

## Awareness About E-Learning Among Arts And Science College Students

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### Abstract

*e-Learning is a term that is used to refer to computer-based learning. e-Learning uses web-based training and teaching materials, CD-ROMs, learning management software, discussion boards, e-mail, computer-aided assessment, simulation, online conferencing and other related methods. e-Learning may also be defined as the acquisition and use of knowledge distributed and facilitated primarily by electronic means. e-Learning can take the form of courses as well as modules and smaller learning objects. e-Learning is more focused on the learner and it is more interesting for the learner because it is information that they want to learn. The purpose of the study is to find out the level of awareness about e-Learning among Arts and Science college students. The present study consists of 250 college students studying in Arts and Science colleges situated in Namakkal District of Tamil Nadu. The sample was selected by using simple random sampling technique. The main findings of the study reveals that the Arts and Science college students are having moderate level of awareness about e-Learning and irrespective of sub samples of the Arts and Science college students are having moderate level of awareness about e-Learning. The awareness about e-Learning of male students is better than their counter part. The awareness about e-Learning of urban students is better than their counter part. The awareness about e-Learning of science students is better than their counter part. The awareness about e-Learning of the students who are using internet daily is better than their counter part.*

**Key word-** e-Learning

### e-Learning

e-Learning is a term that is used to refer to computer-based learning. e-Learning uses web-based training and teaching materials, CD-ROMs, learning management software, discussion boards, e-mail, computer-aided assessment, simulation, online conferencing and other related methods. e-Learning may also be defined as the acquisition and use of knowledge distributed and facilitated primarily by electronic means. This form of learning depends on networks and computers but may involve CD-ROMs, software, other media, and telecommunications. e-Learning can take the form of courses as well as modules and smaller learning objects. e-Learning may incorporate synchronous or asynchronous access and may be distributed geographically with varied limits of time (Wentling et al. 2000). e-Learning refers to the use of information and communication technologies to enable the access to online learning/teaching resources. In its broadest sense. Abbad et al (2009), defined e-Learning to mean any learning that is enabled electronically. They however narrowed this definition down to mean learning that is empowered by the use of digital technologies.

### Advantages of e-Learning

There are many advantages to online and computer-based learning when compared to traditional face-to-face courses and lectures.

- Students may have the option to select learning materials that meets their level of knowledge and interest
- Students can study anywhere they have access to a computer and Internet connection
- Self-paced learning modules allow students to work at their own pace
- Flexibility to join discussions in the bulletin board threaded discussion areas at any hour, or visit with classmates and instructors remotely in chat rooms
- Instructors and students both report e-Learning fosters more interaction among students and instructors than in large lecture courses
- Successfully completing online or computer-based courses builds self-knowledge and self-confidence and encourages students to take responsibility for their learning
- Learners can test out of or skim over materials already mastered and concentrate efforts in mastering areas containing new information and/or skills

## **Review of Related Studies**

**Azliza Yacob et. al. (2012)** Student Awareness Towards E-learning in Education. This paper examines the awareness of e-learning that involves student from TATI University College in Malaysia as a respondents. The students have being exposed to the e-learning studies in campus as approach to gather more information in their studies. 200 students participated in the study. Multiple regression analysis was performed on the students' perceptions in relation to gender, year of study, faculty, technology usage and the awareness of e-learning implementation.

**Valentina Arkorful (2014)** The role of e-Learning, the advantages and disadvantages of its adoption in Higher Education. This study investigates the effectiveness of using e-learning in teaching in tertiary institutions. In institutions of higher education, the issue of utilizing modern information and communication technologies for teaching and learning is very important. This study reviews literature and gives a scholarly background to the study by reviewing some contributions made by various researchers and institutions on the concept of e-Learning, particularly its usage in teaching and learning in higher educational institutions. It unveils some views that people and institutions have shared globally on the adoption and integration of e-learning technologies in education through surveys and other observations. It looks at the meaning or definitions of e-Learning as given by different researchers and the role that e-learning plays in higher educational institutions in relation to teaching and learning processes, and the advantages and disadvantages of its adoption and implementation.

## **Need and Significance of the Study**

e-Learning is more focused on the learner and it is more interesting for the learner because it is information that they want to learn. e-Learning is flexible and can be customized to meet the individual needs of the learners. e-Learning helps students develop knowledge of the Internet. This knowledge will help learners throughout their careers. e-Learning encourages students to take personal responsibility for their own learning. When learners succeed, it builds self-knowledge and self-confidence in them. Educators and corporations really benefit from e-Learning. Learners having the opportunity to learn at their own pace, on their own time, and have it less costly. Today all the students should aware about e-Learning. So, the investigator in the present study wants to find out the level of awareness about e-Learning among Arts and Science college students.

### **Statement of the Problem**

The problem undertaken by the investigator is stated as “Awareness About e-Learning Among Arts and Science College Students”.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The investigator of the present study framed the following objectives:

1. To find out the level of awareness about e-Learning among Arts and Science college students in Namakkal district of Tamilnadu, India.
2. To find out whether there is significant difference between the following sub samples with respect to awareness about e-Learning.
  - a) Gender [Male / Female]
  - b) Locality [Rural / Urban]
  - c) Subject [Science / Arts] and
  - d) Using Internet [Daily/ Occasionally]

### **Hypotheses of the Study**

The investigator of the present study framed the following hypotheses:

1. There is significant mean difference between male and female students with respect to awareness about e-learning.
2. There is significant mean difference between rural and urban area students with respect to awareness about e-learning.
3. There is significant mean difference between science and arts subject students with respect to awareness about e-learning.
4. There is significant mean difference between the students who are using internet daily and occasionally with respect to awareness about e-learning.

### **The Method**

In the present study, the investigator applied normative survey as a method. The normative survey method studies, describes and interprets what exists at present.

### **Sample**

A sample is a small proportion of a population selected for observation and analysis. By observing the characteristics of the sample, one can make certain inferences about the characteristics of the population from which it is drawn.

The present study consists of 250 college students studying in Arts and Science colleges situated in Namakkal District of Tamil Nadu, India. The sample was selected by using simple random sampling technique. The sample forms a representative sample of the entire population.

### **Tool Used**

The investigator of the present study selected and used the awareness about e-learning scale was constructed and standardized by ‘Dr.M.Suresh Kumar’ for data collection.

### **Statistical Techniques Used**

For the analysis of the data, the following statistical techniques have been used.

- a. Descriptive analysis (Mean & S.D) and
- b. Differential analysis (‘t’ test)

Testing of Hypotheses

**Table - 1**  
**Showing The Mean and Standard Deviation of Awareness about e-Learning Scores of Arts and Science College Students**

Variable	Sample	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Significant at 0.05 level
Gender	Male	165	16.85	1.91	3.5	Significant
	Female	85	15.80	2.58		
Locality	Rural	192	15.74	2.71	3.16	Significant
	Urban	58	16.50	1.37		
Subject	Science	168	16.11	2.48	0.97	Not Significant
	Arts	82	15.77	2.84		
Using Internet	Daily	228	15.93	2.54	1.77	Not Significant
	Occasionally	22	14.90	2.67		

**Summary of Findings**

The following are the main findings of the present investigation.

1. The Arts and Science college students are having moderate level of awareness about e-Learning and irrespective of sub samples of the Arts and Science college students are having moderate level of awareness about e-Learning.
2. Male and female students differ significantly in their awareness about e-Learning scores.
3. Rural and urban area students differ significantly in their awareness about e-Learning scores.
4. Science and Arts students do not differ significantly in their awareness about e-Learning scores.
5. The students who are using internet daily and occasionally do not differ significantly in their awareness about e-learning

**Conclusion**

The present study reveals that the Arts and Science college students are having moderate level of awareness about e-Learning and irrespective of sub samples of the Arts and Science college students are having moderate level of awareness about e-Learning. The awareness about e-Learning of male students is better than their counter part. The awareness about e-Learning of urban students is better than their counter part. The awareness about e-Learning of science students is better than their counter part. The awareness about e-Learning of the students who are using internet daily is better than their counter part.

**Educational Implications**

The result of the study shows that the level of Arts and Science students awareness about e-learning , so the implementation of e-Learning will be the best way for students to be aware of new technology and willing to study in various concepts. e-Learning can accommodate different learning styles and facilitate learning through a variety of activities. e-Learning develops knowledge of the Internet and computers skills that will help learners throughout their lives and careers.

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