Online Education: Training Future Talent Remotely

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Abstract

With the rise of COVID-19, distance education has become the norm and adopted by most educational institution systems globally. Although it is new to many, it has actually been around formally for a very long time, as early as 1883 when the University of Chicago offered correspondence courses through the postal service [1]. The definition of distance education has been updated and adjusted over the years, however a commonly accepted definition of the term is "institution-based, formal education where the learning group is separated, and where interactive telecommunications systems are used to connect learners, resources, and instructors" [2]. Britannica describes distance learning as having four characteristics [3]:

1. Distance education is conducted through academic institutions and are accredited through the same means as traditional systems.
2. Students and teachers are separated geographically and may even be in different time zones.
3. Students and teachers interact through various modes of communication via. Technology.
4. Distance education creates a learning community between the students, instructors, and educational materials.

Biographies

Sara Amani is currently a Ph.D. student in the Multidisciplinary Engineering Department at Texas A&M University. She has received her undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering from Texas A&M University at Qatar. She is a member of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) and Omega Chi Epsilon (Chemical Engineering Honor Society).

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