never really replace an in-campus experience.

Online schools lack valuable campus resources such as extracurricular clubs and activities that can be both enriching and educational. This is particularly important for undergraduate students coming directly from high school, as they may find that they miss these opportunities for personal enhancement.

It is estimated around half the world's students' schools remain shut down. All told, this has been a potentially damaging disruption to the education of a generation.

But one of the few positive outcomes from this experience is an opportunity to rethink how digital technologies can be used to support teaching and learning in schools.

Our collective experiences of remote schooling offer a fleeting opportunity for schools to think more imaginatively about what “digital education” might look like in the future. The technology has shown its power to transform our lives as we

know it and the traditional classrooms have been influenced by the variance of this technology in our life. This has created a war of words to decide the benefits of the either system of education. In a traditional education system, students have a constant pressure to keep up with co-students and perform at a speed that they may not be comfortable in. As on the other hand, a smart education system is characterized by the flexibility which allows all the students to learn at their own pace, without reviewing the topics repeatedly and clearing the doubts with the teachers. Also, digital education allows the learners to learn at a place of their choice or can customize to a suitable learning environment. Instead of sitting in a physical classroom with multiple distractions an online system has the flexibility to create an environment that is best conducive to the learning of students. This can range from learning while sitting at their place or creating a home learning environment with soft-focus music and even stocking up of tea.

Social learning refers to the elements of learning where the students learn by interacting with each other. The peer network becomes a support system that not only helps in learning but also shapes the character of the students as they learn to share and respect others. However, the smart learning system allows for only limited indirect interaction with other students and this may often lead to isolated students.

All this will come as little surprise to long-term advocates of popular forms of digital media in education. There is a sound evidence base for the educational benefits of such technology. For example, a decade's worth of studies has developed a robust framework (and many examples) of how students and educators can make the most of personal digital media inside and outside the classroom. These include allowing students to participate in online fan-fiction writing communities, digital journalism, music production and podcasting. The past ten years has also seen a rise in e-sports — where teams of young people compete in video games.

This stresses the interplay between digital media, learning driven by students' interests and passions, and online communities of peers. Informal digital media can be a boon for otherwise marginalised and disadvantaged youth and allowing

students to find supportive communities of like-minded peers regardless of their local circumstances.

The past six months have seen many schools forced to make the best of whatever technologies were immediately to hand. Previously reticent teachers now have first-hand experience of making use of unfamiliar technologies. Many parents are now on board with the educational potential of social media and games. Most importantly, students have been given a taste of what they can achieve with “their” own technology.

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