



The Relationship Between The Role of The Lecturer and Distance Learning Effectiveness Through The Application of Ms. Teams: Correlational Study with Descriptive Survey Method

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Abstract

This study aims to see how far the progress of technology in education, especially within the scope of the Universitas Terbuka (UT) Mataram. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, conditions have required all institutions, especially in education, to build a digital ecosystem. As an educational institution that implements distance learning with various communication technologies, the UT uses Ms.Teams as a distance learning tool. Ms.Teams is a digital learning system that helps students and teaching staff during brave learning. This study uses a correlational descriptive survey method to determine the relationship between variables in a comprehensive and detailed manner. This research was conducted in Study Groups (PokJar) in Bima City, West Nusa Tenggara Province. The population was taken from UT Mataram student registration data obtained based on a pre-research survey for the 2023.1 period, as many as 367 people. The sample will be selected using a simple random method. The problem that was found during the research was that there was still a lack of knowledge about the latest learning technologies, given the large number of students from various technological backgrounds, and we could find a solution to this problem in the form of effective socialization by PokJar and increasing student participation more actively in the process. Distance learning using Ms.Teams with the help of lecturers in utilizing the e-campus email as the first step in its operation.

Keywords: Ms. Teams, Digital Learning, Lecturer

1. Introduction

The Covid-19 pandemic is a virus transmitted through droplets from the respiratory tract resulting from sneezing or coughing. At the end of 2019, in Wuhan, China, it was first found that people had contracted the coronavirus. In Indonesia itself, the first case occurred in early March 2020, then quickly spread and infected the Indonesian people. As of March 2023, there have been around 6.7 million cases of COVID-19, with 160 thousand dead cases (Ministry of Health Emerging Infections). In the early days of COVID-19 spreading, the government quickly responded to mitigate these non-natural disasters with the PSBB (large-scale social restrictions) policy, which limits the space for people to travel outside their homes to prevent suppressing coronavirus transmission. This policy greatly impacted various sectors, one of which was education. Since the existence of this policy, all schools in Indonesia have been closed, and schools have started from home. Even before Indonesia, many countries in the world had already implemented learning restrictions in schools or universities. In this case, the World Organization



Involved in Education (UNESCO) provides inclusive distance learning solutions because the learning process must be carried out despite various existing limitations.

Education is one of the parameters to see the progress of a nation. In Indonesia itself, education is a means to achieve Indonesia's goal of educating the nation's life, as stated in paragraph 4 of the 1945 Constitution, with the government's advice "stay at home and physical and social distancing," it has an impact on the teaching and learning process being transferred to online or online which is implemented almost all over the world. The Industrial Revolution 4.0 is used more optimally, especially during a pandemic, where all elements of education adapt to technology and social media to make the learning process easier.

The development of technology and information cannot be denied. Various sectors, especially education, have used technology in communication and learning interactions. This kind of situation requires all educational institutions to build a digital ecosystem. Forms of social interaction can be carried out through infrastructure such as hardware, software, and devices that can share information widely and quickly, thereby creating a virtual community. The UT is an educational institution with various learning systems that has also experienced changes in the learning system for students who study face-to-face in class. Tutorial is the designation for the teaching and learning process at UT because it implements independent and distance learning through various communication technologies such as e-learning, e-practice, Ms. Teams, and so on.

The distance or online learning system gave birth to a digital learning ecosystem which is a system consisting of people, message content, technology, culture, and strategies that exist inside and outside the organization that have an impact on learning, both formally and informally (Rudy Eudy, 2018). In practice, three main components are involved in the digital learning ecosystem: educators, policymakers, in this case, the government, and technology. So, the role of educators, the communication technology used, and the learning content are very important to keep the learning process conducive. This study aimed to determine the lecturer's role and the effectiveness of distance learning through the Teams application at UT Mataram. In particular, the research aims to determine the extent to which the effectiveness of using Ms. Teams as a means of distance learning so that it can reach students who are in remote areas, especially the Bima Study Group (PokJar).

Implementation

In his book entitled *Policy Analysis From Formulation to Implementation of State Policy* (2001: 65), regarding implementation and implementation, Solichin Abdul Wahab argues: "Implementation is actions taken by individuals or officials, government or private groups directed at creating the goals outlined in policy decisions." In addition, Nurdin Usman (2005:70) argues that implementation is geared towards activities, actions, actions, or the mechanism of a system; implementation is not just an activity but a planned activity to achieve the objectives of the activity.



From the above understanding, it can be concluded that implementation can also be called application, can be said as an action or concrete action carried out by individuals, private or public organizations to achieve a goal.

Effectiveness

The word "effective" comes from the English meaning successful or something successfully done. Effectiveness has to do with effort and goals to be achieved. So, there is a process that will be carried out by this business to achieve the desired goals. In the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), effectiveness has several meanings, namely the, the existence of an effect, result, influence, and impression. Then, effectiveness can also be interpreted as effective or efficacious, bringing results or benefits. In addition, there are several expert opinions regarding effectiveness, as follows:

1. According to Mardiasmo (2017), effectiveness measures the success or failure of an organization's goals.
2. According to Handayani (2006), effectiveness is a measurement in the sense of achieving predetermined goals.
3. According to Siagian (2001), effectiveness is using resources, facilities, and infrastructure in a certain amount that is consciously determined beforehand to produce a number of goods or services used.

Digital Learning Ecosystems

Ecosystem means every element in a group that interacts and influences one another. Similar but not the same, biological ecosystems which have many living species that interact with each other in an environment, as well as Learning Ecosystems also have people in an organization that are analogous to living species, and the resulting content or output is analogous to the environment.

Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams is a unified communication and collaboration platform made by Microsoft that combines several features, including work conversations, video meetings, file storage, and application integration.

Distance Learning

Distance learning is a learning system that connects students or students with educators through available communication technology, besides that distance learning can be done anytime



and anywhere depending on the agreement between students and educators. Distance learning also requires students to be far more independent in terms of learning or lectures.

2. Research Method

This study's design uses a descriptive correlational survey method to determine the relationship between variables in a comprehensive and detailed manner. According to Nursalam (2008: 82), correlational research attempts to capture the correlative relationship between variables, showing that other variables influence one variable. This study aims to find out how the relationship between the role of the lecturer and the effectiveness of distance learning through Ms. Teams on students and the extent of the effectiveness of Ms. Teams as a means of distance learning in Study Groups in Bima City so that it is easily understood by students properly. The data used in this study consisted of primary data (quantitative data) and secondary data (qualitative data) obtained from interviews with the person in charge of admitting new students at the UT of Mataram.

3. Results and Discussions

Information and communication technology is very useful in education during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, in existing progress, not all have the same facilities to learn and understand technological advances.

Based on research at the Bima City Study Group (PokJar), there are still some obstacles in distance learning, such as not being proficient in using information technology, having difficulty installing Ms. Teams, and experiencing network problems in accessing the internet for learning. Lecturers play an important role in distance learning, accompanying students who still experience difficulties accessing the internet for online learning. With various digital learning facilities owned by the UT, Ms. Teams is a complete package for conducting learning because there is a video conference for face-to-face learning remotely, and there are other digital learning tools to support the creation of learning assignments. However, Ms. Teams are not used by lecturers in learning activities, where students still need an explanation of teaching materials.

So, the research team will provide regular assistance in training in the use of information and communication technology, especially for Mataram University students who use various digital educational facilities such as Ms. Teams, as well as assisting in strengthening the network in the Bima City area for students who have difficulty with this.



4. Conclusions

Based on the research results above, several conclusions can be described. Information and communication technology is the main support in distance learning activities. Lecturers play an important role in distance learning, accompanying students who still experience difficulties accessing the internet for online learning. With various digital learning facilities owned by the UT, Ms. Teams is a complete package for conducting learning because there is a video conference for face-to-face learning remotely, and there are other digital learning tools to support the creation of learning assignments. Distance learning still has some obstacles, such as needing to be proficient in using information technology, needing help installing Ms. Teams, and experiencing network problems in accessing the internet for learning.

Based on the conclusions from the research above, the suggestions that can be given are as follows: as an open university student who uses a distance learning system, it is hoped that he will be able to be more active in improving his abilities, especially in the field of technology; active in communicating with lecturers and study groups so as not to be left behind in learning material; practice independently to use Microsoft Teams as a distance learning medium.

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