**RESEARCH PROPOSAL OUTLINE**

**The Impact of Modern Technology on Student Learning Experiences in Higher Education**

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# **Project Title**

The Impact of Modern Technology on Student Learning Experiences in Higher Education.

# **Significance/Contribution to the discipline/Research Problem**

The utilisation of modern technology has been observed to have a positive effect on higher education on a broader scale, as it has led to an increase in the availability of learning opportunities, the provision of equal educational opportunities to all, and the promotion of lifelong learning (Sanchez & Aleman, 2001)(UNESCO, 2021).

This study delves into the implications of modern technology on the student learning experience within higher education institutions. It will provide comprehensive information on the following topics: educational improvement; student involvement and motivation; decision-making; problem-solving; student-centred approaches; and future-oriented preparation.

Furthermore, the study will contribute to the body of scholarly knowledge by consolidating different perspectives and research findings; and serve as a foundation for future research into the incorporation of modern technology in higher education institutions. Ultimately, its importance lies in its ability to inform educational strategies; inform policy decisions; enhance student experiences; and provide valuable insight into existing and future research efforts.

# **Aims and Objectives**

This study seeks to gain a comprehensive understanding of the complexities and advantages of incorporating modern technology into higher education institutions, as well as its influence on student learning experiences. Additionally, it is intended to provide practical advice and guidance to decision-makers and higher education institutions to maximise the efficacy of technology integration within higher education institutions.

Key objectives of the study include:

* To assess the current level of technology integration within higher education institutions.
* To explore the various types of technologies employed and their role in classroom instruction, as well as the impact of modern technology on student involvement and motivation.
* To explore the factors that can contribute to or detract from student participation when incorporating modern technology into the educational system.
* To identify the challenges that students face when using modern technology for educational purposes, such as accessibility, digital illiteracy, and technological obstacles.
* To provide recommendations and guidance for educators and educational institutions to improve student learning experiences through the integration of modern technology.

# **Research Questions**

The research questions for the study are as follows:

* How does modern technology in higher education influence student engagement, motivation, and academic performance?
* What strategies and teaching methods are most effective in incorporating modern technologies such as gamification, simulation, and online learning platforms into higher education?
* What are the student perceptions and attitudes towards the integration of modern technology in their learning experiences?
* What are the challenges faced by students and their learning experiences pertaining to the incorporation of modern technology?

# **Methodology / Development Strategy**

For the purpose of this study, a mixed methods design (Creswell, 1999) will be used. A mixed methods design is a process of collecting, analysing, and combining or ‘mixing’ at some point of the research process both quantitative data and qualitative data within a single study to gain a more complete understanding of a research problem (Creswell, 1999).

The reason for mixing is that quantitative and qualitative methods alone are not enough to understand the trends and details of the situation effectively. For example, a complex question such as how modern technology in higher education institutions affects student engagement, motivation, and academic performance. When combined, the quantitative and qualitative methods are complementary and allow for a more comprehensive analysis (Dawadi, 2021).

# **Ethical Considerations and Risk Assessment**

Ethical aspects are of the utmost importance in any research process, particularly when human subjects are involved. In order to conduct a research project on the incorporation of modern technology into higher education and evaluating student learning experiences, for this reason, this study will adhere to the following ethical principles and standards:

* The ethical issues will be addressed at each phase in the study.
* In compliance with Institutional Review Board regulations, permission for conducting the research must be obtained. An informed consent form will be developed.
* The anonymity of participants will be protected by numerically coding each questionnaire and keeping responses confidential.
* All study data, including the survey, will be kept in locked file cabinet, and electronic files will be password-protected, make use of encryption, and destroyed after a reasonable period of time.

# **References**

Creswel, J. (1999) Mixed-Method Research: Introduction and Application. Handbook of Educational Policy. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/B978012174698850045X> [Accessed 18 October 2023].

Dawadi, S., Shrestha, S. & Giri, R. (2021) Mixed-Methods Research: A Discussion on its Types, Challenges, and Criticisms. J*ournal of Practical Studies in Education*. 2(2):25-36. Available from: <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED611786.pdf> [Accessed 18 October 2023].

Sanchez, J. & Aleman, E. (2001) Teachers’ opinion survey on the use of ICT tools to support attendance-based teaching. *Computers & Education* (56)3:911-915 Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S036013151000326X?via%3Dihub> [Accessed 18 October 2023].

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