UNDERSTANDING DISTANCE EDUCATION

by:
Jovher Dela Cruz Jerus
Teacher Applicant

Any learning that occurs without the students being physically present in the classroom is referred to as distance learning. (However, in some cases, this could also refer to the teacher.) Historically, this referred to correspondence courses in which students communicated with their schools or teachers via mail. Distance education has recently moved online to include a wide range of systems and methods that can be accessed from virtually any connected device (ViewSonic, 2020).

Distance learning is a type of education that takes place outside of physical space and time and is made possible by technological advancements. With distance learning or hybrid courses, online educational tools allow students and instructors to interact synchronously or asynchronously, providing limitless training opportunities (Papadopoulou, 2020). Distance learning, also known as distance education, e-learning, or online learning, is a type of education in which teachers and students are physically separated during instruction. A variety of technologies aids Student-teacher and student-student communication. Distance learning has traditionally benefited nontraditional students, such as full-time workers, military personnel, nonresidents, and people who live in remote areas and cannot attend classroom lectures. On the other hand, distance learning has become a well-established part of the educational landscape, with trends indicating that it will continue to grow (Simonson, 2021).

According to Vindollo and Buendia (2016), distance education is a method of education where students can study in their own choice of place and time without meeting their teachers face-to-face. Instruction in distance education is being delivered using unique materials and technologies that may be included in the alternative delivery
system. Here are some of the characteristics of distance education: provides learners with physical disabilities, work, and other personal reasons a chance to learn and be educated with attending formal schooling, the aims is to achieve independent learning, provides learners with learning packages that are prepared by qualified instructional designers and are supported by various technologies, provides accessibility to the learners, provides convenience and flexibility to learners, cost-effective, provides greater access to new technology and support student-centered approach.

These are just a few of the reasons why 90 percent of students today believe that online learning is on par with or better than traditional classroom instruction. While this alternative to traditional education is not for everyone, it is a convenient option for students worldwide with virtually endless options (Education.com, 2020).

References:


