E-Learning Should Replace the Traditional Approach to Education

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According to Forbes, by 2025, everything will be connected to the internet and to the cloud at some extent. The pace at which technology is evolving, makes one wonder where it is going to take us in the near future. What does it mean? This means that every industry has to keep eyes on future trends and one must focus on acquiring the skills needed for the emerging technologies in the future (Gibbons, n.d.). The same goes for the learning and teaching methods, traditional approaches that have been used since ages need to be transformed. I am going to shed light on why e-learning ought to replace the traditional learning methods alongside elaborating on the good it will bring to the learners. In addition, I will also reflect on the need to adopt the latest learning methods as part of this evolving era of technology.

The first thing is to understand why e-learning instead of traditional learning methods is the need of the hour. Technology is ubiquitous and millennials cannot imagine any aspect of their lives without the engrossment of technology. They are all-time welcoming scientific knowledge and seeking information from every possible way. On the verge of this, they are using their smartphones and modern gadgets to fulfill this need. Such students ready to accept what is coming their way would welcome technology to fulfill their learning needs. Traditional learning methods by hook or by crook create a barrier for many to access education owing to multiple reasons such as cost of education that multiplies with the cost of travel and residence (De, n.d.). In addition, not everyone has time to travel to take classes especially when it comes to seniors working and studying at the same time.

The disadvantages of the traditional education system and the shortcomings can be mitigated in the e-learning method coupled with some additional benefits. The changes a traditional education system needs can be articulated in the form of an online learning method. The traditional teaching style has become less effective and if institutes are not keeping up with the need of incorporating online methods in teaching, they are not preparing the students for the upcoming era of technology. The role of pf technology can never be denied since it is one of the most effective ways to deliver training and knowledge. Therefore, organizations use this method to train and educate their employees; it also facilitates self-learning through the knowledge management system used in organizations. In addition, the traditional education system relies heavily on online learning materials and online tools such as e-books, notes, portals, online lectures, e-library, and online lectures. Through discussion boards and chats are also very common in every institute, students are able to interact with everyone online and also clear their doubts if any (Al-Shalchi, 2009). Creating an entirely online system will solve many issues linked with the traditional learning system.

An online education and learning system will expand the learning opportunities for many owing to the ease, efficiency, cost-saving, and many other benefits it will bring along (Pegrum, 2010). It will make learning and acquiring knowledge a thousand times better, here is how:

## No attendance criteria

Most of the colleges have some fixed attendance criteria. Now imagine a particular student isn't interested in some particular subject yet he is forced to attend that lecture just for the sake of attendance. In the end, a student has no knowledge; but full attendance. In the online education system, only those interested in acquiring knowledge in real-time will patriciate.

## Flexibility

Online classes can be attended anytime, anywhere. Missed a lecture? No problem you can easily go to previous lessons. The ease and flexibility in learning expand the target audience of e-learning methods.

## Cheaper & Time saving

E-Learning is far cheaper as compared to the traditional oneand saves precious time in commuting as a person is no longer forced to attend 9 to 4 regular classes.

## Study what you like

In the case of traditional education system, everyone is forced to study the same syllabus and curriculum. It breeds unhealthy competition and prepares people for the rat race. There are certain loopholes in the traditional system. For e.g. A computer science student, in his freshman year is forced to study physics as a part of their curriculum which they think is an utter waste of time and a range of other sources in name of elective and compulsory courses. Gamification in online learning makes the course more entertaining; discussion board, posts, etc.

Thus, since most of the students are attracted to self-instruction and they believe the power lies in the gadgets in their hands, all the time. Instructors have been trying for many years now to complement the way we learn to make it more effective and measurable. The result now is that many tools help create interactive training courses, standardize (Sher, 2009). By observing the last few years, there is a tremendous increase in online learners. This is because online learning is affordable, flexible and easy to access from anywhere. Online learning provides a wide range of courses in almost all areas. I believe this is the right time to comprehend, appreciate and accept this learning method, which is no more new to us. Results from the past few years of this learning technology are in favor of it. Without any doubt, the e-learning method is in accordance with the true goal of education; creating the best learning environment for students.

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