Using E-Learning Technologies to Improve the Quality of Teaching of Foreign Languages in Technical University of Kenya

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ABSTRACT
Using computers and new technologies in Technical University of Kenya has become a very important part of learning as well as teaching. The objective of this paper is to demonstrate how E-learning has improved the quality of teaching and learning of foreign languages in the institution in the past two academic years.

The participants in this research were lecturers of foreign languages who frequently use e-learning in their classrooms. Data for the study was collected through observation and interviews. Assessment was done on the attitude of learners towards the use of e-learning in their various classes. Both qualitative and quantitative data was collected and analysed. The interviews were conducted face to face with randomly selected respondents.

The findings of this study show the effectiveness of technology integration in the teaching of foreign languages at The Technical University of Kenya with the possibility of application in Kenya and beyond. The other findings reveal the attitude of the lecturers and students towards learning the language; the digital devices incorporated in the teaching foreign language as well as their impact. Moreover, E-learning can play an important role in facilitating the learning of foreign languages in the institution in the near future but only under certain critical conditions that enable the technology to become a bearer of language learning improvement and innovation.

The study focusses on the teaching/learning issues or problems that might possibly be solved, at least partially by the provision of conducive learning arrangements that make deliberate, effective use of technology.

Keywords E-learning, foreign languages, teaching and learning, Kenya