

**STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING E-LEARNING
IMPLEMENTATION IN UTM**

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I Dedicated First and foremost, I would like to express my greatest gratitude and thank to ALLAH SWT for all the achievements that I have gained today. also I dedicated to give this theses to my family especially to my father Mr. Qusay Yahya Kasim, and My mother Madam Ahlam Hamid whose love, encouragement and values Will always guide and inspire me was always encourage me would also like to Thank to all my loving family, friends(Mohammed Al-Ali, Mohammed Hasson, Omar, Omar Ismail and Ahmed), and beloved siblings (Aoday, Rana, & Ahmed)

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ABSTRACT

Electronic learning has captured the attention of many learners in the world nowadays. It rose as a result of the development of Internet technologies, the World Wide Web. E-learning became pressing need to meet today's learning process requirements. Furthermore; it provides faster learning, reduced costs, and increased access to learning and clear accountability for all participants in the learning process. In order to meet the increasing demands of the new technology requirements, e-learning technology was implemented in University Technology Malaysia with the goal of transforming the education system on the recent four years. The aims of this study firstly, to evaluate the effectiveness of E-learning system from lecturer's perspective in UTM during the last four years. However e-learning in UTM must provide more awareness for lecturers in UTM, right at the moment not all the lecturers are not aware enough of using E-learning system, even though they are using traditional teaching methods or some other methods. Secondly; to investigate whether UTM E-learning system applicable to the other utilized e-learning systems in other universities around the world in terms of efficiency and importancy. Results than the analysis carried out and examined, strategies for the use of E-Learning is more impressive has been mapped by using SWOT analysis. Also, this study has outlined some guidelines for Center of Teaching & Learning.

ABSTRAK

E-Pembelajaran merupakan salah satu aplikasi yang semakin diberi perhatian dalam era pendidikan pengajian tinggi pada masa kini. Ini adalah berikutan perkembangan pesat Teknologi Informasi dan Komunikasi juga teknologi Web. E-Pembelajaran boleh dianggap sebagai salah satu keperluan dalam proses pembelajaran masa kini. Ini adalah berikutan kemampuan E-pembelajaran yang membolehkan pembelajaran dalam masa yang lebih singkat, penurunan kos operasi, capaian meningkat kepada sumber-sumber maklumat dan kebolehan untuk mengenalpasti penyertaan pelajar dalam proses pembelajaran. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) telah melaksanakan penggunaan Moodle untuk menyokong proses pengajaran dan pembelajaran yang lebih berkesan. Kajian ini dijalankan bagi mengenalpasti impak penggunaan sistem E-Pembelajaran UTM kepada pensyarah-pensyarah. Kajian Literatur telah dijalankan bagi mengenalpasti penggunaan E-Pembelajaran di universiti-universiti lain. Selain itu, borang kaji selidik telah diedarkan kepada pensyarah-pensyarah di empat buah fakulti di UTM. Kaji selidik yang telah dijalankan merangkumi persoalan persepsi pensyarah terhadap penggunaan, fungsi-fungsi serta keperluan fungsi-fungsi lain dalam Sistem E-Pembelajaran UTM. Hasil daripada analisa kaji selidik yang dijalankan, strategi bagi penggunaan E-Pembelajaran yang lebih berkesan telah digariskan dengan menggunakan analisis SWOT. Selain itu juga, kajian ini telah menggariskan beberapa panduan untuk Pusat Pembelajaran & Pembelajaran, UTM bagi penggunaan Sistem E-Learning UTM secara lebih berkesan.

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CHAPTER 1

PROJECT OVERVIEW

1.1 Introduction

Electronic learning in the past and to a certain extent today consists of merely presenting the user with some information, and perhaps giving them a multiple choice quiz to determine whether they read and understood that information. That information was delivered either through some proprietary program or over the web as standard.

E-learning today allows students to get fully involved-trying things out, participate in simulation and tests like never before, and get more out of learning than ever before, however if supporting learning aims provides a chance for the user to put some skills or techniques covered into practice or test or assignment, the user on their comprehension of the video then perhaps it is a vital part in the e-learning process, the same thing could be said of a PowerPoint presentation.

It many cases it simply does not make sense to not take advantage of existing material - this may involve movies, audio, PowerPoint presentations, acrobat documents, animations in flash, etc.

The advancement of the technology must be properly utilized UTM must imitate the footsteps of the developed universities in preparing the needs of education, with regards to the changes due to the technology. Need to produce workforce capable of handling an exploding knowledge base. The internet, multimedia, online interactions and video conferencing facilities are the new learning needs, which are capable of responding to these new growing demands. As such of delivering the curriculum into students is viewed as a part of a larger phenomenon where, virtual studding is cresting several years after the maturation of e-learning in higher education. The focus, however, in higher education has been primarily on asynchronous methods of course delivery rather than on synchronous systems. Students would utilize course content emails, discussion postings, and other related materials via an asynchronous system. Recent developments in software design are now permitting e-learners access to virtual classrooms with synchronous communication with their 'e-teacher'. It is this model of a combination of asynchronous and synchronous communication that is being utilized by the CTL.

As the CTL continues to develop its services for students in UTM several key issues will undoubtedly become topics of discussion. One such issue surrounds the nature of the learner and the impact that this knowledge can have on their potential success as an e-learner. With the convenience and flexibility of e-learning, learners often neglect to consider the appropriateness of online instruction for their individual learning behaviors and characteristics. Notably institutions delivering e-learning programs seldom provide surveys for potential e-learners in order to determine if e-learning is an appropriate choice. Recent research involving the effects of online education has emphasized dimensions such as the learner's performance and course evaluation but has largely ignored the role of student characteristics

In the end impact learner success as it relates to overall performance and enjoyment within the e-learning environment. By understanding more about the e-learners it may be possible to enhance their learning. "If they can find variables that impact student success, they might be able to design courses according to the students' preferred learning styles to help bridge the gap of not knowing the students as well as in a face-to-face environment.

1.2 Background of the Problem

As UTM lecturers should use the e-learning system to communicate and provide knowledge and materials to their student easily, so the e-learning system must be available to the lecturers. Most of the lecturers are not aware with system, some can use the system little, while some are able to use it successfully. Statistics have shown that it is still not being used fully by lecturers and students in some faculties. Nowadays, students may face difficulty in obtaining notes from lecturers because the lecturers did not uses this available application of e-learning where all the notes and academic information can be stored and retrieved by the lecturers or students. As a result, students have to bring their own diskettes or other storage devices to save all the notes for reference.

Besides, the students have to meet their lecturers when they need to submit their assignment, projects or coursework. It is difficult for the students who are working and living far away from UTM to go to the campus. Others than that, there is no such medium for students to check their marks.

Based on previous about e-learning at UTM , it was found several things, which are :

- i. Frequency of lecturers in the use of e-learning at UTM is 3-4 times a week, and there are lecturers who use e-learning less than once a week.
- ii. Factors that affect lecturers in the use e-learning are interest to use ICT, want to try something new feel comfortable to use ICT and does not want to leave behind in the use e-learning.
- iii. Other factors that cause the low interest of lecturer to use e-learning that is of low motivation, cost, time and ease of use e-learning.
- iv. Internet connection that often break down

1.3 Problem Statement

To conclude that according to the literature reviewed, the impact of the e-learning systems on the lecturer's depends upon how the system is implemented, the lecturers will not adopt it if the system is complex, and there is no training, awareness or presentation given by e-learning system management. Some lecturers give the positive impact as it improves the quality of education and helps them in developing new teaching style, save the time, save cost of traveling to different campuses, easily accessible and much effective, but should be implement with blended face to face teaching style. Over all most of the lecturers throughout the campuses will like to adopt these e-learning tools, and have positive impact from the background of the problem, some of the problems has been identified and to be solved.

- i. Do lecturers have enough skill that related to e-learning usage?
- ii. What are the functions in UTM e-learning that give impact to teaching?
- iii. What are the possible additional tools that can enhance UTM e-learning?
- iv. What are the strategies that can be formulated to enhance e-learning implementation in UTM?

UTM has embarked on e-learning for the past 4 years, hence it is timely to investigate on impact study on the effectiveness of this e-learning.

1.4 Objectives

In order to accomplish this study, few objectives have been identified as stated below.

- i. To determine the current implementation of e-learning to the UTM lecturers.
- ii. To study the effectiveness of e-learning service from lecturers perspectives.
- iii. To identify future feature of e-learning that need by lecturers.
- iv. To suggest the strategies that can be formulated to enhance e-learning implementation in UTM.

1.5 Scopes of the Project:

The scope of this project includes:

- i. Review the current service of e-learning at UTM.
- ii. Focused on UTM lecturers as the user , from top two highest and lowest two faculties which has number of lecturers in using e-learning, at skudai campus.
- iii. Focus on undergraduate lecturers.
- iv. Focus on full time programme lecturers
- v. Focus on UTM Moodle e-learning.

1.6 Project Report Structure

This study is divided into seven chapters as following:

- i. The first chapter describes the background of the impact of lecturer in UTM e-learning, the problem statement, research objectives, and the significance of the study.
- ii. Chapter two reviews the literature and conceptualizes the model for the study as well as the hypotheses.
- iii. Chapter three explains the methodology. It contains the study setting, study design, study sampling procedure, data collection, and method of data analysis.

- iv. Chapter four focuses on the data collection of this project and develops the questionnaire.
- v. Chapter five represents the analysis data from questionnaire and interview
- vi. Chapter six reviews the strategy of e-learning & recommendation.
- vii. Finally chapter seven represents the discussion and conclusions.

1.7 Summary

In this chapter a brief introduction about the concept of the project and how the project is being achieved has been discussed. The problem background and statements has also been mentioned in a space of this chapter to give a clear background and introduction of the project, and to explain why this project has been proposed (the purpose). The objectives, scope and importance of this project have also been pointed out.