STAND-ALONE INSTRUCTION

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Stand-Alone Instruction is an interactive instructional technique that encourages self-learning of the students usually online or offline that uses computer to present and monitor instructional and learning materials, which involves the interaction of the students with programmed instructional materials. It uses a combination of text, sounds, graphics and video in presenting the subject to be discussed. This technological learning tool aims to let the students to understand a subject matter even without the presence of the teacher in the classroom.

Subsequently, people learn abstract, new, and novel concepts more easily when they are presented in both verbal and visual form. Visual media makes concepts more accessible to a person than plain text and helps him to recall the information easier. In 2009, Willingham asserted this point when he asked the question “why do students remember everything that’s on television and forget what we lecture?” The retention of concepts, ideas and learning was made possible with the use of visual media.

Likewise, technology plays a crucial role in developing a learning environment that encourage one way communication media like movies, videos, documentaries and music merge into one and requires interactive learning like visualizations. A lot of media sources have the capability of showcasing complex ideas within a short period of time that enable the learning process to take shorter time of understanding. Student-created media provides individual learning, social interaction and immersion. Media resources can be used in lectures to stimulate interest and develop learning about the subject being taught.
However, some argued that dependence on technological and media tools like the Stand Alone Instruction reduces the interaction in the classroom and becomes less inclined in sharing ideas. In contrary to the numerous advantages that one may get in Stand Alone Instruction, there are also disadvantages that a teacher must keep in mind. Overusing of media and graphics may divert the student’s attention away from the content. Learning becomes too mechanical and feels overwhelmed by the information or elements being incorporated in the material.

Stand Alone Instruction having made use of or combination of different media resources together with text and graphics can be used in teaching almost every discipline to enhance learning.

References:

http://serc.carleton.edu/sp/library/media/what.html