











INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY CARNIVAL ON E-LEARNING (IUCEL)2023

Awards Competition Exhibitions Features Talk

25"-26" SEPTEMBER

DEWAN MBK KUANTAN PAHANG DARUL MAKMUR

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG AL-SULTAN ABDULLAH (UMPSA)

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IUCEL2023

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY CARNIVAL ON E-LEARNING كرنيول اي قمبلاجرن اونيورسيتي قريغكت انتار ابغسا



INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY CARNIVAL ON E-LEARNING (IUCEL) 2023

Awards ■ Competition ■ Exhibitions ■ Features Talk ■



DEWAN MBK KUANTAN PAHANG DARUL MAKMUR

















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IUCEL2023. IIDEL110 SELF-DIRECTED ASSESSMENT: LEARNING TAKES PLACE IN BLENDED LEARNING

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Abstract

Blended Learning emerged from traditional electronic learning. As normality is easing back after the COVID-19 pandemic, BL is again widespread in teaching and learning in Higher Institutions of Learning. The objective of this endeavour is to empower learners with meaningful BL experiences. To achieve this, a meticulously planned Online Instructional Design (OID) was used on Moodle version 3.14 among learners of MDU1023 at the Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS). The OID consists of Micro-Learning, Personalised Learning and Accessible Assessment. For the component of Accessible Assessment, Self-Directed Assessment (SDA) was made available for learners of MDU1023. Self-directed Assessment (SDA) is an online module where learners complete interactive work to demonstrate their proficiency in a subject matter. SDA is a compilation of questions in a database with careful annotation and curation relevant to the learning outcome of the learning units of MDU1023. The access to SDA is via Moodle platform known as the electronic Learning Enrichment & Advancement Platform (eLEAP) at UNIMAS. Learners' perceptions of the OID used in MDU1023, particularly the SDA, were gauged via a Google form questionnaire. A healthy response rate was obtained from a potential 107 learners. The learners of MDU1023 reported unanimously that the SDA in BL via eLEAP created a path for them to experience an impactful learning experience. Therefore, it is evident that a carefully curated SDA in BL can ensure the instructor that the learners are experiencing impactful and meaningful learning.

Keywords: Self-Directed Assessment, Formative Assessment, Blended Learning





SELF-DIRECTED ASSESSMENT: ENSURING LEARNING TAKES PLACE IN BLENDED LEARNING

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Abstract

Blended Learning (BL) emerged from the traditional electronic Learning. As normality is easing back after the COVID-19 pandemic, BL is once again widespread in Teaching and Leaning (TL) in Higher Institution of Learning. The objective of this endeavour is to empower learners with meaningful BL experience. In order to achieve this, a meticulously planned Online Instructional Design (OID) was used on Moodle version 3.14, among learners of MDU1023 at Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS). The OID consists of Micro Learning, Personalised Learning and Accessible Assessment. For the component of Accessible Assessment, Self-Directed Assessment (SDA) were made available for learners of MDU1023. Self-directed Assessment (SDA) is an online module where learners complete an interactive work to demonstrate their proficiency in a given subject matter. SDA is a compilation of questions in a database with careful annotation and curation relevant to the learning outcome of the learning units of MDU1023. The access to SDA is via Moodle platform known as electronic Learning Enrichment & Advancement Platform (eLEAP) at UNIMAS. Learners perception of the OID used in MDU1023 and in particular the SDA, were gauged via a google form questionnaire. A healthy response rate was obtained from a potential 107 learners. The learners of MDU1023 reported unanimous that the SDA in BL via eLEAP created a path for them to experience an impactful learning experience. Therefore, this is an evident that a carefully curated SDA in BL can ensure the instructor that the leaners are experiencing impactful and meaningful learning.

Keywords: Self-Directed Assessment, Formative Assessment, Blended Learning

BACKGROUND OF THE RESEARCH / INNOVATION / INVENTION / DESIGN

To overcome the pitfalls in the electronic dissemination of knowledge to learners in distance learning (DL), the introduction of blended learning (BL) came into existence. BL has been advocated in institution of higher learning from 2004. COVID-19 pandemic has transformed BL into remote learning (RL). Today BL is back as the main online mode in teaching and learning (TnL)

The declaration of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) as a worldwide pandemic (Bahaeldin, 2020)

has led to the Movement Control Order (MCO) in Malaysia (Bunyan, 2020; Jun, 2020; Sukumaran, 2020; Tang, 2020). The MCO forced TnL service providers to adopt and adapt new norm in TnL process. The learners together with the TnL service providers were challenged to accept the drastic change from face-to-face (F2F) classroom settings to RL (Ahmed, Allaf, & Elghazaly, 2020; Alsafi, Abbas, Hassan, & Ali, 2020). The switch has thus created an unparalleled instructional environment. Now we are back to BL. Although the evolution of these e-learning methods are in great pace, one thing that is pertinent is the instructional design (ID). The ID used in face to face (F2F) classroom setting has become very essential in BL. This paper highlights the importance of online ID in BL and how learning can be gauged using moodle analytics.

The combination of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) with the TnL disciplines made what is now known as electronic Learning (e-Learning). This electronic TnL via digital resources enables BL. Figure 1 shows the evolution of course-delivery modalities using e-Learning in higher education. The integration of technology encouraged the promotion of diverse learning environment. This nurtures learners' engagement and interaction to learn new skills with comprehensive understanding of the subject matter in a new way which is the millennials' way.

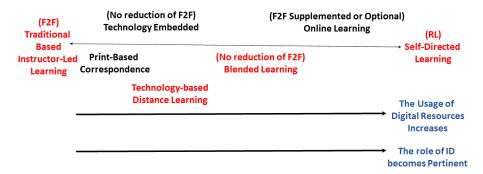


Figure 1: The evolution of course-delivery modalities in higher education

The e-Learning mode is synonymous with ubiquitous learning and has many advantages when properly done. Nevertheless, there are disadvantages of e-Learning. Firstly, minimal social interaction among learners and with instructors. Online learners must be strong will, ICT literate and efficient time managers. Assessment via e-Learning requires many ICT resources to enforce proctoring. Hands-on activity will be a challenge to execute in e-Learning platforms. E-Learners will also be burdened with data plan. On the other hand, breakout room for interactions and the cost effectiveness due to reduction in travelling, can alleviate the disadvantages of e-Learning. Overall the disadvantages of BL can be minimized via good instructional design (ID).

The F2F pedagogy requires ID and today with the extensive use of BL (Ghazi-Saidi et al., 2020) in our daily TnL activity, ID has become even more pertinent. This evolution of modes of e-Learning has given us the instructional technology. Today instructional technology is taking shape in the form of OID. This paper will suggest the role of OID to inculcate knowledge accurately and to construct Self Directed Learning material via asynchronous mode. Furthermore, this paper will inform how Accessible Assessment can ensure learning takes place in a BL environment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH / INNOVATION / INVENTION / DESIGN

This innovation is regarding the importance of OID in ensuring a meaningful learning for remote learners. This paper suggests the use of meticulously constructed OID. The OID enables how to disseminate the digital learning resources to the learners in an effective and innovative way. The design includes and focuses on three pertinent area of online learning, they are micro learning,

personalized e-learning and accessible assessments (Table 1). During the peak COVID-19 pandemic, the goal of education was to keep providing learning opportunities to learners by restricting the social contact among instructors-students and student-student F2F interactions. Varied digital learning resources provide the learning opportunities. Upon mastering these resources remote learners are expected to demonstrate their learning in various assessment modalities.

Table 1: Key elements of Online Instructional Design (OID). Whereby self-directed assessment is a key point in enabling learning to take place.

Elements	Functionality
Micro Learning	Creation of learning content in a byte-size learning manner.
Personalise d Learning	Ubiquitous leaning opportunity endowed to learners enabling absorption, recalling and retention of knowledge effectively.
Accessible Assessment	Self-directed assessment (SDA) and practice ensuring learner's power of knowledge retention.

The Accessible Assessment is the part where self-directed assessment being used to ensure learning is taking place. This paper will show how using moodle platform we can monitor the learners' engagement and also ensuring that meaningful learning do take place. For this assessment purpose, SDA was made using the moodle platform. A question database is prepared and made available for learners to practice. Through the moodle configuration we are able to monitor the progress of the individual student.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH / INNOVATION / INVENTION / DESIGN

The current online instruction observed in many online courses have some flaws that may have been overlooked due to some reasons. One of the flaws of many current online courses is reproducing F2F approach. In an example, a one-hour lecture in a traditional TnL doesn't equate to an hour video recording in an online course setting. Instead, key points of the lecture need to be addressed in a byte-size manner using micro learning approaches. Followed by making it available in learning management system for personalized learning. Finally allowing the students to be able to do SDA for learning to happen.

We must realize that the primary goal of online learning is not only to disseminate knowledge from instructor to students but to create most effective and innovative instructional strategies to engage learners in a meaningful way. How do we ensure learning as taken place? Using SDA with the assist of LMS, we can ensure learning is happening and ensure knowledge transfer.

IMPACT OF THE INNOVATION/INVENTION/DESIGN TOWARDS EDUCATION OR COMMUNITY

The user experience is vital in e-Learning. The OID suggested in this work is simple yet it encompasses key elements that are integral for online learning to happen. The goal of learning can be easily achieved by the learners. Hence, this will make the learning a breeze. In the long run this OID with the help of SDA is able to retain learners' knowledge. Learning analytics shows that learning is measurable, and can be used to determine if learners are engaging meaningfully.

COMMERCIALIZATION POTENTIAL

The design of the online courses based on this OID can be applied to all disciplines, this ensures the marketability of this product. The concept of ID used here is simple yet effective. The content expert in the particular discipline needs to understand the pedagogy and course design in order to appreciate the OID proposed in this paper.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about a significant alteration in our current education landscape and the TnL fraternity has accepted the challenge by going remote learning and now we have embraced blended learning. We have implemented full online learning methodology and due to this we have to ensure the quality of knowledge dissemination in this mode. This paper proposes a simple yet comprehensive online instructional design to make blended learning more meaningful to learners.

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