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PROJECT SYNOPSIS

PROJECT TITLE: DISTANCE LEARNING

**ABSTRACT**

Learning is defined as "the act, process, or experience of gaining knowledge or skill." Learning is the preferred term rather than education that is generally defined as the knowledge or skill obtained or developed by the learning process.

**CURRENT SCENERIO**

Nowadays traditional learning is been conducted which results ineffective way of learning. In a traditional classroom environment, there are usually anywhere from twenty to thirty children and one teacher. In some cases, that teacher might have a "teacher's aid" or an assistant teacher. This is where the disadvantage starts- it is simply impossible for one person to give each student the one-on-one attention or instruction that may be required.

This brings to light the next disadvantage of a traditional classroom. In a traditional classroom environment, it's not uncommon for children to become bored or frustrated. Some children learn better by visual means, others will learn better with auditory means, and still others are going to learn better with a hands-on approach.

**Introduction Distance Learning:**

"Distance Learning (DL) is an instructional delivery system that connects learners with educational resources. DL provides educational access to learners not enrolled in educational institutions and can augment the learning opportunities of current students.

The implementation of DL is a process that uses available resources and will evolve to incorporate emerging technologies."

Several key features define distance learning. The importance of the teacher — learner communications cannot be overstated.

* 1. the separation of teacher and learner during at least a majority of each instructional process
  2. separation of teacher and learner in space and/or time
  3. the use of educational media to unite teacher and learner and carry course content
  4. the provision of two-way communication between teacher, tutor, or educational agency and learner, and
  5. control of the learning pace by the student rather than the distance instructor

No matterwherever you are if you want to learn something this Software technology

Provides you efficient & effective learning schema as compared to our traditional learningschema

**Advantages of distance learning**

Distance learning, also known as online education, is a viable option for many individuals of all ages who desire to get an education. It holds a number of pros and advantages over a traditional learning environment.

1. **Choice**: An online education provides the opportunity to study more subjects and reach out to programs that are not available in the immediate area.
2. **Flexible**: Distance learning is much more flexible than traditional styles of classroom education. Students who need to take other classes or work can do classwork whenever they have a free moment instead of being restricted to a rigid schedule.
3. **Networking**: Students who enroll in classes with online education obtain a wider range of networking opportunities. Instead of being limited to networking in the local area, distance learning enables students to make connections with a more diverse range of people.
4. **Pace**: Online education enables students to work at their own pace in many circumstances. The requirements are not as strict and typically give a range of due dates when the work needs to be submitted.
5. **Scheduling**: The schedules for distance learning are more open and allow for students, parents and professionals to take the classes whenever it fits into their schedule. This is beneficial over classroom education that requires students to schedule work and childcare around the class time.
6. **Money**: Online classes typically cost less than an education in a classroom environment. There are less space limitations and materials required for each student and the savings are passed on from the educational institution to each student.
7. **Traveling**: A huge advantage to getting an online education is that there is no need to travel to and from class every single day. Someone who doesn’t drive or want to spend money on the costs of public transportation every single day will likely choose to get an online education over the traditional classroom.
8. **Selection of Professors**: Distance learning enables students to learn from some of the most prestigious professors and guest speakers in each field.
9. **No classroom sitting**: Sitting in the classroom is not the best way for every student to learn. A student may learn better at his own pace and in a different format than traditional schooling options offer.
10. **Effective**: Online classes are just as, if not more, effective at teaching students than the traditional classroom style of learning.
11. Distance learning may not be the ideal option for everyone but should be considered when looking at options for education.

**Disadvantages of distance learning**

Although distance learning offers more people an opportunity to attain higher education, it is not all advantages and benefits. Distance learning has costs, requires compromises and self-motivation is essential for success. However, when you acknowledge and understand these disadvantages, they are easily overcome.

* + 1. **Distance learning requires self-motivation.** Because distance learning is flexible, you need good organization, planning and work to make it happen. Academic leaders cited in *Growing by Degrees, Online Education in the United States, 2006*, stated, "Students need more discipline to succeed in online courses." Though the instructor is not seated in front of you, you still need to complete your assignments on time. Like all other forms of learning, there are deadlines to be met, "fixed-time" exams to be taken and assignments to be completed before the "Drop Box" closes. There are no compromises and you can easily get a zero! Distance learning is best suited for mature motivated learners who cannot afford the time to participate in a traditional classroom  
         
       2. **Distance learning does not give you direct access to your instructor.** Some students fear the loss of the personal touch with an instructor, such as asking questions after class. However, distance learning often gives you an opportunity to email your instructor any time or chat online. It is normal to fear the loss of human contact offered in a traditional classroom until you commit yourself to this mode of learning and communication.   
         
       3. **Distance learning is isolated.** Although you are in a virtual classroom full of students, the dynamics of interaction change with online education. You may feel detached or lonely when you pursue a distance learning program but there are opportunities to send emails, post to message boards and engage in online group discussions. At first you might miss face-to-face contact with your instructor and other learners, but web collaboration can fill this void for many students.  
         
       4.**Distance learning requires you to have constant, reliable access to technology.** Students need total access to the equipment necessary to fulfill course requirements. For example, online courses require a computer with Internet access. For a course with material on CD or DVD, you need to have a multimedia player. Technical requirement may be difficult to meet for some students who may feel overwhelmed and challenged if they are not completely computer literate. Technical glitches and dealing with an unfamiliar learning environment can cause stress and frustration, but there are many ways to overcome these barriers.  
         
       5.**Distance learning does not offer immediate feedback.** In a traditional classroom setting, a student's performance can be immediately assessed through questions and informal testing. With distance learning, a student has to wait for feedback until the instructor has reviewed their work and responded to it.  
         
       6. **Distance learning does not always offer all the necessary courses online.** Students pursuing a specific certificate or degree program may not have all the necessary courses available through distance learning so it is not suited for all subjects. For example, you can study a history lesson completely online but you cannot perform nursing clinical online. For some courses, physical classroom attendance will be mandatory to complete the course.   
         
       7. **Distance learning may not be acknowledged by a specific employer.** Although most employers do acknowledge distance learning, certain employers do not. Students who want to work for a specific employer upon graduation should be sure of that employer's perspective about online education.  
         
       8. **Hidden costs.** If you work for the military and you are on the ship, learning material may need to be mailed in advance thus incurring extra shipping and handling costs  
         
       9. **Distance learning must be accredited.** You take a serious risk when you pursue distance learning programs that are not accredited because they may be issuing fraudulent, invalid degrees. Not all distance learning is legitimate - there are many "degree mills" colleges that are not accredited. This is probably the most important factor to check before you enroll in a distance learning institution.   
         
       10. **Distance learning does not give students the opportunity to work on oral communication skills.** Students in distance learning courses do not get the practice of verbal interaction the society.

Numerous studies have found distance learning courses as effective as traditional Classroom training - or better. Almost a third of academic leaders recently surveyed felt online education outcomes were superior to those in traditional learning environments. However, there are challenges to be overcome for anyone who opts to learn through distance learning. Professors and other students

**How We Are Implementing The Project:**

The implementation process includes the coding and testing part of the rough ideas of the project. The code would be developed using the ASP.NET and the HTML language. After the code is developed, the testing process is being initiated. The testing part includes the testing of code on the basis of specific modules for efficient program used.

The process of the project implementation can be initiated if and only if a person knows the programming language that is being used for the development of the project. Thus we must also first learn about the programming language that is being used by us for the development of our project that is, ASP.NET using various literature books on ASP.NET books available in our college library and various articles available on the internet.

Project implementations can fail for a number of reasons — ranging from unrealistic expectations, poor methodology, poor requirements, inadequate resources, poor project management, untrained teams, unrealistic budgets, to poor communication and more. With such a long list of factors that can lead to failure, the chances of project implementation success seems low. Thus in order to avoid the failure of the project or its modules a process of Testing is being introduced. Testing process includes of finding the errors. It also includes the process of rectifying of the errors that are being triggered while the initial stages of testing

To develop a successful distance learning program, states need to understand that distance learning is based on a unique educational model. Navigating this largely uncharted educational territory can be frustrating. To make distance work, states must address a host of financial, planning, and implementation challenges.

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**About our project**

The Distance Learning Project suggests this Software useful for learning Through Internet.

The Project is design using ASP.NET (MICROSOFT VISUAL STUDIO 2008) developed by Microsoft co. and HTMLlanguages.

The Distance Learning has Following Features:

1. Login Page
2. E-Book
3. Online Streaming
4. Chat Box for queries.
5. Attendance Database record
6. Every Login(Login time, total time) Database Record
7. Online Examination
8. Notification
9. Online Fees Payment
10. Lecturer recording video tapes availability.
11. Survey on students can be conducted as per the requirements and effective learning and also for the guidance of the teacher to students.

**How Our Project is Useful:**

**The range of distance learning Software’s can be overwhelming. As distance learning is continuously gaining popularity this number is increasing steadily. This article gives an overview about important criteria for choosing a distance learning Software.**

**We are able to provides the following advantages through the Software which are Useful**

**1) Accreditation**

Only accredited and nationally recognized distance learning Software’s lead to an academic degree and are accepted as such at your future employer. For this reason, it is very important to inform yourself carefully about the recognition of your distance learning Software. First of all, your desired study Software has to be accredited by a recognized accreditation agency. This agency investigates if the different subjects are combined and coordinated in a meaningful and sensible way that ensures academic standards as well as practical relevance of the study Software. The national recognition is usually done by the Ministry of Education or a similar authority. Note that there can be differences between countries. In Germany for example, the 18 states are independently responsible for the recognition of universities and their study software’s. Besides the accreditation and the national recognition there are other quality labels and certificates that can give an indication about the quality of the education.

**2) Flexibility**: One of the most important reasons for distance learning is the higher flexibility compared to a conventional on-campus Software. This is why distance learning enables you to combine your career with pursuing a degree more easily. However, there are various differences regarding the flexibility depending on which university and which distance learning Software you choose. When deciding for a distance learning Software you should therefore carefully inform yourself in order to make the best decision for you Does the university have a fixed semester schedule or can you follow the Software more flexible? How often does the university have on-site attendance and are those fixed or flexible? Some distance learning universities offer several dates and locations for the compulsory on-site meetings, so that you can choose the ones that are most convenient for you. You should not underestimate that on-site meetings are often leading to high additional costs for travelling, accommodation and can take up a lot of your already scarce time. Ideally, the on-site meetings should match your work schedule and be close to your home to avoid long and expensive travel times.

**3) Tuition fees**

When choosing your distance learning Software, you should pay attention that you get good value for money. Distance learning Software’s are usually a bit cheaper than study Software’s on location. However, you should keep in mind that there might be extra costs such as for study material or travelling and accommodation costs for on-site meetings.

As studying besides your job can be quite demanding, you might want to consider reducing your working time from full-time to part-time. This gives you more time to focus on your studies but you have also to cope with a reduction of your income. In combination with high tuition fees, that can quickly lead to financial problems. Some distance learning institutions recognized this issue and offer suitable financing options. It is worth to take those into account when deciding for the right distance learning Software.

**4) Personal support and service**

The quality of personal assistance is a very important factor when choosing a distance learning Software and often decides about success or failure of your studies. Depending on your studies and the distance learning institution there can be major differences regarding the quality and kind of personal support provided. When can you reach the lecturers? Is it easy possible to arrange flexible personal appointments if needed? Is there personal support for the exercises and during the exam preparation? Are questions answered immediately or do you have to wait for an answer several days? All these factors have to fit your personal learning needs and preferences. Thereby, staying motivated is an important factor! If you are working full-time besides your studies, it is for example important that personal assistance is also offered in the evenings or at the weekend.

**5) Study material and the digital learning environment**

For distance learning education, the quality of the study material and the digital learning environment are even more important than for conventional studies. A motivating learning environment with diverse and interactive tasks, videos, quizzes etc. can improve your study success considerably. In order to stay in contact with your fellow students, many digital learning environments offer social platforms and a virtual campus that enable you to work together and support each other. Many distance learning institutions offer free test lectures. This can help you to get familiar with the different learning environments and to decide, which one fits best to your personal preferences.

**Limitation of Distance Learning Project:**

1. Minimum hardware and software requirements should be available with the end user.

2. Probability of malpractising increases in the case when a test is conducted due to lack of discipline.

3. High-speed internet connectivity should be available to the user in order to stream the videos on time.

4. The memory of the user’s computer is consumed more due to contents of learning-videos for user understanding.

5. Query response may or may not be on a particular time constraint.

6. The maintenance of the database of software becomes difficult.

**Literature Review:**

**For The Distance Learning Software We will refer the following Source:**

1. ASP.NET 2.0 Black Book
2. Beginning of ASP.NET 3.5 in Visual Studio 2008
3. Visual Basic ASP.NET Programming
4. Beginning ASP.NET 6:Web Forms and MVC

**Rough Idea:**

**ALREADY USERNAME EXIST ..TRY AGIN**

**SIGN UP SUCESSFUL**

**CHECK USER NAME ALREADY** EXIST ?

**FILL THE FORM**

**OPEN BROWSER & GO TO OUR SITE......**

The rough idea of our project consists of a teacher who resides on a main server and the other end users residing on individual terminals. The students would be assigned a particular link for learning purpose each time for specific time constraints. The doubts of the teachers would be clarified by the teacher via a chat box provided in the software. The output screens of all the students can be viewed by the teacher at the server computer which leads to a two-way communication. The message by the teacher from the server computer can be broadcasted to the students, but the student can only contact the teacher for the clarification purpose in a unicast communication way i.e. student can't communicate with the other peer students.

**LOG IN AS STUDENT**

**OPEN THE "DISTANCE LEARNING " SOFTWARE**

**CHECK USER NAME AND PASSWORD**

i ncorrect

**LOGIN FAILED**

CORRECT

**TAKE ATTENDANCE**

**IS ANY LECTURE GOING ON?**

N

**READ PDF OF SUBJECTS**

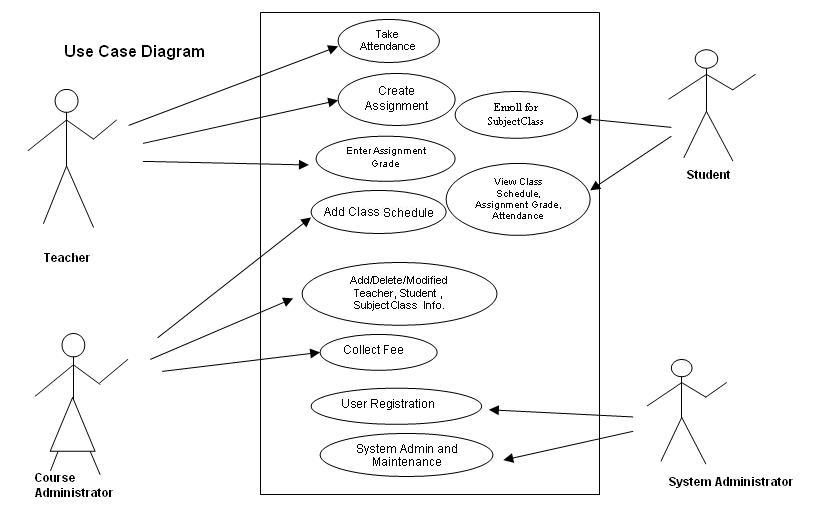
**ATTEND THE LECTURE**

**(THROUGH LIVE**

**STREAMING)**

**ASK THE DOUBT(USING MESSAGE BOX)**

**Project Planning Chart:**



The project planning chart above displays the information about the various development stages of planning of our project.

**Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements for Run Software:**

Processor : Minimum Intel Pentium 4 (1.5 GHz)

Ram : 1GB

Free Space : 40Mb

Connectivity : Internet

Software : Windows XP, Windows 7,Windows 8

**Reference Links:**

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| [http://plaza.ufl.edu/eleblanc/distlearn/links_usdla.gif](http://www.usdla.org/) |  | "The United States Distance Learning Association was the first nonprofit Distance Learning association in the United States to support Distance Learning research, development and praxis across the complete arena of education, training and communications. In 1987, the USDLA was founded on the premise of creating a powerful alliance to meet the burgeoning education and training needs of learning communities via new concepts of the fusion of communication technologies with learning in broad multidiscipline applications." ([http://www.usdla.org](http://www.usdla.org/)) |
| [http://plaza.ufl.edu/eleblanc/distlearn/links_icdl.gif](http://www-icdl.open.ac.uk/) |  | "ICDL is an internationally-recognized center for research, teaching, consultancy, information and publishing activities based in the UK Open University. ICDL promotes international research and collaboration by providing information from its library and databases" (http://www.icdl.open.ac.uk) |
| [http://plaza.ufl.edu/eleblanc/distlearn/links_cdlr.gif](http://www.cdlr.tamu.edu/) |  | "The mission of the Center for Distance Learning Research at Texas A&M University is to provide timely and appropriate information on the development, application and maintenance of information technology systems. This information is provided through demonstration, training, publications and technical assistance. The Center’s services are available to all public agencies and private businesses who are interested in the welfare and education of people through the use of appropriate information technology and distance education." ([http://www.cdlr.tamu.edu](http://www.cdlr.tamu.edu/)) |
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**Conclusion:**

Distance Learning has proved to be a boon for students who stay far away from the universities in order to study for their career. The technology now exists to provide an effective and efficient distance education delivery system that overcomes the barriers that prevent individuals from achieving all they can through education: The barriers of distance, time, educational resources, and cost are being overcome with the continued refinement of distance learning programs.

Distance learning programs attract students who differ significantly from each other in their learning styles, pace of learning, work experiences, and assessment preferences. Consequently, it is equally essential to provide students with choices in tasks (not all reading and writing) and options for demonstrating mastery or competence, to allow them time to contemplate and complete the assignments, and to offer them opportunities for revision and rethinking. Educators should avoid overusing timed exams. Students are likely to do better when they know the course goals, see models and examples of "good work," and know how their performance compares with the acceptable standards. Integrating assessment with instruction allows students to see the connection between their efforts and results and keeps them motivated to do well. Students will bring their rich life experience to the course; they appreciate opportunities to relate what they have recently learned to their personal experiences, prior knowledge, and new situations.