

Characterization of Online Degrees and comparing with Traditional Degrees¹ Mohammad Abedi, ² Ali Badragheh^{1,2} Department of Agricultural Extension and Education, Varamin Branch, Islamic Azad University, Varamin, Iran*Corresponding author: abedi114@yahoo.com

Abstract: Technology transports information, not people. Distances between teachers and students are bridged with an array of familiar technology as well as new information age equipment. What sets today's distance education efforts apart from previous efforts is the possibility of an interactive capacity that provides learner and teacher with needed feedback, including the opportunity to dialogue, clarify, or assess. Advances in digital compression technology may greatly expand the number of channels that can be sent over any transmission medium, doubling or even tripling channel capacity. Technologies for learning at a distance are also enlarging our definition of how students learn, where they learn, and who teaches them. No one technology is best for all situations and applications. Different technologies have different capabilities and limitations, and effective implementation will depend on matching technological capabilities to education needs.

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Introduction:

enjoying and giving publicity to any of technological tools with the aim to facilitate and accelerate the training process, as well as increase the quality and quantity of knowledge quality and knowledge of a serious intelligence community needs to integrate and standardize the educational system society is.

Hence, considering the position and role of education in the third millennium on the basis of ICT is also a serious approach to the topic with the knowledge community centered on learning and general trends of technological tools to enjoy much of the information and Find the appropriate place in the information society Third Millennium That actually can be a global community and is without limit is undeniable-and-run. Guidance and therefore move in the direction of society should be education and technology for comprehensive pandemic done. Considering the above definitions and with the knowledge and attitudes towards the third millennium and the desirability and some weaknesses in the achievement of certain standards and dynamic structures in order to achieve a knowledge based society, there is. In the present circumstances to provide our information infrastructure development and integration inevitably link the elements and tools that they are as indicators of technology education and technology education will be remembered. In the new context of combining these two indicators comes to training facilities and a variety of tools that will provide guidance and development in information will be very effective.

While the effect of these two indices of body functions and its other fields (favorable to foster new ideas provides. Technologies training web-based technology as one of the most effective learning tools in educational issues have been identified and a total of E-learning as it is referred. . But if the scientific and cultural infrastructure with this technology's Day is not coordinated development of information will be

obtained. This weakness caused by lack of growth and development of training required for pandemic knowledge of existing technology is. In many systems of scientific tools and capabilities needed to provide hardware and commissioning are still technological problems resulting from lack of knowledge of poverty and poor education in these centers to be seen.

In other words, the country still in the feasibility assessment and appropriate to make public the necessary training for operation and application of scientific principles and technological tools is has been done and why certain movements and sometimes non-normative point will not be able node an unlock.

The conditions and according to the capacity of developing countries and training facilities required a knowledge-based society feels is felt. If all processes in technology education and technology optimization and standardization of the Hungarian education should go, and appropriate channels that the best option in this area could benefit from state universities is capabilities.

According to the information in the development of any society should take half of the world to progress until the necessary coordination and synchronization global developments so as to accept the design structure of a knowledge-based society have a special place for the University and respect the role of education and technology was In designing a model with global standards of dynamism and flexibility at first be necessary to select a sample that the facilities and communications needed for this purpose provide action and then determine optimal cognitive deficiencies than Hammett and weaknesses push.

No doubt the experiences of implementing these standards and to develop troubleshooting information using technological tools would be much more economical. That if we develop a range of information from a city university level and conduct more successful we'll be more acceptable was. Because the utilization

and application tools and step up the information they've been successful. Therefore the most important first step needed to coordinate and synchronize technology education and educational technology standards and capability in the high user acceptability of the world is also enjoyed.

WHAT IS DISTANCE EDUCATION?

Distance education is a method of education in which the learner is physically separated from the teacher and the institution sponsoring the instruction. It may be used on its own, or in conjunction with other forms of education, including face-to-face instruction. In any distance education process there must be a teacher, one or more students, and a course or curriculum that the teacher is capable of teaching and the student is trying to learn. The contract between teacher and learner, whether in a traditional classroom or distance education, requires that the student be taught, assessed, given guidance and, where appropriate, prepared for examinations that may or may not be conducted by the institution. This must be accomplished by two-way communication. Learning may be undertaken either individually or in groups; in either case, it is accomplished in the physical absence of the teacher in distance education. Where distance teaching materials are provided to learners, they are structured in ways that facilitate learning at a distance.

Online Degrees Vs Traditional Degrees

It's best to consider the pros and cons for online and traditional education, before choosing either one. This is because, today, one really needs to choose between the two, since online education is an increasingly powerful presence in the field. It is becoming more and more relevant, with its new and unprecedented features, connecting people globally at the click of a mouse.

Let us discuss the differences between these two options – Comparing the traditional degree programs to the new online degree programs.

What are the Pros of Online Degree Programs?

Four main advantages:

1. Flexibility

Traditional education means predetermined schedules and the ability to attend classes only during the day. Online institutions provide classes in the form of online modules and allow students to schedule them for

whenever they will. This makes it possible for people to combine full time work and family life with higher education.

2. Academic Material

Online institutions eliminate the need to buy textbooks (unless you want to). Most or all of the material is readily available online, in the form of Web-pages and e-Books. There are extensive academic research archives online, used by both online and offline institutions.

3. Time to Degree

Online degrees allow anyone to reduce time to get the degree – To compress what is traditionally a four year degree into as little as a year or two.

4. New Skills

For professionals who are employed full time but who wish to enhance their knowledge, learn new skills, add intellectual variety or challenge to their life, or even to change their career entirely by studying a new profession – online education provides unprecedented opportunities.

Attending traditional classes may be impossible for full-time employees. Quitting the job may not be an option. Online education provides the solution: flexible schedules (see above) which allow adjusting study time and working time even for the busiest of businessmen.

The Cons of Online Degree Programs

Here are the main shortcomings:

1. Credits and Accreditation

Remember that not all online institutions are accredited or have the required accreditation. Some online degree credits are transferable and some are not – It is important to find the level of accreditation that the online institution provides – Regionally or nationally accreditation. There are however, those online institutions which are considered to be on the par with established traditional education systems.

2. Suitability

It's best not to idealize online programs and what they offer. Studying from home may sound great, but not everyone

has the right environment at home for academic study. For some people, specially designed campuses are ideal to get away from the distractions of the home and to immerse yourself in study.

3. No face-to-face human interaction

Online degree programs and online courses have their advantages, but they lack human interaction. These prevent the normal interactions between students and teachers, relegating any queries to the message boards and forums.

Only video interaction may be possible with online degree programs and its exact use and frequency vary from institution to institution, while the actual classes are given via archived modules. For those who prefer human interaction, online degree program may not be the best option.

4. Independent study isn't good for all

Online degree study may require better comprehensive skills than traditional education. In traditional classroom environment, it may be easier to understand instructional material because of the human proximity and the option to ask questions and get immediate sympathetic answers.

Are Online Degrees Worth Anything? Are Online Degrees Credible?

Many people consider online degrees as not worthwhile proposition. They think online degrees are a waste of time and money; further, they feel such degrees are not recognized anywhere.

So, are online degree programs worth anything?

Well, it is quite natural to have apprehensions about something that you do not know about. In fact, when online courses were newly launched, they were widely unaccepted by many corporations and campus based educational institutions. However, the situation has now changed.

Online degrees are gaining popularity. Further, such degrees are being offered and widely accepted. As per a recent survey conducted by Distance Education and Training Council, more than 71% of corporations consider online degrees as 'more valuable' and worthwhile than the traditional one.

How can one understand the value of an online degree?

Though, surveys mark online degrees with certain amount of credibility, how does one make sure the value attached?

Online Degree Program: Should you go for it?

The first question asked is –

Is an online degree worth anything? What is the real Value of online degrees?

Check for the accreditation! The accreditation attached to the online degree is the key here. As for any campus based degree program, there are accredited online degrees and non accredited online degrees based on the online school accreditation. Therefore, the accreditation of the online educational institution must be checked carefully.

For more information, refer to Online Schools Accreditation Meaning. Let us acquaint ourselves with the merits and demerits on online degrees for understanding the value attached.

Merits of online degrees:

1. **Ease of Access:** The course material and instructions can be accessed by a student from anywhere across the globe. This can be done via an internet connection. This provides greater freedom to students and working professionals to study the course material.

2. **Genuine interactivity:** Online courses provide students with a high level of interactivity. How? Since the students are far apart geographically, they have more time to ponder over the facts and get back with logical reasoning and viewpoint. This is not so in case of traditional classes.

3. **Dissemination of information:** Online courses have the advantage of reaching out to larger masses as compared to traditional studies. Further, additions and amendments can easily and more quickly be disseminated to students.

4. **Documentation:** The best part of online courses is every material, discussion, presentation and interaction is electronically documented. Thus, a student can refer to such documents anytime, anywhere.

Perhaps, the only demerit of online degree is the kind of infrastructure it requires. An online course requires a sound IT infrastructure that can support the smooth functioning of online class rooms.

Earn a Degree Online: Why Get a Degree Online?

These days, one can get a degree without going to college. Online education is the latest concept that has taken the world of education by storm.

Though online education is still in its initial stages in many parts of the world, it becomes a great option, particularly in the western world, and has certain advantages over traditional education, which makes it so popular.

Online education is not just advantageous to the teachers, but has its advantages for the students too. While teachers can make decent money by teaching online, students can also get online degrees in a simple manner.

This article addresses the first questions asked about online degrees – Why Earn an Online Degree?

Earn Your Degree Online: Should You Get An Online Degree?

There are several reasons why a person would opt for an online degree.

Let us address these key initial queries -

1. Why do you need a degree?
2. Why Online Degree program and not traditional one
3. Are online degrees worth the same as traditional degrees?
4. What are the choices for an online degree?
5. Time to Degree – The time it takes to earn a degree

Why get a degree online?

The first question asked naturally is – Why an Online degree and not the traditional degree?

Both ways are good as long as you look for an accredited online degree.

An online degree is absolutely not less Qualitative – There is no difference between the value of a traditional degree and an online degree given that – You will check very carefully the accreditation of the online educational institution before taking a degree program online.

If you are wondering whether you should get an online degree, you would be surprised to know that many people have no other choice but to opt for an online degree.

There are several reasons why one needs to get an online degree, but the most common are:

- In many cases, people need extra degrees to pursue a career in a profession that they are interested in.
- Many people do not continue their education for a number of reasons, and by the time they are ready to pursue their education, they are working or even have a family. An online education makes life simpler for people like them.

Why take Online Degree program?

Consider the pros and cons for online education and traditional education, before choosing either one.

Online degree choices – What are the choices?

Online education provides almost the entire scope of education, starting from an Associate degree up to PhD degree online. There are streams of education, and even some professional specialized courses. For example:

- You can complete your school or college education via the online universities.
- You can also get other, professional degrees online such as, a degree for managers a MBA, Master of Business Administration online.
- Professional course, online learning – You can complete computer courses online and get a certificate, a diploma. These courses are best fit for people who want to advance their professionalism with a specific online degree of their industry for getting a lift up off their career.

Therefore, if you are thinking how to get a degree at home, you would first need to decide which degree is of your interest – Which degree you want to get.

How long does it take to earn an online degree? Time to Degree

If you are wondering how long it takes to get a degree online, the answer would basically depend on what kind of education you are planning for.

Although the stigma of the Online Education as the fastest way to get a degree, it isn't necessarily true – It depends on the kind, type and value of the online degree you are looking for.

For example,

- If you want to opt for a business degree, you would need to study for two or three years.
- If you wish to go in for any professional software degree online, you would need a study time of several months.

It all depends on what kind of an online degree program you are going in for, as well as the degree level you wish to achieve.

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. Judgement 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 Extension and Education, Varamin Branch, Islamic Azad University,, Varamin, Iran
E-mail: abedi114@yahoo.com

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