

## STUDING AND PRIORITIZING E-LEARNING CRITERIA BY USING GROUP DECISION-MAKING TOOLS

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### ABSTRACT

In the current world, everything is changing. This change has involved the issue of education, so E-learning is the best solution for those societies willing to have progress in their education system. In this research, we studied the criteria preventing E-learning in Mashhad Binaloud University. After defining E-learning, we also studied advantages and disadvantages of the program. Having distributed the questionnaires among the board of education members in Binaloud Institute for Higher Education, we concluded that there is a big gap between the current condition and the desired one for the three criteria including, professors, teaching materials and foundation and the above-mentioned university is now equipped with required abilities to remove the gap. The current study has used multi-criteria decision-making tools named AHP.

**KEY WORDS:** E-learning – Advantages and Disadvantages – AHP E-Space - Phase and Group

Nowadays, all individuals are trying to learn more and more. However, they might not have enough time to do so. E-learning system is the best solution for them. The most important factor to improve E-learning system is connecting computers in which methodology is changed from being traditional to technological (It should be mentioned that all systems in the field of education are not technological). E-learning has captured different levels of education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. One of its achievements is virtual universities. Virtual or E-learning universities came to the scene when internet became universal and according to the studies conducted in this field, its origin is from the United States since it seems that this country has a better program and strategy in electronic issues compared to other countries. Although, the British were the first people who thought of these types of universities, the Americans were the pioneers of establishing virtual universities practically. What is required in this system is at least a computer equipped with internet and a motivated teacher to help the students

Achieve higher grades of education. Teaching through computer and internet does not take time and space into account and a student can access education in any time and place. Generally, virtual learning implies that students and teachers are separated from each other in terms of time and space and the teacher presents the materials through software, multi-media sources, internet, video conference and the like. This type of education has some advantages and disadvantages in which the former ones are more than the second ones. Currently, some universities in Iran such as the University of Mashhad, the University of Shiraz, the University of Qom, the Isfahan, Payame-Nour University, Islamic Azad University, etc have some classes in form of virtual learning beside their attending classes. The objective of the current research is studying advantages and disadvantages of virtual learning system. And then, we will study the same in Mashhad Binaloud University and present methodology. Finally, we will recommend practical strategies by using multi-criteria decision making methods of AHP.

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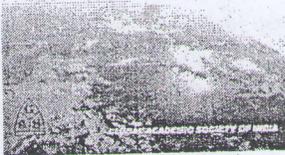
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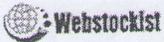
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