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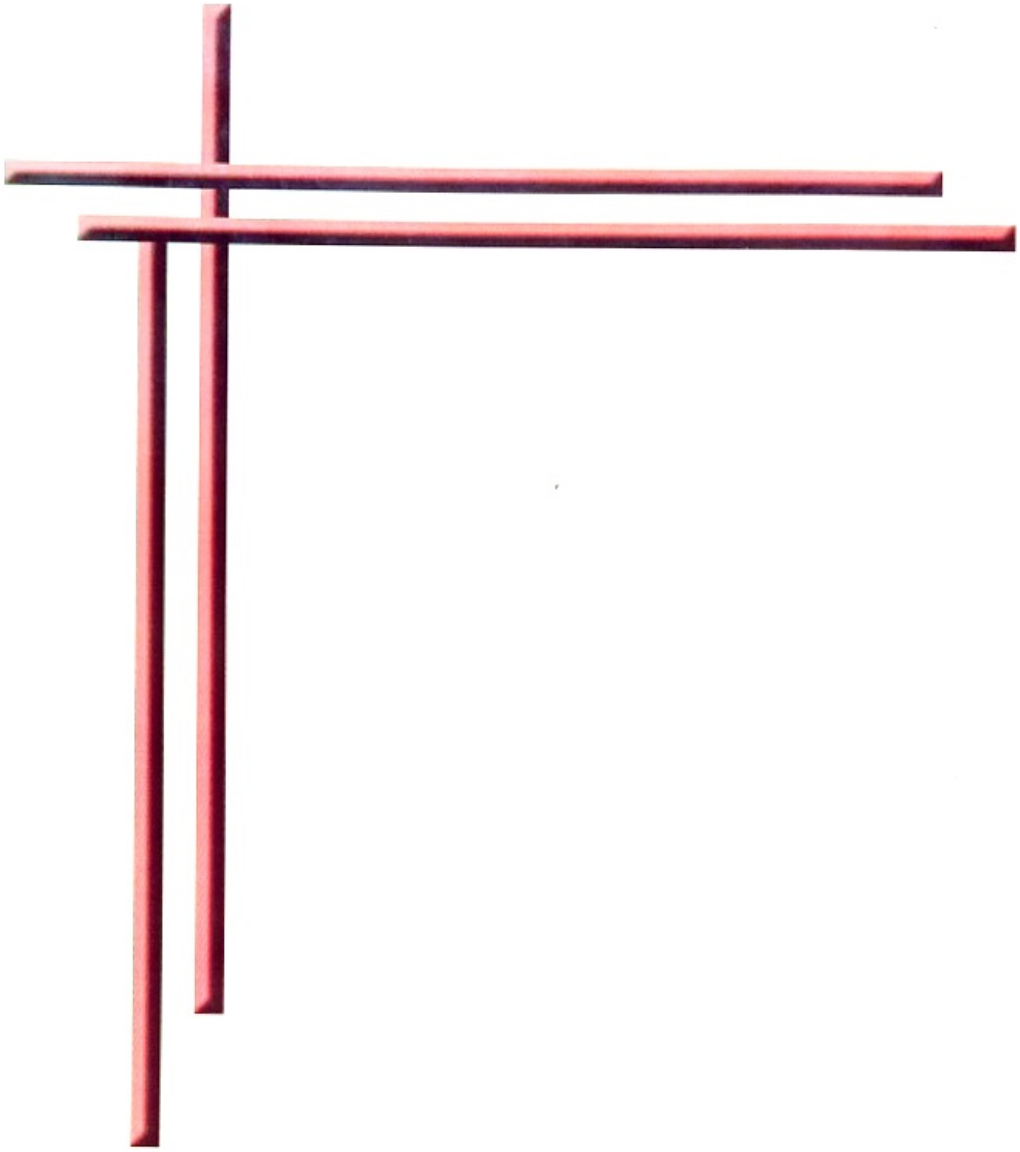

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Delhi Office:
4764/1, 23, Ansari Road, Daryaganj,
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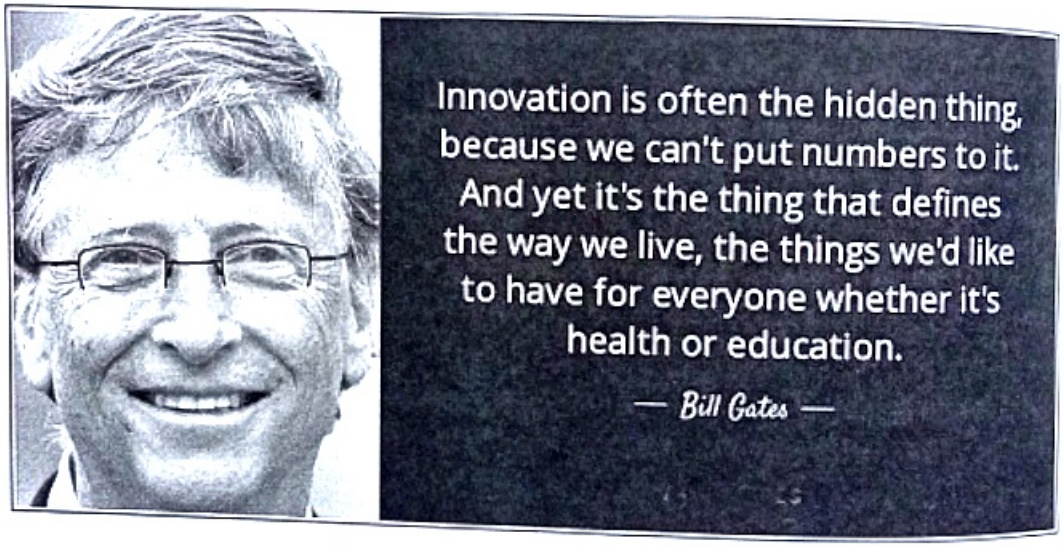
Innovation is often the hidden thing, because we can't put numbers to it. And yet it's the thing that defines the way we live, the things we'd like to have for everyone whether it's health or education.
— Bill Gates —

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Chief Editor

Dr. Jayan Erancheri Illam

Principal

Sreekrishnapuram V. T. Bhattathiripad College,
Mannampatta, Palakkad, Kerala.

Editors

Dr. Saritha Namboodiri

Head of the Department of Computer Science and
IQAC - Coordinator
Sreekrishnapuram V. T. Bhattathiripad College,
Mannampatta, Palakkad, Kerala.

Bhavya P.V.

Assistant Professor

Department of Computer Science
Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College,
Mannampatta, Palakkad, Kerala.

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Delhi Office:
4764/1, 23, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi-110 002,
✆ 011-23244237, +91 98118-28953
e-mail : neelkamalbooks@gmail.com
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Preface

This book "**Innovations in Education**" is a collaborative initiative by Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, University of Calicut. This aims to comprise the research perspectives of E-teaching and E-Content development. Researchers are from different educational backgrounds and they all are here to express their innovative ideas. Now, there is a lot of researches going on in this area of E-teaching and E-Content development. This book aims at motivating beginners in E-teaching by introducing new methodologies, going through discussions about the impact of digital teaching in the higher education area, and also provides new insights about E-teaching and E-learning. It is the need of the present day scenario. We extend our sincere gratitude to all who stood along with us in this great venture. We congratulate all the authors for their contributions to this volume.

This book suggests some approaches that they can adopt to manage this sudden shift of teaching and learning from physical classrooms to digital classrooms. Even though the internet and all the E-teaching technologies are around us for a long time, we were hesitant of implementing these into our Teaching-Learning process. This book aims to walk along with the teachers and guides them to a new era of E-teaching.

We must thank our publisher Mr. Suresh Chandra Sharma, Managing Director of Neelkamal Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi-Hyderabad, who has taken a lot of interest in this book. His efforts to bring out the Book in the excellent form will always be remembered.

We feel happy to entertain any suggestions and additions for refinements of this book and all such modifications will be taken care of in the next issue of the book.

Editors

Dr. Jayan Erancheri Illam
Dr. Saritha Namboodiri
Bhavya P.V.

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The technical support given by EMMRC, University of Calicut for our teachers and contributors to the book in related to educational technology is highly appreciated. We express our sincere gratitude to the team EMMRC for this successful endeavour.

We are extending our gratitude to all the contributors of the book.

Thank all those who contributed to the success of the physical creation to completion of this book.

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Contributors

This book is a compilation of research works and articles from the academicians and faculties of different disciplines from the educational institutions of Kerala.

The contributors of the book are:

1. Dr. Ampili Aravind, Principal, NSS Training College, Ottapalam.
2. Dr. Ashish, Assistant Professor, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta.
3. Suprabha. K. Assistant Professor, NSS Training College, Ottapalam, Palakkad.
4. Dr. G. Subramonian, Principal, Sri Ramakrishna Mission, Vidyalaya College of Education (Autonomous), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
5. Sangeetha Achuthan, Assistant Professor, NSS College, Manjeri
6. Swapna M.P., Research Scholar, Dept. of Computer Science, Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts and Science for Women, Coimbatore.
7. Dr. G. Satyavathy, Associate Professor, Dept. of Computer Science, Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts and Science for Women, Coimbatore.
8. Niman S., Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
9. Subha I.N., Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
10. Dr. Umer Farooque, Assistant Professor, Farook Training College, Calicut.
11. Santhosh T.M., Research Scholar, Farook Training College, Calicut.
12. Sadeep. K., Assistant Professor and Head, Dept. of Physical Education, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.

13. Mohammed Azeez V.K., Ph.D. Research Scholar (Full Time), Department of Physical Education, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu.
14. Dr. Seema Menon K.P., Assistant Professor, NSS Training College, Ottapalam.
15. Dr. Sagy John, HSST Zoology, GHSS Puthuppadi, Kozhikkode.
16. Rathi K.N., Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
17. Sathyabhama N., Assistant Professor, Department of History, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad
18. Vidya K., Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
19. Bhavya P.V., Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
20. Aswathy A., Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
21. Sathyavathi M., Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
22. P. Divya, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
23. Anu, A.N., Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
24. Vijayalakshmi. K.K., Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad.
25. Rajitha, M., Assistant Professor, CCST for Women, Karalmanna.

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INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION

Contents

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CHAPTER

16

Blended Learning An Overview

–Vijayalakshmi. K.K.*

ABSTRACT

Education is one of the areas that are experiencing phenomenal changes as a result of the advancement and use of information technology. Now a days the studies, articles and research papers related to blended learning have been increased is an evident of importance of the topic. Blended learning can be defined as the mixing of face-to-face teaching and online learning. Blended learning has been growing in popularity as it has proved to be an effective approach for accommodating an increasingly diverse student population whilst adding value to the learning environment through incorporation of online teaching resources. Like any other learning strategy, blended learning also has positive and negative aspects. A blended learning approach provides ultimate flexibility, effectiveness and efficiency etc in presenting content. This paper tries to analyse an overview of blended learning.

16.1 Introduction

Education is one of the areas that are experiencing phenomenal changes as a result of the advancement and use of information technology. With the introduction of technology, the overall learning as well as teaching experience is considerably enhanced by covering negative aspects of the traditional approach. Blended learning is an approach to education that combines online educational materials and opportunities for interaction online with traditional place-based classroom methods. It requires the

* Vijayalakshmi. K.K., Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Sreekrishnapuram V.T. Bhattathiripad College, Mannampatta, Palakkad, Kerala.

physical presence of both teacher and student, with some elements of student control over time, place, path, or pace. Sometimes it is called hybrid learning. blended learning uses a mix of training strategies to deliver the best results. Any program that combines traditional classroom training with computer-based or online training is gaining the benefits of blended learning. Blended learning has been growing in popularity as it has proved to be an effective approach for accommodating an increasingly diverse student population at the same time as adding value to the learning environment through incorporation of online teaching resources.

Blended learning can be defined as the mixing of face-to-face teaching and online learning. Students have some choice over where they study. But it is still the teacher who decides the extent of the choice, as well as which elements of the student's education are completed online and which elements are completed in the class. The students' self-study work was supported by an online element. Safe, secure and time-saving online learning spaces with the rise of learning platforms, teachers and students have access to a shared online learning environment that only they can access. This enables the teacher to set up and manage online activities where students can chat, share knowledge, ask questions, access learning resources and complete work online – without the fear of random internet users tentative across the information.

16.2 Literature Review

Now a days the studies, articles and research papers related to blended learning have been increased is an evident of importance of the topic. Study of Blended Learning Process in Education Context, Khan.etal report that the attraction of blended learning approach lies in the revision of technology aided learning methods in addition to the existing traditional based learning. Blended learning allows teachers and course designers to develop their own understandings of the term within the context of their courses or institutions, and then use that as basis to design their blended courses, Blended learning in higher education: Three different design approaches, Alammary.etal.

Here an attempt was made to explore the overview of blended learning and also to analyse the types relating to blended learning.

16.3 Advantages in Blended Learning

A blended learning approach provides ultimate flexibility in presenting content. Complex topics are often presented within the classroom, while other subject materials are often available online. With an internet component, the teacher can increase flexibility.

Every participant has different learning capabilities and not all of them are always on an equivalent page in terms of grasping the data. They'll choose the trail through specific topic areas as they think right. So blended learning is effective with different learning capabilities.

With a well-planned blended learning strategy, one can efficiently and quickly deliver training to a broad audience. And with digital assets like videos and recordings and eBooks, the potential for re-use is large.

Blended have the strategy of cost effectiveness. It Include more online options within the educational program saves on travel and missed work for instance, after you are hosting live events online, you eliminate employee and instructor travel costs. Likewise, when the venue is your own desk, that's clearly a savings over large rooms.

Any training that's not well implemented can create an isolating and impersonal learning experience. But the great news is that a well-crafted blended solution can provide a nonstop transition from classroom to computer or vice-versa. One can design ways of constant discussion themes and personalizing content to a person's specific job or interests.

Creating a blended learning strategy reduces classroom teaching time. By digitizing the expertise of talented instructors or subject-matter experts, one can reach more people with high-quality content at a fraction of the price. That frees up educated instructors to supply more classes, or create more training content, or work on other things.

It's always important to require learning styles under consideration then designing training for adults. Blended learning covers all learning styles. Effective blended learning could be a better of all worlds'solution that may help to cater to all or any learning styles through a spread of mediums and techniques.

With blended learning strategy, a participant can access the resources within the absence of the trainer; it still improves the communication and interaction amongst the participants and also with the instructors. Such online learning platforms offer an excellent sort of communication tools like email, news announcements, instant messaging, online grading tool, online discussion, drop boxes, or more.

With right tools within the blended learning course one can easily hunt the information in terms of participants' eventual performance improvement. This learning strategy makes data tracking plenty more convenient and quicker.

16.4 Disadvantages

Incorporation of advanced technology within the blended learning projects like infrastructure setup and devices are now and then costly. In an exceedingly corporate setup, this can be very true for bigger organizations having various departments or an oversized workforce.

So as to attain the training objectives of the blended learning program, the content developers use the technological tools and resources that are easy to use, reliable, and up-to-date. All of this can be possible if participants have strong internet connectivity as this incorporates a meaningful impact in terms of overall learning environment and knowledge.

Since blended learning is about technological dependence, there's a limitation with regards to technical skills of both the instructors and also the learners. Students and instructors who don't seem to be tech-savvy can face a good barrier in terms of smooth interactions. The participants will face difficulty in accessing the course material; therefore, this learning strategy must go together with adequate technical support.

If the learners or students are unaware of technology utilized in the training course, there's an opportunity to not get the specified results. Similarly, if the provided technological tools are inadequate and not in relevance to the course material, then this may even be wastage of resources.

In today's world, the training and dealing environment offer unparalleled opportunities for training programs just by adopting blended learning approach. This learning strategy is often applied to any program which holds on to the values of traditional learning and incorporates digital media therewith. The approach could be a lot more efficient, effective and appealing to individuals than anything that has been ever before.

Indeed it has the values of traditional learning and at constant time, it offers great feasibility by leveraging technological advancements to save lots of time and money both. This learning strategy has now given rise to several learning platforms globally and is now one in every of the foremost adopted learning tools.

16.5 Types of Blended Learning

One approach to blended learning, making it easy for organizations or educational institutions to supplement lessons with e-learning modules, but this is often only 1 approach. There are many alternative strategies for implementing a blended learning method of learning, (Learn Dash). Each of the approaches uses technology in varying degrees.

1. Station Rotation Blended Learning

Station-Rotation blended learning may be a model that enables students to rotate through stations on a set schedule, where a minimum of one in all the stations is an internet learning station. This model is most typical in elementary schools because teachers are already at home with rotating in centres and stations.

2. Lab Rotation Blended Learning

The Lab Rotation model of blended learning just like Station Rotation which works by allowing students to rotate through stations on a set schedule during a dedicated computer lab granting flexible scheduling arrangements with teacherenabling schools to create use of existing computer labs.

3. Remote Blended Learning

In Enriched Virtual blended learning the student's focus is on completing online coursework while only meeting with the teacher intermittently or asneeded. This approach differs from the Flipped Classroom model within the balance of online to face-to-face instructional time. In an Enriched Virtual blended learning model, students wouldn't see or work with or learning from a lecturer on a everyday face-to-face.But in flippedsetting it's possible.

4. Flex Blended Learning

The teacher of record or other adults provide face-to-face support on a versatile and adaptive as-needed basis through activities like small-group instruction, group projects, and individual tutoring.

5. The 'Flipped Classroom' Blended Learning

It's the foremost widely known version of blended learning. A Flipped Classroom is one where students are introduced to content at home and practice working through it in school supported by a lecturer or peer.

6. Individual Rotation Blended Learning

The Individual Rotation model allows students to rotate through stations but on individual schedules set by a lecturer or software algorithm. Unlike other rotation models, students don't necessarily rotate to each stationthey rotate only to the activities scheduled on their playlists.

7. Project-Based Blended Learning

Blended Project-Based Learning may be a model within which the scholar uses both online learning either within the style of courses or self-

directed accessand face-to-face instruction and collaboration to style,repeat, and publish project-based learning assignments and products.

8. Self-Directed Blended Learning

In Self-Directed blended learning students use a mixture of online and face-to-face learning to guide their own personalized inquiry,achieve formal learning goals, connect with mentors physically and digitally, etc. because the learning is self-directed the roles of online learning and physical teachers change and there are not any formal online courses to finish.

9. Inside-Out Blended Learning

In Inside-Out blended learning, experiences are planned to end or find you beyond the physical classroom but still require and get pleasure from the unique advantages of both physical and digital spaces. In both the Outside-In and Inside-Out models the character of the net learning is a smaller amount critical than the main target on platforms, spaces, people, and opportunity beyond the college walls.

10. Outside-In Blended Learning

In Outside-In blended learning experiences are planned to begin within the non-academic physical and digital environments students use on a everyday but finish inside a classroom.

11. Supplemental Blended Learning

During this model, students complete either entirely online work to supplement their day-to-day face-to-face learningor entirely face-to-face learning experiences to supplement the educational gained in online courses and activities.

12. Mastery-Based Blended Learning

Students rotate between online and face-to-face learning It include activities, assessments, projects, etc. supported the completion of mastery-based learning objectives.Assessment design is crucial in any mastery-based learning experience the flexibility to use face-to-face and digital assessment tools are either powerful or complicated reckoning on the mindset of the educational designer.

16.6 Conclusion

Blended learning has been growing in popularity as it has proved to be an effective approach for accommodating an increasingly diverse student population whilst adding value to the learning environment through incorporation of online teaching resources. Like any other learning strategy,

blended learning also has positive and negative aspects. A blended learning approach provides ultimate flexibility, effectiveness and efficiency etc. in presenting content. Indeed it has the values of traditional learning and at constant time, it offers great feasibility by leveraging technological advancements to save lots of time and money both. This learning strategy has now given rise to several learning platforms globally and is now one in every of the foremost adopted learning tools.

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