



Possibilities of Discussion Forum: Faculty Members of Kurdistan University

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Abstract

Discussion forum is a means of asynchronous in online teaching that has used recently for increasing social interaction in universities. There is a short term background of possibilities of discussion Forums. In this study, I investigated different dimensions of discussion forum applicability and usefulness for language' teaching and learning and its strengths and weaknesses among faculty members. With this intention, I based my study on 149 faculty members in five courses and during a semester. By monitoring case studies, researcher- based Questionnaire and observing self reporting checklists I study the behaviors of faculty members and students during verbal and writing interactions in classrooms. The results showed that the asynchronous nature of discussion forums have provided opportunities for in-depth reflection especially language discussions. Lecturers and students also have a sense of community through discussion of course concepts. Peer interactions and professors' feedbacks make deep learning. Lecturers argue that having a place to connect with other learners is important factor to continue language' learning and teaching process in out of classrooms. The monitor all postings and assessing activities of students were most important weaknesses of forums.