



**ONLINE TEACHING OF MASS COMMUNICATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN DELHI:
THE STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE**

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ABSTRACT

The interest of this survey is to measure the impression that students have of online teaching for Mass communication and learning during COVID-19 in Delhi, especially from the perspective college students.

During the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, online learning may have helped students fill the academic void. But, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, higher education has been influenced all over the world.

Although the entirety of Developed countries viewed e-learning as a powerful educational tool, it is not used appropriately in Delhi. This examination strategy led 120 students from various colleges in Delhi to understand the students' perspective on the use of online education as a learning environment. Findings from this study show that the vast majority of college students have a positive view of online learning. This survey revealed that e-learning is extremely helpful in bridging the study gap during this time of pandemic and e-learning innovation for the entire framework where social media and Web authoring tools can improve the path to education and learning for mass communication students.

Keywords: Online Teaching & Learning, Covid-19, Students' perspective, Delhi.

INTRODUCTION

COVID-19, a profoundly irresistible infection or disease caused by the severe intense respiratory disorder Covid 2 (SARS-CoV-2), started in the city of Wuhan in China, has effectively reached pandemic proportions, influencing each of the continents. (Remuzzi and Remuzzi, 2020) usually spread among people through close contact currently leading to a large number of deaths. The coronavirus is being evaded as a pandemic due to its severity and savagery, as well as the greatest global health emergency in hundreds of years of human progress.

About 264 million children and young people are out of school (UNESCO, 2017), and this pandemic has made the current situation even more dire. As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads, there has been a growing trend of teaching over the web due to the closure of schools, universities and colleges for an interminable period, the only alternative remaining (Martinez, 2020).

After ten months of online encounters, a shift in perspective has occurred with web-based teaching gaining an unmistakable quality to have near-immutability even after the COVID-19 pandemic caused another freeze. The refreezing step is a must to embed innovation into our educational learning measure which allows us to show students the strategies they would feel good about and they can coordinate with the demands of innovation in the 21st century.



Nowadays, online education has become a standard learning structure to prepare particularly high-level training anywhere in the world considering its brand and relevance. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) incorporates an array of man-made telecommunications equipment, programming and advancements and works with matching and data sharing, now making it possible to break through each of the boundaries. It deals with an "assorted arrangement of instruments and mechanical assets, used to transmit and produce, disseminate, store and monitor information".

In Delhi NCT, 1228 Govt. moreover, the government Secondary and Senior secondary schools supported are covered by the ICT school program. The Delhi government has set up computer labs in all the above schools located in various educational areas/premises. Presently, the conspiracy of the ICT School has been subsumed into the Samagra Shiksha. The ICT, Delhi program gives freedom to students and elective and senior adjunct instructors to fabricate their capacity in ICT for upgrading by showing learning and assessment measurement. The program is a significant push to bridge the advanced gap between students of different financial status and geographic distributions.

Most mass communication students have a smartphone that they can undoubtedly use for educational purposes, both offline and on the web. Online learning far mirrors teaching strategies for teachers just like learning systems for students at the college level as it helps to take anytime from anywhere. It can also help students reduce the study gap that could play a role in elective learning during COVID-19. After pronouncing COVID-19 as a pandemic disease, many countries and states including India (Delhi) have stepped up and closed their educational institutions to mitigate the impact of the infection (WHO). So, to overcome the current situation, inventive learning technique is proving to be important nowadays and e-learning could assume an indispensable role for mobile phones used in the field of education. So, to streamline the impacts of the pandemic in the education sector, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has opted for internet-based education in all colleges.

STATEMENT OF AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENT RESEARCH

The main objective of the research is to know the impression of students to use online teaching as a learning device during the COVID-19 period and furthermore the view of versatile strategies to determine how to recover the gap of study in this time of pandemic and the way towards improving their academic performance using virtual learning.

OBJECTIVES

- To learn about the main challenges faced by students of mass communication
- To Know the opportunities offered by the online teaching platform, and
- Analyze the lessons to be learned on the effectiveness of virtual classrooms.

The purpose of this survey is to measure students' impression of online mass communication education and learning during COVID-19 in Delhi, especially from the perspective of students.



RELEVANCE OF STUDY

Although the literature regarding online education is growing, studies related to the quality of online education are limited. Among those reviewed, few researchers have examined the quality of online education from the perspective of students. Therefore, it is necessary to investigate students' perception of the quality of online education.

The study analyzes university students' perception of online education during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The study would reveal students' preferences for online learning as it offers them great freedom to connect with their teachers, fellow students and engage with their study materials from the comfort and flexibility of space and time.

Furthermore, the study illustrates the similar experience of being educated as done through the physical classroom teaching as students perceive e-learning as analogous to face-to-face learning.

The findings of this study may contribute to the literature of online education in terms of quality assurance. The results should hopefully enable institutions offering online education to evaluate their programs based on the findings and the recommendations in this study.

This study is very good for society development. It is very helpful especially for youth, for students, for everyone in the teaching profession. This study will prove to be very helpful to the students in this pandemic situation. It is very useful for both those who want to know about online education and those who do not know. And this study is specially for mass communication students so all those students can easily learn theory and practical subject online.

Many students are confused about how to do in practical subject without the help of technology but there is no need to get upset because online tools help us in all kinds of practical work. Due to web authoring tools, it has become easier to do practical work especially for mass communication students.

Many students do not have their own camera, laptop or computer, so all those children find it very difficult to do mass communication practical work, but you do not need to panic. Because if you also have a smart phone then you can do practical work of all mass communication in a very simple way and online learning is also very easy for the students who are from any other stream. Therefore, this study will prove to be very effective for the development of the society.

LITERATURE REVIEW

"Online learning further provides us with an open door of modifying current learning techniques to give students a much more adaptable way to manage their learning encounters" (Al-Hunaiyyan et al., 2018).

Neol Carroll - National University of Ireland, Galway, Kieran Conboy - National University of Ireland, Galway (Carroll and Conboy, 2020) - The pandemic has forced different associations to unexpectedly change their work process procedures and adopt new innovations. Most of the time, these associations have not had enough opportunity to consider how new procedures and related advancements should be taken into account and integrated into their current organization. Colleges around the world were no exception.

Wei Bao (2020) may have been quick to describe how colleges were shifting from classroom training to online education due to the seething pandemic. There was a generous foundation for online education in many

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countries before the pandemic (Mishra et al., 2020). However, no college was prepared for a full shift to online training. Experimental reviews have found that students feel they prefer to learn in real classrooms rather than through online training (Bojovic et al., 2020). Students lack the support they have to accept their companions in study halls and research facilities and library admission (Patricia, 2020).

In any case, the students feel that the online training has helped them continue their investigation during the pandemic (Mishra et al., 2020). There are no studies on the ability of students to communicate with educators and individual students through different online devices and on the power of online assessment methods. A few analysts have covered these issues. For example, Patricia (2020) clarified that students lean toward face-to-face cooperation with educators and Bojovic et al. (2020) clarified that many educators need certainty about online assessment procedures. Colleges are currently using imaginative procedures to ensure their students' educational progress (Zhu and Liu, 2020). Web-based learning can be described as "the acquisition of all data and skills using hands-on development, anywhere and anytime" (Hashemi, Azizinezhad, Najafi and Nesari, 2011, p.1).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

➤ Methods of Data Collection

The research is directed quantitatively distinct with survey techniques. This survey technique led 120 students from various colleges in Delhi to understand the students' perspective on using the virtual platform as a learning environment. The participants of this exploration were students from various colleges in Delhi. Regardless of gender orientation, all college students were qualified to participate in this study.

- ❖ **Type of Research:** The research is conducted of quantitative descriptive with survey methods.
- ❖ **Population:** The Participants of this research were under graduate & post graduate students from the various Journalism & Mass Communication Colleges of GGSIP University in Delhi.
- ❖ **Sampling Size:** The total of 120 responses were found valid and considered for data analysis.
- ❖ **Sampling Method:** The questionnaire shared by the Google doc was randomly distributed among undergraduate and postgraduate level students of several colleges of GGSIPU Delhi through various social networking sites.
- ❖ **Nature of Data Collected:** Researchers used Qualitative primary data collection method to make comparisons of findings.
- ❖ **Tools used to Collect Data:** The questionnaire comprised of 5-point Likert Scale going from 'Strongly Agree' (5) to 'Strongly Disagree' (1).

The questionnaire consisted of three sections. Section 1 gathered essential data on the students and gathered information on the recurrence of web use, the time spent on the virtual stage each day and the use of ICT for academic purposes or not. Section 2 investigated the inclination of long-range interpersonal communication venues for learning and continued use of normal online media applications. Section 3 of the survey estimated student perceptions and mindsets of the viability of virtual learning and social media learning devices during the COVID-19 pandemic. Part 3 surveys included a 5-point Likert scale ranging from "strongly agree" (5) to "strongly disagree" (1).



This research further focuses on the uses of social media in higher education through virtual learning in Delhi.

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

➤ Analysis and Interpretation of Data Collected

The questionnaire shared by Google doc was arbitrarily circulated among the undergraduate and postgraduate mass communication students of few colleges in Delhi through different social networking sites where a critical number of students participated in this online survey. Among them, a sum of 120 reactions was found to be substantial and was considered for data analysis. Using SPSS software, the data collected was analyzed quantitatively.

➤ Foundation Information of Respondents

This segment speaks to some fundamental data of the college students (120 reactions).

Table 1: Fundamental Information of Students (N=120)

Gender		Age		Level of Education	
Male	47.1 %	16-17 Years	1.7 %	Undergrad	89.3
Female	52..9 %	17-21 Years	71.9 %	Post Graduate	10.7
		22-30 Years	26.4%		

Table 1 shows the yields of the inquiries identified with gender, age and level of education.

INTERPRETATION

- Table 1 shows respondents as well as student experience data, in which 47.1% are male and 52.9% are female, 1.7% are 16-17 years old, if 71.9 % have a place with 17-21 and stay 26.4% comes from 21 -30 combined, and virtually all respondents (89.3%) are currently studying at the undergraduate level and others (10.7%) have a place in the third cycle.

Table 2: Recurrence of Using Internet

Always	Recurrence	Occasionally	Rarely
20 %	63 %	12 %	5%

➤ Mass Communication Students' Perception of Online Teaching

This part of the questionnaire assesses student perceptions of online mass communication education during the Covid-19 pandemic. Table 5 discusses the aftereffects of this segment. The rate is used to sort the authentic image of this section, specifically an insight-based survey (5 - Strongly Agree to 1 - Strongly Disagree).



Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Q1. The use of ICT is flexible to learn anytime, anywhere.	19.8%	38.8%	33.9%	4.1%	3.3%
Q2. Online teaching is a good idea to minimize the study gap during Covid-19 pandemic.	27.3%	33.9%	27.3%	5.8%	5.8%
Q3. Virtual education is better for finding relevant information about mass communication.	9.9%	20.7%	28.1%	28.9%	12.4%
Q4. Online learning helps to improve Journalism & Mass Communication study skills.	7.4%	11.6%	33.1%	28.9%	19%
Q5 ICT is easier to find study material related to Journalism & Mass Communication.	14.9%	31.4%	38%	9.1%	6.6%
Q6. The virtual platform is easier to share classroom-related discussions online during the covid-19 period.	12.4%	33.1%	33.1%	15.7%	5.8%
Q7. The use of virtual platform helps in improving practical knowledge in the field of Journalism and Mass Communication.	7.4%	13.2%	21.5%	33.1%	24.8%
Q8. Online learning helps to enhance my motivation to continue my studies during this pandemic time.	11.6%	29.8%	28.9%	21.7%	9%
Q9. Virtual teaching method helps me to solve subject related problem.	8.3%	25.6%	44.6%	14%	17.4%
Q10. Online learning helps me to learn different ways and provide various learning fields.	23.2%	27.3%	33.1%	17.4%	9.1%
Q11. The use of social media applications helps in educational fulfillment during covid-19 period.	12.4%	36.4%	36.4%	9.9%	5%
12. The use of social media helps to strengthen the communication with others.	19.8%	34.6%	25.6%	8.3%	1.7%
13. Online learning is a faster way to get feedback.	10.7%	28.9%	28.9%	21.5%	9.9%
Q14. Online learning helps to improve interactivity between student and teacher.	9.1%	182%	46.4%	23.1%	13.2%



Q15. During covid-19 time, ICT acts as a learning companion.	12.4%	40.5%	39.7%	5.1%	2.5%
Q16. At this pandemic time, high internet charge of mobile network can affect my learning.	24.8%	32.2%	28.1%	12.4%	2.5%
Q17. Attention span is lesser in online teaching as compared to the classroom teaching.	34.7%	31.4%	32.3%	6.6%	5%
Q18. Screen size of my device does affect my learning.	15.7%	36.4%	21.5%	18.2%	8.5%
Q19. Adaptability struggle is a major challenge in online teaching.	23.1%	43.8%	25.6%	5%	2.5%
Q20. Online teaching, if incorporated with good online tools and minus technical glitches can replace face to face interaction.	10.7%	28.9%	32.2%	17.4%	10.7%

➤ **Table 5: Mass Communication students' Perception of Online Teaching**

Nowadays, virtual learning plays an important role in the daily lives of students, especially for academic purposes. The accessibility of ICT among students also makes them ready to focus on e-learning to further their studies, especially in unforeseen circumstances, for example, the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONCLUSION

The educational area of Delhi has taken different activities to use ICT at each phase of training from essential to tertiary levels. The principal focal point of this study is to measure the students' impression of utilizing virtual platform for learning during COVID-19 in Delhi particularly from the viewpoint of Journalism & Mass Communication college students. The study shows that undergraduate students are exceptionally acquainted with online teaching, have a positive impression of online learning, and students utilized different social media for their investigation during COVID-19 pandemic time. What's more, college level students have positive feelings about online teaching and eagerness to be important for which is pivotal for the systematization of online learning in the colleges in Delhi. The discoveries additionally exhibit that online learning is a not much helpful device for practical subject in the field of journalism & Mass Communication in this pandemic time where students can gain from outside of the classroom or partake in class from anyplace; improve the relationship with their teacher and furthermore satisfy the drawn-out study gap.

Delhi Educational Zone has set up different activities to use ICT in each phase of training from basic to tertiary level. The main objective of this study is to measure students' impression of using a virtual platform for learning during COVID-19 in Delhi, especially from the perspective of journalism and mass communication students. The study shows that undergraduate students are exceptionally familiar with online teaching, have a positive impression of online learning, and students have used different social media for their investigation during the COVID-19 pandemic period. Moreover, college students have positive feelings about online



education and the desire to be prominent in what is essential for the systematization of online learning in Delhi colleges. The findings further show that online learning is not very useful for practical subjects in the field of journalism and mass communication. In this time of pandemic where students can benefit from outside the classroom or participate in class from anywhere; improve the relationship with their teacher and also make up for the prolonged delay in studies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to time constraints and the pandemic situation, the study was limited to Delhi mass communication students only. This is why this study was conducted with only journalism and mass communication students from Delhi (India). Additionally, we limited our analysis to understand the perception of online mass communication education during the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, future research could be conducted with a homogeneous group of students, using a larger sample size include more universities and colleges in the study.

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