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Module No:	BMSW4003
Module Title:	Digital Skills And Research Methods
Topic	Virtual Learning
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Introduction

Virtual learning applications can offer multiple and mixed options for students to learn. While there are many options, students studying in distance learning settings should have more learning responsibilities than students studying in established classrooms.

Also, in Virtual learning education environments, students have to work harder than they do in face-to-face classrooms. Although virtual learning requires learning responsibility and more work for students, it allows students to continue their education for those who could not receive instruction on time, who do not have the opportunity to receive face-to-face education or do not want to receive face to face education.

In this direction, I will try to explain the evaluation of distance education programs in detail.

What is virtual learning?

Virtual learning can be defined as the education of students in an environment where they are settled individually without the need for a physical school environment.

Virtual learning is a learning experience that is enhanced through utilizing computers and the internet both outside and inside the facilities of the educational organization. The instruction most commonly takes place in an online environment. (Racheva V. n.d.)

One of the most remarkable aspects of the interaction in virtual learning environments than the interactions in the established classrooms is the educational presentation. Many distance education delivery methods do not give teachers or practitioners a chance to see students in general.

Students studying in distance education environments have more than the responsibilities of students studying in established classrooms. In distance education settings, students find that they are working harder than they do in built-in classrooms, and they can work based on technology, learning strategies, and other variables. Despite these differences, students in a distance education setting can expect to learn as much, if not more, than they would in established classrooms.

The two most important values that technology offers to the education and training environment are computers and the internet. When these two structures are considered together, it makes sense of many approaches that can be an alternative to physical space-oriented education, such as school and classroom.

Face-to-face education in distance education requires more effort and resources than other training to support the student. There are various reasons why more effort and resources are needed for face-to-face training. If I need to give an example, the face-to-face academic education we received with the group is a helpful method where students interact with each other and share their knowledge and problems. I also think it helps teachers to save time.

Virtual learning Benefits and Limitations

Flexibility as a Benefit of Online Schools

Among the many advantages of online education, you'll find virtual classrooms are great for people who are advancing their education while working. In a traditional classroom, lectures will be scheduled at a specific time of day, and your schedule will be formed around the availability of classes. If you're currently employed and courses aren't available after your working hours, it can be challenging to juggle a course load in addition to your work duties. (Drexel University School of Education n.d.)

In my opinion, while distance education provides various opportunities, it also provides limitations. If I need to give some example, I would like to state the things that I observed as helpful;

- They are providing people with different educational options.
- Minimizing inequality of opportunity.
- Facilitating mass education.
- Providing standards in training programs.
- Lowering the cost of education.
- Increasing the quality of education.
- Providing the student with freedom.
- Providing the student with a rich educational environment.
- Providing individual learning.
- Providing independent learning.
- To give the individual the responsibility of learning.
- Providing information from the first source.
- Getting more people to benefit from experts.
- Ensuring that success is determined under the same conditions.
- Eliminating the obligation to be at a particular time and in a specific closed area.

As far as I think and observe, distance education provides significant possibilities in many ways, but it has limitations. To give some example to these;

- Failure to establish face-to-face training relationships quickly.
- Prevents students from socializing.
- Failure to provide adequate assistance to unassisted and self-learning students.
- Taking rest time for working students.
- Not being able to benefit enough from practical lessons.
- Inability to be effective in the realization of skill and attitude oriented behaviours.
- Dependence on transportation and communication technologies

The future of Virtual Learning

Whilst universities may be anxious to catch up with the global trends in online education, the complex issues that attend online teaching and learning must first be addressed. (Routledge Taylor Francis Group n.d.)

It is difficult to predict the future of online education. On the other hand, internet-based education is becoming widespread in many places around the world. Today's financial problems make the applicability of such an educational activity difficult. At this point, commercial organizations must provide financial support.

Virtual learning will become a comprehensive model in future education models. As it provides easy access to rare resources, its importance in education and training will increase. On the other hand, we understand that there is a hidden financial cost of training staff for a new learning environment in virtual learning.

Indeed, a single model cannot drag educational institutions and significantly higher education institutions into the future. Training will be conducted remotely in the future. But educational institutions will become more different, and education will be offered to broader masses virtually.

The future situation of online education will be revealed by questioning many aspects such as success in teaching and learning, validity, harmony with the psychological, philosophical and social dynamics of education. Although various studies have been conducted to describe the current situation of online education, no definite trend has yet been formed.

Conclusion

The age we are in is the "information age". Knowledge has been the most critical development and change instrument in our generation. Just accessing information is not enough. At the same time, establishing an understanding that produces and manages knowledge in the social structure will not negate the future sovereign goals of those societies.

Education using the internet in education Many people outside the school system develop their knowledge and skills it has become possible for them to earn independently from their education.

The following problems will be solved by using computers in education

- Ability to disseminate education
- Inequality of opportunity fixable
- Resources are efficient usability

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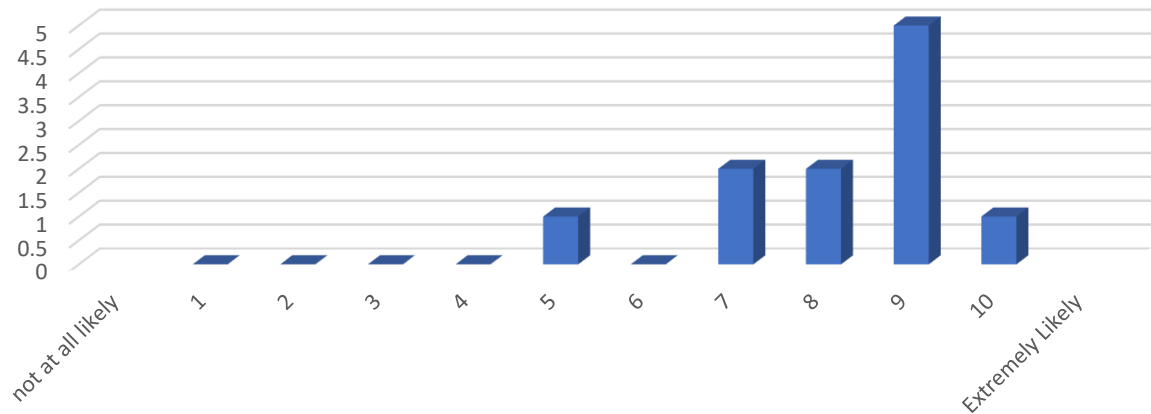
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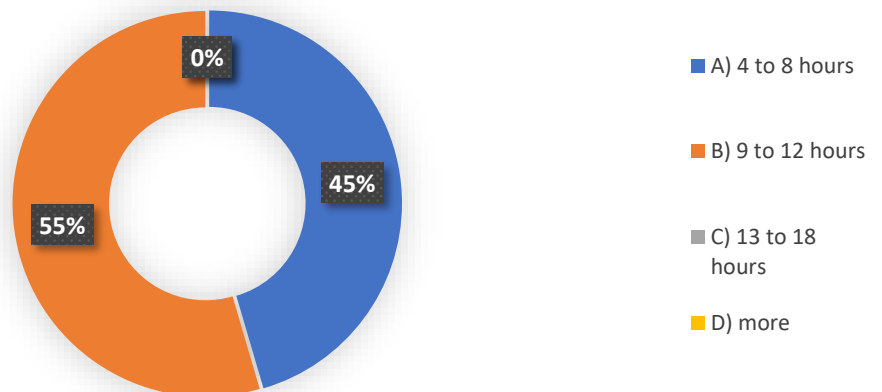
1. Question

How likely are you to recommend virtual learning in UWTSD to your friends? (from 1 to 10)



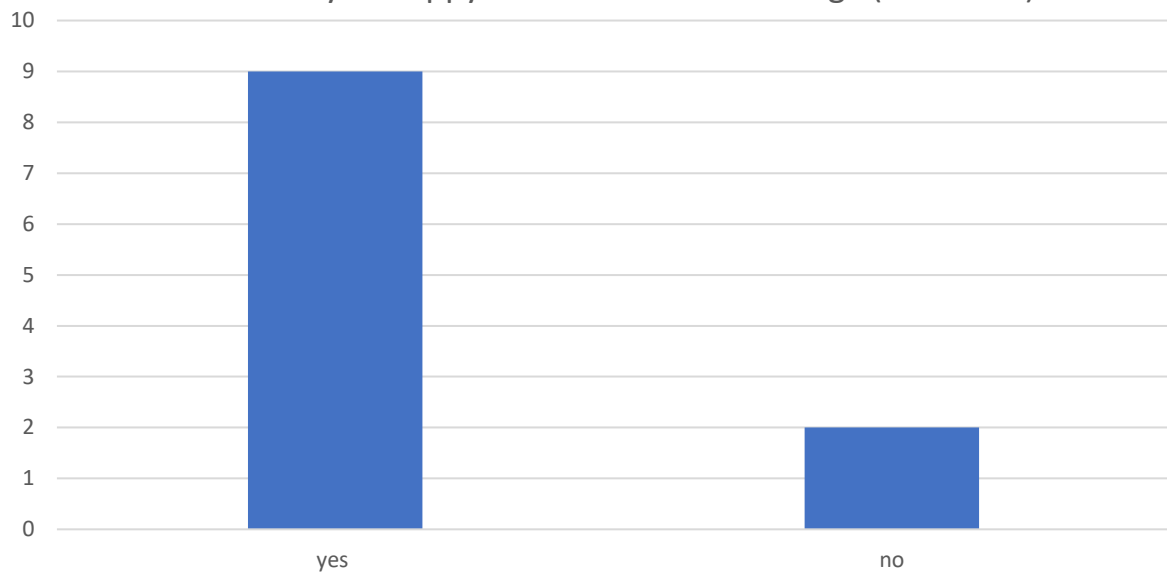
2.Question

How much time do you spend weekly in virtual learning classes?



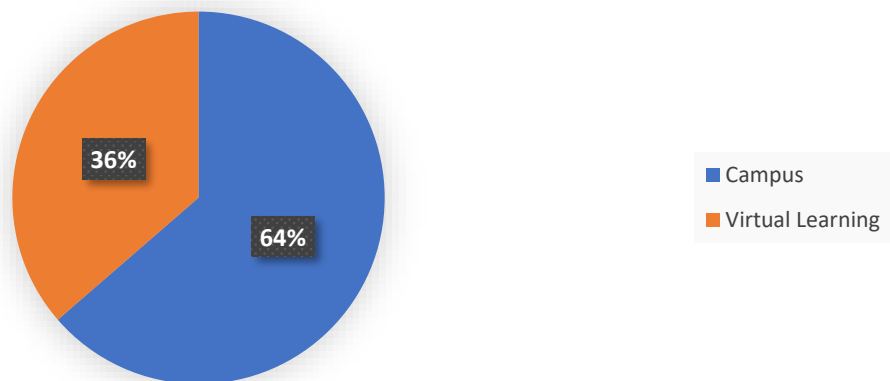
Question 3

Are you happy to learn virtual learning? (Yes or No)



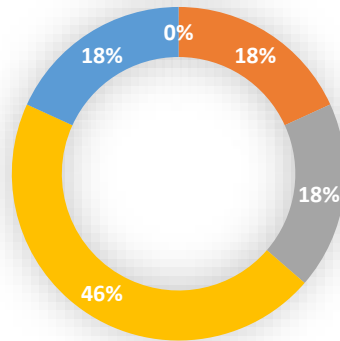
Question 4

Do you prefer to study at the campus or virtual learning? And why?



Question 5

How important is virtual learning to you?



■ Not Important ■ Slightly Important ■ Moderately Important ■ Important ■ Very Important

In-Class exercise: Questionnaire Design

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Aim: This exercise is aimed to help you in your questionnaire design. Please note, you need to use this questionnaire to conduct a survey which is also one of the important parts of your research report.

Please write down your questions that you are going to use in your primary data collection. Try to have different types of questions such as open ended question, close-ended question (YES/NO), , multiple choice question, Likert-scale question.

Question 1:

How likely are you to recommend virtual learning in UWTSD to your friends? (from 1 to 10)

Not At All
Likely

Extremely
Likely

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Question 2: How much time do you spend weekly in virtual learning classes?

- A) 4 to 8 hours
- B) 9 to 12 hours
- C) 13 to 18 hours
- D) more

Question 3: Are you happy to learn virtual learning? (Yes or No)

Question 4: What are the virtual learning facilities and challenges?

Question 5: Do you prefer to study at the campus or virtual learning? And why?

Question 6: How important is virtual learning to you?

Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Important	Very Important