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# MODERN EXPERIENCE, PROBLEMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF DISTANCE EDUCATION IN THE UNIVERSITY

#### Turdiyeva Nilufar Anvarovna

Assistant teacher of Department of Language Teaching Samarkand Institute of Economics and Service

#### **Amirov Asomiddin Rustamivich**

Student, Samarkand Institute of Economics and Service

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#### Abstract

Online (not face-to-face) education in a common education institution in these days taking into account its accurate features and problems, can provide an opportunity for continuous education and information exchange without losing its relevance and novelty. It will still take years to train students to embrace and master distance learning. And you will have to teach, because education around the world is gradually moving to this format and this format is more comfortable and more unexpensive way to learning rather than traditional format.

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A few decades ago, humanity could not even imagine the possibility of learning and education without leaving home. The COVID-19 pandemic that shook the whole world showed how unprepared our education system is for the distance education format. It is necessary to carefully prepare to follow what is happening around the world, because it is this training format that will help stop the growth of infection and save many lives and health. It will still take years to train students to embrace and master distance learning. And you will have to teach, because education around the world is smoothly transitioning to this format.

Interest in distance education has been around for a long time. In the past, the correspondence form of education was in demand, and now, in the context of the rapid development of information and telecommunication technologies, special attention is paid to distance education as one of the forms of distance education. To solve the current difficult tendencies is a system of distance education. Education in this system can become the form of education of the future. Currently, the relevance of distance education is that the sharp leap in the development of information technologies has transferred world social development to the information field. We live in an era of mutual learning and penetration of real and virtual worlds. The real world absorbs technology, while the virtual world learns to live by society's rules.

Currently, a significant part of higher education organizations uses distance learning technologies in the educational process. Moreover, this form of training is becoming more and more popular in connection with the current epidemiological situation. The introduction of the distance education system revealed

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some problems: difficulties in obtaining feedback on the quality of educational services provided to students, the risks of problems associated with the technical characteristics of the equipment operability. The introduction of distance education in universities has transferred the competition between them to a higher, global level also. Thus, online learning has become an important element of the educational system in universities. As a result of the analysis of the problems and the effectiveness of the implementation of distance learning, the following positive and negative aspects were identified. The advantages of distance learning in universities, obtained because of the popularization of distance education, include the following:

- 1. The possibility of combining study with work.
- 2. Training anywhere at any time, which entails a reduction in time and material costs.
- 3. Expanding the target audience for universities by erasing territorial boundaries.
- 4. Individual training (choice of place, time, learning rate).
- 5. Mastering new technologies in the learning process.
- 6. Opportunities for self-education, reducing the dependence of the student on educational organizations.
- 7. Increasing mobility in the relationship between teacher and student. 8) Development of student self-discipline.
- 8. Access to electronic resources, including library funds.
- 9. Opportunity to receive education regardless of the student's financial and social status and the state of his health.
- 10. Requirements for high technical equipment of universities and training of highly qualified personnel in the field of information technology.

At the same time, as the practice of introducing distance learning into universities in modern conditions has shown, distance learning is not without its drawbacks, including:

- 1. Weak communication with the teacher due to the lack of personal contact between the participants in the educational process.
- 2. The inability to resolve emerging issues through personal communication.
- 3. Requirements for high self-organization and self-motivation of the student.
- 4. The need to ensure uninterrupted access to the Internet.
- 5. Weakening of "healthy competition" in the student environment due to the lack of the possibility of comparing individual achievements of students.
- 6. Requirements for the organization of the workplace (premises, equipment, elimination of distractions).
- 7. Insufficient implementation of the skills of building relationships in a team and speaking in front of an audience.
- 8. The lack of the possibility of introducing a distance format for all areas of study and specialties.
- 9. The weakening of teaching control over the process of mastering the material by students.
- 10. Difficulties in receiving feedback from the student by the teacher due to the lack of eye contact with the audience and the possibility of adjusting the teaching material in the process of its assimilation by students.



- 11. Additional costs of universities for the technical equipment of the distance learning process.
- 12. Fatigue from prolonged work at the computer.

Having analyzed the advantages and disadvantages of distance learning it should be noted that the Southern Federal University (SFU) has sufficient experience in using distance learning technologies that complement the traditional educational process. The Microsoft Teams platform used by SFU teachers and students provides ample opportunities for organizing the educational process from anywhere in the world. The author conducted a survey of students studying at the Institute of Management in Economic, Environmental and Social Systems of the Southern Federal University in the field of "International Business" regarding the choice of the most effective form of education. Many respondents (45%) preferred the traditional form of distance learning due to the available possibility of personal communication with teachers and students. At the same time 35% of the respondents preferred distance education due to the great opportunities for acquiring knowledge, as well as the reduction in time and material costs. 16% of respondents give priority to distance education only if they use all the opportunities provided by the distance education system and eliminate the shortcomings that arise in the educational process. 4% of respondents found it difficult to answer the question. According to the respondents, the most important advantages of distance learning were the saving of time and financial resources, training students in comfortable and familiar conditions and improving their selfcontrol skills. The main disadvantages of distance learning were considered by respondents to be technical problems associated with an uninterrupted Internet connection, fatigue from long-term work with a computer, as well as insufficient qualifications of teachers, which does not allow using all the possibilities of distance learning. Thus, we can conclude that distance learning allows you to gain knowledge regardless of status, age and territorial characteristics, which develops students' motivation for selfstudy.

Distance education in a higher education institution, taking into account its uniqueness and problems, can provide an opportunity for continuous education and information exchange without losing its relevance and novelty. Another important advantage of distance education is the ability to receive knowledge from anywhere and without losing real time. The uniqueness of distance education contributes to the development of technology and the ability of students to self-educate, to work effectively and efficiently, as well as to the emergence of stable motivation for cognitive activity in many areas, which allows students to acquire knowledge helps to increase the quality.

With distance education, the teacher and the student are separated spatially from each other, but at the same time they learn with the help of special methods of building a training course, control forms, email and the Internet, group communication programs Skype, Zoom, etc. can interact.

Excluding the concept of "individual approach to education and training". The lack of face-to-face communication between students and teachers excludes the possibility of emotional coloring of knowledge for the most solid mastering of the material, which is a significant minus;

In order to acquire knowledge independently, you need strict self-discipline, which 90% of students do not have. Unfortunately, the mentality of our youth is accustomed to constant demands and control from "above" by parents, teachers, deans, etc. This is by far the biggest drawback. Yesterday's schoolchildren, sitting on the other side of the screen of telecommunication technology gadgets, were taught self-control, self-discipline, self-discipline, self-criticism, independence, self-awareness. Teaching and at the same time not reducing the quality of education of students is the most difficult task for a Russian student;

According to Internet sources, due to the low standard of living in the country, 25% of students do not have access to the Internet and technical means for distance education;

As the Russian mathematician Pafnuti Lvovich Chebushev said: "Theory without practice is dead and

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ineffective, practice without theory is useless and harmful." Excluding the possibility of applying theoretical knowledge in practice invalidates the educational system. Another thing is that if students work in parallel in the same field of activity as the education they received, this is a positive minus extramural distance education.

In more free time, you can study anywhere with good Internet. So, with all the negative and positive aspects of distance education, we see that both the teacher and the students need to develop in this direction, accept the current situation as given and keep up with the times. Even if distance education is a temporary phenomenon, everything it teaches us will be an invaluable experience and will help in the next job.

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