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Introduction

A new method of delivery has been incorporated into the sector of education and training. As technology advances, new approaches to learning have been introduced despite traditional learning still being the most popular due to its convenience and accessibility.

Incorporating online methods into teaching and learning is still relatively new, but combining multiple methodologies is not new. In particular, blended learning has emerged as a viable alternative to traditional classrooms for delivering education and training.

How does blended learning work? Although blended learning has become increasingly popular, its exact definition is still ambiguous, according to Hrastinski (2019).

What is **Blended Learning?**



<https://blog.capterra.com/blended-learning/>

Blended learning: what is it?

Blended learning was first introduced in the 1840s by Sir Isaac Pitman, who delivered instructions for his shorthand system by correspondence, thus pioneering the idea of distance learning.

The method involves face-to-face classroom techniques and computer-mediated activities for teaching and learning. By integrating face-to-face and online activities as well as synchronous and asynchronous mechanisms, this pedagogical approach offers an excellent basis for arranging efficient learning processes.

The concept of blended learning refers to the integration of digital learning techniques with more traditional classroom-based instruction. Creating online learning experiences through synchronized and asynchronous technologies: “Challenges, convergence and integration. Indian Journal of Open Learning, IGNOU, 9(3), 381-391.”

The definition of blended learning differs from person to person, according to Driscoll (2019, p. 1). Blended learning's definition continuously changes as new concepts are incorporated with each new technology, illustrating its potential for expansion.

Specifically, Driscoll describes blended learning as using web-based technology in combination with pedagogical approaches, instructional technologies, and involving job tasks.

By applying the most effective method of instruction for each element of a program, blended learning maximizes learning potential, according to Elsenheimer (2006, p. 26).

Oxford Learner's Dictionaries describes blended learning as "a way of learning that combines being taught in class with the use of different technologies, including internet-based learning."

The term blended learning, according to Graham (2013), refers to the combination of online and face-to-face instruction.

In Practice: Blended Learning Models

It is possible to approach blended learning in a variety of ways. Depending on class requirements and available resources, schools may implement more than one model or combine different components of each based on what they deem to be the most effective way to teach.

This section lists a number of blended learning models that can be used to help learners complete their coursework or lessons in a different manner than they would with a traditional method of teaching:

- **Rotation of stations.** A classroom with one online learning station would benefit from this model. Rotating through stations is the basis of this model.
- **Lab rotation.** In this model, students rotate through computers rather than regular classrooms, just as with the station rotation model.
- **Rotation by individual.** Students rotate through stations according to a teacher's or a software algorithm's individual schedules. Individual rotations are not always the same as station rotations, since students cannot rotate through all stations at once.
- **Classroom flipped.** Students spend part of their time studying at home and part of their time inside the classroom using this model. Online coursework and lectures allow students to learn from the comfort of their own homes instead of doing their regular homework. Teacher-guided practices are used in class instead of lectures or other teaching methods.

- **A flexible model.** By using this model, students can schedule their learning activities according to their needs, giving them more control over their learning.
- **Enriched virtual model.** Students can complete most of their coursework outside of school with this model. A flipped classroom model requires students to attend school every day, while an enriched virtual model does not.

What are the benefits of blended learning?

By incorporating blended learning into the pedagogical approach, we are not eradicating traditional practices, but enhancing them with the inherent advantages of face-to-face interaction and online learning. Blended learning is about “finding the right balance between online access to knowledge and face-to-face interaction”, according to Osguthorpe and Graham (2003, p.228).

According to Albiladi and Alshareef, blended learning can be beneficial in three key areas:

Language skills development. In English as a second language (ESL) and English as a foreign language (EFL) classes, blended learning has been examined in a variety of studies. An ESL class that uses blended learning was studied by Grgurovic in 2011. Based on the study's results, students and teachers agreed that blended learning methods improved students' English language learning abilities. An Iranian study published by Ghazizadeh and Fatemipour in 2017 examined the language skills of 60 intermediate level Iranian EFL learners. One group of students received a blended learning approach, while the other received a more traditional approach. An analysis of t-test results found that classes that used blended learning had statistically superior results in reading proficiency than those who received traditional English instruction.

Engagement and motivation are increased. Adding online learning to traditional face-to-face teaching increases the motivation, satisfaction, and engagement of language learners (Albiladi and Alshareef, 2019). In addition to providing students with more learning opportunities outside of a traditional classroom setting, blended learning enables them to gain more specialized knowledge. Face-to-face and online teaching must, however, be used effectively to achieve this benefit.

Creating a better learning environment. As Senffner and Kepler (2015) describe it, blended learning promotes flexibility, scalability, and meaningful learning. Online components are a key component of blended learning's dynamic nature, as they allow students to learn at their own pace without being constrained by specific schedules, classes, or groups.

A blended learning approach is not only beneficial to academic institutions. The combined face-to-face and online learning approaches are also being incorporated into training practices by organizations, especially corporations and learning and development (L&D) professionals. It is more economical to train employees via blended learning than through traditional face-to-face methods.

Compared to traditional face-to-face learning, blended learning can be more economical since it requires fewer teachers to supervise students. Learning professionals can innovate by offering learning professionals the opportunity to create effective training, save time and money for the company, and make learning more engaging for learners (Atef & Medhat, 2015).

Is blended learning prone to pitfalls?

The use of blended learning does not come without challenges, despite being proven effective and promising in its potential. Despite individual learner characteristics and their experiences with technology, Hoffman (2014) say that the biggest challenge in blended learning is to ensure participants' commitment to using technology effectively.

A successful implementation of blended learning is constrained by the following limitations, identified by Graham (2006):

In-person interaction. Individuals who prefer face-to-face learning may find reduced human interactions detrimental to their learning experience. Incorporating blended learning into traditional teaching practices can be a major challenge for some teachers, especially when they don't fully understand that blended learning is more than just delivering content to students, but something completely different.

Adaptation to cultural differences. There must be a balance between global and local interests when disseminating uniform learning materials through online learning platforms. Culturally relevant learning materials can be customized to ensure global distribution.

Access to the Internet and adoption by users. Two of the biggest challenges facing developing countries when using blended learning are limited Internet access or a lack thereof and a lack of familiarity with using technology. Atef and Medhat (2015, p. 358) outline two of these issues.

Production and innovation must be balanced. Blended learning technology can also be affected by the constant struggle between innovation and production. The best way to design learning systems is to take full advantage of technological advances, but design sophistication might hamper cost-effectiveness.

Blended learning has the following advantages and disadvantages:

Pro	Cons
Accessibility and flexibility	A basic understanding of information technology
Assessment of students in an efficient manner	Costs related to additional services
Becomes more computer literate	The web is too exposed
The ability to provide individual support	Teachers are overburdened

Classes based on tradition

It was in France during the XVII century that tradition pedagogy was born. Under the leadership of San Ignacio de Loyola, the Jesuits consolidated the school. In traditional schools, the students' intelligence, their ability to solve problems, and their potential for attention and effort are developed as the best means of preparing a child for life. A student is

expected to integrate into the world as fast as possible through this type of teaching, providing abstract, schematic, and verbal knowledge to them.

Children and teenagers who don't have jobs are more likely to benefit from traditional courses. Constant attendance at school/college allows children to get in touch with other children their age, develops good behavior, teaches them how to follow the rules on a daily basis, and improves their physical and mental health. As a result of learning in the classroom, teachers and students become more familiar with each other. Students' strengths and weaknesses can be helpful to teachers when they need guidance in choosing a future career. Teachers also learn about the students' strengths and weaknesses. Traditional teaching is unidirectional, that is, it is directed from the teacher to the child, and children passively assimilated what the teacher was transmitting. Students, can express their opinions and speak directly to the teachers about their opinions and obtain their answers more quickly in a traditional classroom. As compared to online resources available on the Internet, students will find the Q&A model more practical and easier to understand than the online resources. The continuous interaction between students and teachers in a classroom also makes it much more useful for students, since it allows them to get rid of their exam fears.

In terms of social being, children are probably the best example. It is during this time that the first valid interpersonal relationships are forged when the little ones relate to other children in their class in a very natural way. Children present in the classroom ensure a much better control of the group for teachers. When the teacher interacts with the child "offline", he or she can observe much better how the children react to the information assimilated, thus allowing them to adapt their speech in real time, or intervene swiftly when some students disrupt the class. Teachers are the only ones responsible for organizing and developing students' activities in traditional schools. The emphasis is on the content of the classroom instruction. His students reproduce the material he dictates after he teaches them the materials. It is mainly mechanical memory that is used for learning. It takes a great deal of trust to be able read a book in this system, a textbook is considered the compass that guides a teacher, and the education is considered to be an "arrival", a "destination".

Principles of traditional education

- Teachers impose discipline by their presence.
- Every student learns the same thing from the teacher.
- Class activity is arranged according to how the teacher perceives its development, with the teacher at the center of attention.

- Children of the same age are in the same class.
- School sets a strict schedule for the child.

Advantages and disadvantages of traditional school:

Pro	Cons
A teacher's professional development	Methods of teaching from the past.
Meeting in person	Traveling too far
Become a learner	Materials must be purchased
Socialization is more effective	

Conclusion

In addition to increased access to the Internet and interactive Web applications, blended learning has also grown in popularity among schools. (Uğur, Akkoyunlu, & Kurbanoğlu, 2011). In addition to increased access to the Internet and interactive Web applications, blended learning has also grown in popularity among schools. Early research indicates students are more likely to enjoy Blended Learning courses than traditional classroom courses because educators must determine the perfect blend of face-to-face activities and online learning activities when designing courses. (Yapici & Akbayin, 2012). A new approach that redefines what it means to teach and learn will require teachers and students to work collaboratively and take equal ownership of the process. (O'Byrne, & Pytash, 2015).

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