



Online Vs Campus Learning: What Should You Opt For?

Online learning represents a different experience than traditional on-campus learning.

When online learning was in its infancy, employers were usually skeptical of hiring resources with online credentials. But today, online learning programs are recognized and are at par with their on-campus counterparts. However, there are three factors that employers look for while evaluating online degrees:

1. Accreditation that ensures that the institution meets certain standards and its graduates have the requisite professional skills
2. Reputation of both the institution as well as programs.
3. Existence of a traditional campus that reassures them that the institution is reputable and established.

Online learning represents a different experience than traditional on-campus learning. It is an option that empowers flexible learning, especially among non-traditional learners and busy working individuals. However, with its increased adoption, the question has arisen on whether online education is effective in getting students the knowledge they need to earn their degrees, enhance their careers, and even move on to the next phase of their academic quest.

Due to these unprecedented times, campus shutdowns led to a quick rush to “remote learning,” exposing the fragmented adoption of high-quality education technology and digital capabilities across thousands of colleges and universities. On-campus classes ceased overnight and were replaced by online and blended options. But the bigger question is, can online classes recompense for the campus experience?

As we already know, the pandemic has affected all areas of life and the higher

education sector was not spared. But we worked around it and various universities have developed their own online courses and adopted new methods to adjust to new realities. The improvisation of already existing techniques and technology has ensured an uninterrupted academic experience for students. We delve a little deeper into what the model entails and how it may impact your study plans.

Online programs: Once a niche form of education, online education is now the norm. Earlier, it was mainly working professionals & distance learning students who used it as a learning tool for the convenience, flexibility, and affordability it offers. Today, this situation has totally changed. Technology has ensured that online programs emerge as a great asset to education at large. It has also created some interesting and realistic questions which will need addressing once the world reopens fully.

There are a few things we need to keep in mind to deliver a program online. For starters, use a technology platform that creates a rich-content and immersive learning experience. Immersive technology pushes students into a virtual environment, where they not only gain academic knowledge but also practice problem-solving, critical thinking, and technical and creative skills, both individually and in collaboration with other students. With the use of appropriate technology, educators can create different scenarios so learners can see and understand the material in a more interactive way.

Secondly, we need a robust student lifecycle management (SLcM) for better student-teacher engagement. With increased competition due to alternative learning models, universities need to look at new ways of increasing student engagement and improving student retention. SLcM is a holistic and data-informed.

Approach that focuses on the entire student journey from admissions through to graduation to ensure student success.

Lastly, institutions need to invest in a reliable examination platform with a proctoring system which will effectively improve the credibility of evaluation. Today, online examinations and online talent assessments have become quite the norm. Most universities, educational institutes, and schools are conducting their exams online to overcome disruptions and ensure learning and education continuity.

Hybrid or a mixed approach: Online programs may not offer the edge that some learning elements provide. Hybrid learning is nothing but a way of combining traditional and digital delivery methods, using the best option for each learning objective. That means unlike blended learning models, the hybrid approach varies widely according to the subject matter and the needs of specific groups of learners. A hybrid or mixed approach is a better option for programs having both knowledge and skills elements. The flexibility and multiple episodes of online and offline delivery can bring better learning or experiential learning for students.

Campus and contact programs: Campus programs are going to be an option for students who can afford it. However, the pandemic proved that campus programs need to be adaptable. As NEP 2020 intended to bring flexibility in terms of time, modules, and courses, many campus courses can be transformed into mixed segments. This allows the faculty to reach more students and save their time spent on managing the on-campus programs. This way, an institute can earn more geographical coverage, status, and better ranking.

Online learning has already made quite an impact. A plethora of recognised institutions – in India and across the globe – have shown the model is successful and, more importantly, growing rapidly in popularity. So, while the traditional classrooms

may not go away completely anytime soon, online and hybrid learning is the need of the hour in these dynamic times.

[Link:http://bweducation.businessworld.in/article/Online-Vs-Campus-Learning-What-Should-You-Opt-For-/07-01-2021-362699/](http://bweducation.businessworld.in/article/Online-Vs-Campus-Learning-What-Should-You-Opt-For-/07-01-2021-362699/)

Higher Education Trends To Watch Out In 2021

The education sector continues to feel the impact of these pandemic induced changes and it is given that some roll-over effect in terms of delayed exams, sessions and delayed admissions will continue to affect 2021. Let's have a glimpse of some the top trends in higher education in 2021.

The year 2020 was a breakthrough in all the aspects of human life – social, political, economic and educational. The education sector has undergone a number of changes, some forced, some embraced over the last year, and will continue to have an effect on the sector for some time to come. Online learning introduced many new paradigms in education like virtual classrooms, learning anytime, personalized learning at one's own pace and speed, remote examinations and admissions and many others some of which are here to stay. The education sector continues to feel the impact of these pandemic induced changes and it is given that some roll-over effect in terms of delayed exams, sessions and delayed admissions will continue to affect 2021. Let us see some other trends in higher education to watch out for in 2021.

Higher education and redevelopment focus on educators

The New Education Policy 2020 aims to create new learning systems, environment, and new learning outcomes for students. In order to ensure that the goals of the NEP 2020 are met, our educators too will need to undergo a veritable metamorphosis and unlearn a lot that they have been practicing over the years.

Therefore, the year 2021 will, in the light of NEP 2020, have marked focus on the re-skilling and up-skilling of all educators including those in higher education and business education. The sector that 'trains the trainer' is expected to see significant growth in-line with the need for new skills demand among educators that will establish a new education policy once it is implemented. The institutes and the teaching communities need to upskill themselves in time to ensure they stay on top of their respective fields.

Approved online degree for the first time

This is the first time that online degree has been approved by the government and it will promote unprecedented modernization and inclusion in education. Since companies need new skills for growth, this need will stimulate the executive education segment including online

education in an unprecedented way. As a segment, it has seen significant growth in 2020 and this trend will continue in 2021.

Personalization of learning using artificial intelligence and machine learning

Learning works on a comprehensive framework focused on learning through visual mode, dietary mode or kinaesthetic mode – which holds true for learners regardless of the level of learning they might be in.

With the personalization of artificial intelligence-based learning, degree-focussed learning will be replaced with outcome-focused learning, which will unlock the potential of each learner and enable him to achieve greater heights.

Digital learning will bridge the teacher skills gap in India

According to AISHE 2018-19, even the current GER of 26.3% also has a shortage of 5 lakh teachers. Digital technologies are the answer to bridge this gap by expanding the reach of excellent faculty from excellent institutions using Aditech as competent.

Increase in demand for technology-related courses in addition to executive education in traditional domains

We will see steady growth in demand for courses in Strategy, Leadership, HR and Marketing in addition to courses in Cybersecurity, Data Science, Blockchain, Machine Learning and Product Management. The demand stems from the growing importance of data which means that there is a growth in demand for learning how to mine it, use it and how to secure it. Also, with the current prevailing economic trend, fear of losing a job and the need to stay ahead will lead to growth in executive education in traditional domains.

Academics in 2021 should think about students individually and inspire students to learn for the future and not just plough through individual semesters.

[Link:http://bweduction.businessworld.in/article/Higher-Education-Trends-To-Watch-Out-In-2021/02-03-2021-382696/](http://bweduction.businessworld.in/article/Higher-Education-Trends-To-Watch-Out-In-2021/02-03-2021-382696/)

NEP 2020: Reset, Reboot And Reimagine For The Future Of Higher Education

With a successful implementation of the policy in schools, the higher education patterns and curriculum will witness a change from an academic as well as administrative point of view.

The National Education Policy (NEP) is currently the most discussed topic among academicians and educationist alike. While the intent of the NEP is very good, implementation is the key and it will all depend on how well the plan is executed in

the grassroots level of our educational infrastructure. Not every student is the same as the other and educational institutes should be able to cater to a wide array of students by offering them a unique platform to identify and develop their natural abilities. With a successful implementation of the policy in schools, the higher education patterns and curriculum will witness a change from an academic as well as administrative point of view.

Implementing changes in the basic schooling structure, assessing students will have a more candid outcome. Students of the future will have a better aptitude for reasoning making them more passion oriented. Assessment of a student's competencies in a phased manner will form a logical framework for decision making creating more socially competent and aware students. This will help them maintain the personal academic life balance whilst imparting skillsets along with traditional and human values increasing the employability factor.

Much different from today, students will demand courses in relevant cutting edge skills. Extensive use of technology and a common admission test will give everyone an equal chance in accessing higher education. Graduations and Post Graduations in traditional careers will include technological skills like BlockChain, AI, cloud Computing etc. Academic bank of credit, will go a long way in providing a favourable environment to students to plan their education. The freedom from succumbing to societal pressures will let students choose a relevant career path from a wider array of options.

The NEP will break boundaries between curriculums bringing multidisciplinary studies together crucial for new generation jobs. In present times professionals have technical as well as management skills because the line between both sets keeps on blurring. Skill development will be primarily focused on technical, business and soft Skills. A holistic approach with all the three will make a student successful. Through a multidisciplinary approach, courses will see a surge in innovation, critical thinking and problem solving and research abilities of students that will enhance higher education to a great extent. This in turn will prove valuable across diversified work environments.

A change in the mind-set of all stakeholders in education i.e. academicians, owners of institutes and Regulatory Bodies will be crucial. The absence of extensive online pedagogy will increase adoption of digitisation. The focus will have to shift on employability and quality rather than just traditional disbursement of knowledge. Higher education institutes will have to relook at their curriculum and overall academic outfit. With new stakeholders in the future rebooting the education system will be very crucial to make it student friendly whilst maintaining the economic margins.

We have to prepare the next generation for lifelong learning. As far as executive education goes, that will always be a continuous process. Reskilling, upskilling and new skilling will be continuously expected by students and employees alike. The institutes will be repositories of learning. New and growing focus will circle research-oriented pupil and courses. India has been an excellent centre of knowledge dissemination but will now become a chief centre of knowledge creation. Practical and social based research will be key in closing the gap with western universities.

Reset, Reboot and Reimagine the Education System. Rightfully implementing the policy will change the socio-economic structure of the nation forever.

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