

Instructor: BENADDA Abdelouahid

Level: Master 1 / Language and Communication

Module: E-Learning

Course 1: Introduction to E-learning

- **Course Scope:** An introduction to the general topic of e- learning "how people learn at distance" (this course is an overview of definition of e-learning, its historical development, types, and current practices)

- **Course Learning Objectives**

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to:

- Identify the theoretical constructs and philosophical orientations that support e-learning in networked environments.
- Explore the scope, trends, and characteristics of e-learning.
- Go through the basic types of e-learning courses and their components.
- Discover the opportunities and affordances of e-learning.
- Describe how the internet is changing how and where learning is occurring.

Guiding Thoughts to the Course

1. Do you have an app on your phone that teaches you how to speak/learn another language?
2. Have you ever watched your friends do part of their homework or complete exercises on an app or website?
3. These are all examples of e-learning, how is it applied to education and can you benefit from it?

- **Course Content**

- **Introduction to the course**

As the scope of education and communication is in perpetual expansion, the need to integrate new and revolutionary methods in the processes of teaching, learning, and modern communication has become unremitting and incessant. The new millennium has redefined all conventional instructional and learning methods. Thus, we are confronted to a new technological trend: E-learning. The current challenges of the modern world have imposed new directives and perspectives to be adopted to keep in trend with the non-stop global advance.

- **E-learning Defined**

E-learning is commonly referred to the use of networked information and communication technologies in teaching and learning¹. The term includes a number of other terms to describe this mode of teaching and learning: *online*

¹ Naidu, S. (2003). *E-Learning: A Guidebook of Principles, Procedures and Practices*. New Delhi, India: Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), and the Commonwealth of Learning. p1



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- *learning*, ‘*web- based learning*’, ‘*virtual learning*’, and ‘*distributed learning*’. They all refer to educational processes that exploit information and communication technology to mediate asynchronous as well as synchronous learning and teaching activities (Naidu, 2003)..

The term e-learning comprises the letter “*e*” that stands for the word “*electronic*”. Thus, e-learning incorporates all educational activities that are carried out by individuals or groups working online or offline, and synchronously or asynchronously via networked computers and other electronic devices. (Romiszowski, 2004).

E-learning covers both *Internet-based* learning and *computer-based* learning that consist of components of online learning (see Figure 1).

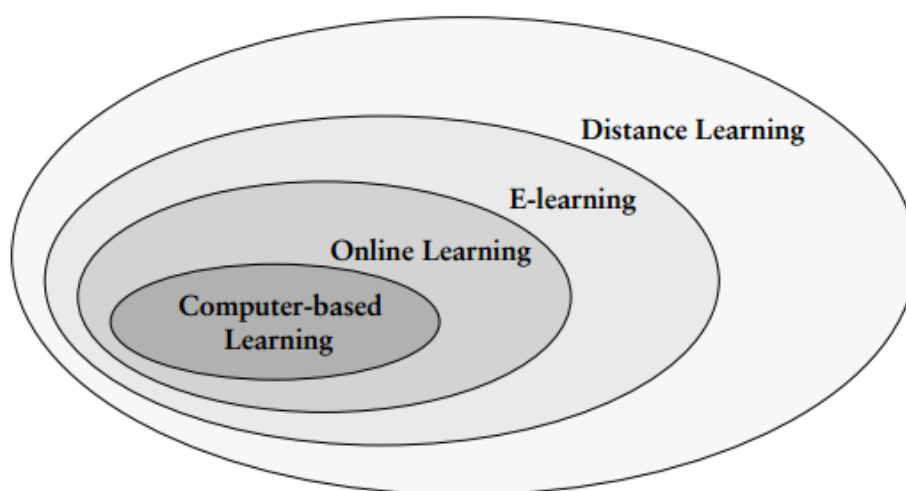


Figure 1: Scope of E-learning (Bachman, 2000).

Other Definitions

- “The acquisition and use of knowledge distributed and facilitated primarily by electronic means. It currently depends on networks and computers but will likely evolve into systems consisting of a variety of channels (e.g., wireless, satellite), and technologies (e.g., cellular phones, PDAs) as they are developed and adopted. E-learning can take the form of courses as well as modules and smaller learning objects. E-learning may incorporate synchronous or asynchronous access and may be distributed geographically with varied limits of time.” (Adeoye & Wentling, 2007).
- “E-learning is one such alternative where students can access course-related materials via online computer systems. It is being explored as an effective way of delivering materials to previously unreachable students with previously unavailable access and presentation methods”, (Horton, 2002).

Related Terms

There are many terms used to explain learning that is carried online, using the internet, from computerized electronic learning to distance education, internet learning, and online learning. E-learning includes in itself:

Technology-enhanced learning (TEL), computer-based instruction (CBI), computer managed instruction, computer-based training (CBT), computer-assisted instruction or computer-aided instruction (CAI), internet-based training (IBT), flexible learning, web-based training (WBT), online education, virtual education, virtual learning environments (VLE)...

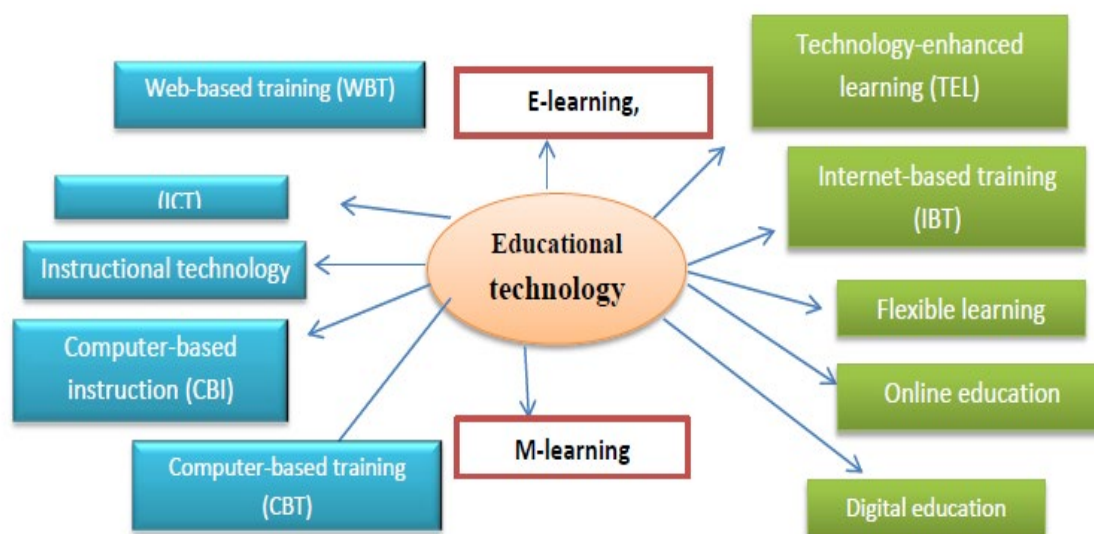


Figure2: Educational technology related terms (Selwyn, 2011)

◎ Group Discussion: Communication Assignment

Here are some questions to reflect on as an extension of the course content (To be discussed in groups):

- Is taking a class online easier than a "regular" class?
- How much time do I have to spend in an online class?
- What Internet skills would be helpful in an online class?
- How is online teaching different from traditional classroom teaching?

Useful web links

- [An Introduction to e-Learning](http://idp.bl.uk/4DCGI/education/e_learning/index.a4d)
e-Learning is the employment of technology to aid and enhance learning.
http://idp.bl.uk/4DCGI/education/e_learning/index.a4d



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- **Definition of 'E-learning' - The Economic Times**

economictimes.indiatimes.com/defini...

Definition: A learning system based on formalised teaching but with the help of electronic resources is known as E-learning.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/definition/e-learning>

- **Introduction to E-Learning Systems**

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305461928 Introduction to E-Learning Systems](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305461928_Introduction_to_E-Learning_Systems)

- **Introduction to the world of e-learning and e-learning methods**

<https://unremot.com/blog/introduction-to-e-learning-methods/>

- **Introduction to eLearning**

bellevuecollege.edu/elearning/start...

eLearning is an alternative to a traditional classroom learning experience and is often referred to as “online learning” or “remote learning”

<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/elearning/start/intro/>