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LEARNING STRATEGIES: IMPACT OF EMERGING HYBRID MODEL OF LEARNING

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Abstract:

Learning strategies are implementing with modern technologies and today's education needs. Online courses have a large scope in learning while traditional techniques are yet maintained their importance in learning. A new emerging hybrid model of learning is implemented by several universities and colleges to improve the strength and outcomes of learning. The study is based on creativity and the impact of the model on today's learning strategies. The researcher studied efforts on hybrid methods and compared them with face- to-face and online learning methods. The model is studied for outcomes of students and results are comparably strong in a hybrid model. Universities and colleges have promoted the transition to hybrid learning methods in higher education. The impact of the hybrid model is evaluated through the review of several studies on its effectiveness. An increase in hybrid courses has marked the popularity and efficacy of hybrid learning.

Keywords: hybrid learning, higher education, Impact of hybrid learning, learning strategies

Introduction:

Traditional learning has a large impact on educational strategies worldwide. World pandemics like COVID 19 emerged new techniques and creative ways of learning online. World culture theorists have argued that over time there is growing convergence in the ideas about education whileconsidering the situation of teacher and teacher development. Along with a long tradition of our own cultures of teaching and learning (Paine, Fang, & Wilson, 2003), one finds a picture that both supports and complicates these arguments about global convergence.

Recent "Modern" learning approaches include the use of technology to connect the vicinity to the center and the rest of the world. At the same time, some teacher reforms involve the institutionalization of traditional, local practices of teacher development. The latest international and comparative efforts of OECD, IEA, and others offer evidence of convergence that not only is there a growing, shared sense of the place of learning in society, but that there is an assumption that requires teachers who are professionally trained.2

The purpose of this paper is to study various learning strategies in terms of learning environment and their impact on the emerging hybrid model of learning on various learners including school and higher education levels. The researcher aimed to study how the hybrid model supported learning methods in perceptive of students and developed different skills to improve their life.

Learning strategies and their impact: Offline Model:

Offline or face-to-face learning is a traditional method of learning that is immediate, real-time engagement spread worldwide. It also includes several methodologies such as Back-and-forth discussions, group work, presentations, and in-depth conceptual scrutiny focused on immediate interaction improving meaningful learning opportunities. It also bonds students and the instructor creating a healthy community atmosphere. Offline learning has a great impact on minds as it is set as traditional methods.

Online Model:

With the development of technology, online learning has become a more important part of information and learning. It can use for reinforcement of conceptual familiarity, assignments with suitability and flexibility of time, place, and necessity. Online learning is an independent exploration, innovative collaboration with information and technology literacy, and content mastery. It is also have impact on distance learning and availability of information, proper instructions and

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catchy content can bound the student with instructor but impact on students can differ with variables. The advantages of both formats are combined to offer the most effective hybrid learning format.3

Emerging Hybrid Model of Learning:

A hybrid model is a way to develop a blending of online and offline learning methodologies to enhance the effectiveness of outcomes. Among benefits of the hybrid model that shares innovative learning designs for reuse and reapplication within and across varying contexts and disciplines. Hybrid online instruction is a cross between the traditional face-to-face classroom format and online-only instruction. The idea behind hybrid instruction is to provide the benefits of personal interaction that offers convenience and flexibility of online assignments along with discussions. It is difficult to compare hybrid formats since they are significantly varied in the percentage of time spent online, subject matters, student populations, etc. The purpose of comparing the advantages and disadvantages of hybrid instruction to online and traditional formats from the lens of the teachers explains what to do and avoid in teaching a hybrid course, and ways of fostering student achievement.4

Impact of Hybrid Model:

A hybrid model is a relatively new method of instruction with an educational approach that combines traditional classroom instruction and online instruction. Hybrid instruction is accepted for advantages including student and instructor convenience, increase in participation, flexibility, decrease in dropouts, and also minimized costs.5 A hybrid model is being used as an effective tool for teaching using content material that benefits the students with varying learning disabilities and preferences.6Using hybrid model has considerable impact on learning disabilities, distance learning, teacher's skill development and students' academic achievement which are comparatively stronger with a hybrid than for either face-to- face or online teaching.

Research Review

The Emergence of Hybrid Model of Learning

The emergence of hybrid learning environments has the ability to spark reflection regarding teaching and learning practice and the ability to enlighten practitioners to design from the perspective of the learner. The hybrid model enables practitioners to define and record their teaching and learning practices in a generic and comprehendible manner.7

Some studies on hybrid learning noted the changes in established roles, resources, and locations that are being altered, extended, and replaced. Various approaches of learning like. Cognitive apprenticeship situated learning and legitimate peripheral participation changing educational practices to achievedemands from the knowledge-based economy as part of changing demands in society in general. Established Educational institutions are fundamentally changing to facilitate the learners to become competent, lifelong learning professionals to cope with societal developments.8

Impact of Hybrid Model:

The study also discussed potential impacts &challenges for hybrid instruction like training instructors to teach hybrid courses, allowing appropriate preparation time to modify their course with training students in the new format where student outcomes should be the top priority. The need for hybrid coursesto overcome the drawbacks of online learning like lack of personal interactions and face-to-face communication as well as lack of theorized learning usually gained from assimilating information and interacting with other students during physical classes and faculty somehow seemed "lost".9

Impact of hybrid learning on students in higher education

The study of the efficacy of online learning in higher education includes internet-based technologies with other courses that use a combination of traditional pedagogies and internet-based services often

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referred to as hybrid courses. The hybrid model offers students the best of both worlds of online and face-to-face learning methods combining the benefits of both. Few comparative studies measuring the efficacy of distance courses alongside traditional courses may not be relevant for educational purposes, putting forward the need for face-to- face environment and characteristics to be brought to distance learners from analyzing the delivery methods of courses. It may provide the opportunity for individualized student learning and standardized faculty practice, to gain benefits in all aspects of higher education. Thus, comparing formats is useful, especially considering the dynamics of hybrid courses. 10

Hybrid learning can offer the best of both online and traditional in one unified experience with unique advantages. Though it can be difficult to replicate in the other, combining the two into a single experience can create powerful learning opportunities. However, the advantages of hybrid learning can reach beyond that leading to lower rates of attrition and more efficient use of classrooms and other campus resources for the most effective learning format. 11

In hybrid classes, students have to devote themselves towork within the appropriate time frame stipulated by the instructor. Therefore, Hybrid courses definitely help in reinforcing life skills and improving the time management skills of students in order to achieve any degree of success. Whereas the methods of professional development reflect the tremendous diversity of educational conditions and increasing pulls to regulate, set standards, and monitor outcomes. It also reflects broader economic, social, and political changes connected to globalized work. 12 Impact of Hybrid Model in Schooling:

Hybrid Modelsof instructions are flexible, cost-effective, and academically rich alternatives to traditional instructional models with new technological advancement. The transition to the hybrid model not only considers the financial benefits but also pays attention to instructional fidelity with well thought out and intentional development of program-specific courses to meet the professional and academic needs of the students. Weaknesses in the social aspect of schooling are critical to the integrity of the collaborative learning community. Adequate planning and professional development, defining instructor roles, and adjusting instructional focus takes patience, preparation, and education; none of which are quick or easy habits to transform. 13

Several studies have studied the effectiveness of the hybrid learning model and student's perceptive. They are more effectively learned with groups and online social interactions. Also, the shorter turnover period for responses from the instructor meets students' expectations. 14

The study on hybrid learning environments hows that school-based learning and workplace experiences can be closely connected. It offers a framework of four coherent perspectives namely agency, spatial, temporal, and instrumental perceptive which helps in designing and understanding complex hybrid learning environments. Learners are expected to integrate formal knowledge, work process knowledge, and practical knowledge which is a lifelong learning process across different situations. It is focused on integrating learning and working processes to ease the transition from school to society and the workplace in particular. The study includes a broader concept of learning environment than classroom as curriculum or plan of learning or the physical and digital setting in which learners carry out their activities and the socio-cultural setting for such activities. 15

Methodology

The researcher found that there is another perceptive of learning than traditional and online technical learning methods. A hybrid model has emerged as a bridge in these methods of learning and the impact of the model is to be learned. The purpose of this paper is to study the hybrid model in the perceptive of teachers and its impact on learners. The model has its advantages and disadvantages which are studied by the researcher by using online and offline studies available on the model effectiveness and working.

The new online learning method accepted worldwide is very dependent on the course content. Therefore the researcher selected the hybrid model where students meet face-to-face approximately

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50% of the time and utilize a course management system such as Blackboard for the remainder of the course requirements. It also reduces in-class time of working professionals or busy graduate students maintaining effective contact with faculty and peers. The researcher focused on the effective and new education strategies and their benefits to students. 16

The research highlights the needs of trained teachers while using this learning method and discusses the effectiveness of hybrid learning in schooling, community colleges as well as working students. The purpose of the paper is to put the new way of learning model and explain the needfor its implementation for the benefits of distance learning and classroom interaction in the context of futuristic goals.

Discussion:

The researcher studied various creative strategies including online and offline learning and compared their impact with emerging hybrid model of learning in terms of efficacy. For this study, the researcher reviewed several studies on the hybrid model for learning in the perceptive of students as well as teachers. Multiple advantages of the hybrid method are found as compared to either using classroom or online learning methods. Various studies compared the results of students using different learning methods such as physical learning, online learning, and learning using a combination of the two called the hybrid method. While the limitations are mentioned in the study indicating limited impact on the results.

Hybrid Model of Learning and Its Impact:

The researcher also found that the Hybrid method can be used as a learning tool wisely blending online and physical learning methods to get a positive impact. An increase in online learning also challenged conflict in the efficacy of online versus face-to-face learning and the emergence of hybrid learning option has been gaining in popularity which is a combination of face-to-face instruction with asynchronous online elements, combining their advantages. The research has compared hybrid learning against traditional classroom instruction evaluating end of term grades to measure student retention of course material across the two groups. The results indicate that the students in the hybrid modelearned significantly greater final grades than those earned in the traditional format where all other aspects of the course remained the same. 17

Another study on online theology discusses strategies for distance learning and the use of the hybrid model for effective engaging online education. The researcher found that success in online education depends on community instructors and the relationship between technology and pedagogy. Thus several strategies accomplishing goals in terms of course design, social presence, facilitation of sustained engagement with course material, specially tailored assignments, should also pay attention to learner expectations and objectives for effective outcomes. The researcher found that in higher education, setting these goalsprovides the best possible learning experience for learners in the digital age. 18

The researcher found a positive impact of the hybrid model in a number of studies while some studies point towards limitations of the model in terms of time management skills, technological issues, and availability of instructors. Online components run smoothly once students are comfortable with technology and course details and it is useful forthe instructor to set the course management system so that patterns of student access and use are visible to make students aware that their patterns of online behavior are visible. The study found that students quickly become independent and are very pleased while using the web-based online material that is accessible from any computer anywhere at any time of day and most students are very self-directed regarding online material. The study is focused on the benefits and applicability of the hybrid model found that proper balance between classroom and online components in which to best employ the use of technology in course design is an important aspect of being an educator in today's environment. 19

A hybrid model has emerged as an opportunity to study while working and promoting a unique

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balance of guidance by the instructor and acceptance of responsibility by the students. The researcher found that the impact of the hybrid model also influenced students in rural areas and those who are not able to complete their education due to lack of facilities. The study opens up the positive response by students as hybrid courses present the opportunity for individuals to graduate in their chosen field while taking on numerous other responsibilities. The researcher found that hybrid courses develop various skills in time management, critical thinking, and comprehension. 20

The researcher aimed to discuss various learning strategies and their impact on students with a discussion of a hybrid model to improvise the learning ability of students. It also discusses challenges in the perception of teachers while using different strategies. The researcher found that teachers should be trained and technology literate to convey information in a proper manner and engage the students in balanced online and offline periods. The findings also point out the period required to upload material, the online availability of teachers, and the optimal manner of delivering course material in order to maximize student learning outcomes. It is challenging to deliver so much necessary information to students in a short period by summarizing the required texts. The researcher found that it is time engaging for teachers in comparison to the traditional method, which is quite structured. However, those become much more blurred and many instructors are sceptical and resistant to including online elements in their face-to-face courses. It is critical to set boundaries within their modes of communication in order to separate personal time from professional time so that instructors can still maintain investment in the course structure.21

The researcher also noticed that the negative perceptions are based on technology and inaccessible instant help for students. The study also mentioned the limitations of results in terms of the improper hybrid format of course indicating the needforhands-on instructions, faculty inexperience, insufficient knowledge of technology, etc. The hybrid model can have negative attitudes due to other affecting variables like inconsistency in studies, same or different instructors; time engaged in online and face-to-face learning, class sizes, course content, used tools like blackboard or web CT and also the age of learners. The research noted the fact that research needs to be consistent and minimize the impacts of these variables to truly focus on academic achievement and should examine hybrid versus traditional instruction across multiple colleges and universities exhibiting the same demographics, course content, medium, to evaluate the results more reliably.22

Conclusion

A hybrid model of learning has emerged as new learning technology to combine traditional and online technology to improve outcomes of learning. The study on various reviews indicated the effectiveness of the method in terms of learning, development of skills making colleges and institutions more flexible to the content of the course which in turn allows transition in learning strategies. Various cost-effective distance courses have a large impact on working students to complete their education and improve their skills with traditional instructions and technology blend. The model is popular and successful with a time-saving strategy in a creative way of classroom instructions and handling online content.

The positive impact of the hybrid model is the outcome of improved learning in students at schooling and higher education and its effectiveness is the major attribute that depends on trained and experienced teachers. The creative way of designing a course taking the content and instructions into account improves the success rate as it focuses on the time and content used for online and face-to-face learning. The study also revealed the success of the hybrid model hasa greater impact on the interest and engagement of students in the course content. Thus, it can be said that the emerging hybrid model is the best alternative to traditional learning.

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