

# Revolutionising Higher Education:

The Role of Digital Transformation in Accounting Education

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**1.1 Strategies Shaping the Evolution of Accounting Businesses and Higher Education 1.2 Digital Tools and Technologies in Accounting** Education **1.3 Challenges and Opportunities of Digital Transformation** 



# Introduction

## Digital disruption accelerated by COVID-19

## Hybrid & online learning here to stay

Need for transformation in accounting education in HE Handoyo & Anas,2019





# Strategies Shaping the Evolution of Accounting Businesses and Higher Education

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# Strategic Drivers shaping businesses:



Brynjolfsson&McAfe, 2017

Blockchain

Dimitropoulos, 2022; Fuller & Markelevich, 2020

Miller&Bailenson, 2020



Dhami & Zhu, 2024



Choudhary, 2024

Nadkarni & Prügl. Digital transformation: A review, synthesis and opportunities for future research. Management Review Quarterly. 2021 www.spu.ac.za (5/20)

# The Evolving Landscape of Higher Education STRATEGIES shaping the evolution of higher education

Digital Skill Integration - Akour, & Alenezi (2022); Sledgianowski, et al (2017)



Online Learning Platforms - Müller et al. (2023) Graham et al. (2013) Arens et al. (2019) Taylor, & Neimeyer (2016); Bowles et al (2020)

Industry Collaboration - Reyes Rios (2022)

Data-Driven Approaches - Clow (2013); Zhang et al. (2021); Wang (2019)

- Altbach (2016)

Focus on entrepreneurship - Ly

- Lv et al. (2021)

Adaptive technologies

Soft skills development

**Globalization of education** 

- Kurt (2021); Albrecht & Sack (2000); Zhang et al. (2021); Evans, & Paisey (2018)
- Chamorro-Premuzic et al. (2010)
- SOFT States











# 1.2 Digital Tools and Technologies in Accounting Education



# **Digital Tools Transforming Accounting Education**



Cloud Solutions Cohn (2018)

AI & Machine Learning

Slimi (2023); Shevchuk & Radelytskyy (2024); Grabińska, et al. (2021)



**Virtual Learning** 

Davis and Davis (2019)

#### Blockchain

Desplebin, Lux, & Petit (2024); Pimentel, & Boulianne (2020)

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#### **Data Visualization**

Li et al. (2021)





# 1.3 Challenges and Opportunities of Digital Transformation



# Challenges







#### FACULTY RESISTANCE

Jones et al. (2018); Kee (2024)

# CURRICULUM & TECH UPDATES

#### DIGITAL SKILL GAPS

Ma & Ruannakarn (2024) & Student

preparedness - Nwokike & Eya

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# Infrastructure Issues



#### RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS

Ma & Ruannakarn (2024)

#### LIMITED ACCESS TO NEW TECH

#### CYBERSECURITY CONCERNS

Brabete et al. (2024)

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#### Global collaboration

Kwon & Shin (2020); Kee (2024); Ma & Ruannakarn (2024)

# **Opportunities**



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#### Personalised learning/Enhanced learning experience Khafit et al. (2020)

#### Increased access & flexibility

accessible Ma & Ruannakarn (2024), engaging Popa et al. (2024), and aligned with industry needs Kwon & Shin (2020); Theuri et al. (2024)

#### Real-World Applications Practical

Improved Problem-Solving Skills - Pilav-Veli et al. (2021)



# 2. Methodology

# Qualitative research

### Literature review

To provide a qualitatively rich depiction of the phenomena under investigation, rather than focusing on the quantification of data (Hall, 2007; Maserumule, 2011; Baugh & Guion, 2016).





## 3. FINDINGS/CONCLUSION









# **Future Directions for Accounting Education**



The future of accounting education will emphasize strategic thinking as AI handles routine tasks. Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) reporting will become increasingly important, requiring accountants to understand ethical standards and sustainability. Data analytics skills will be essential for uncovering patterns and making informed decisions in an increasingly complex financial landscape.



## Recommendations

#### Curriculum Integration

Integrate advanced digital tools into accounting curricula to foster innovation and prepare students for technology-driven careers

#### 2

#### Collaborative Approach

Foster collaboration between accounting businesses, educators, and curriculum developers to ensure relevant implementation

#### 3

#### Practical Training

Provide hands-on workshops and certifications in accounting software to enhance students' confidence and competence

#### 4

#### **Ongoing Research**

Continue research and collaboration to investigate the dynamic landscape of accounting education in the digital era

Digital transformation in accounting education requires a strategic, collaborative approach to prepare students for the future workplace. By embracing these changes and recommendations, higher education institutions can ensure graduates possess the necessary skills to excel in an increasingly digital and complex financial landscape.



### Summary







# Digital tools revolutionise education

#### Prepare futureready accountants

Embrace change & collaboration

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