



Application of Distance Learning Tools (MOODLE) in Full-Time ESP Studies

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Abstract

Distance learning (DL) tools (such as Moodle) become widely used in higher educational institutions. Such IT tools can be beneficiary not only for distance studies, but, in fact, can be integrated into full-time studies. The article aims to analyse positive aspects of distance learning and possibilities of its integration into full-time studies. The main advantages of DL are flexibility and self-autonomy. Higher education institutions of Lithuania have applied Moodle not only for distance learning, but also constantly encourage teachers to use it with full-time students, they organize workshops on how to use it. This system can be used to place and create their own materials or links for students, which is especially relevant when textbooks are not available, to communicate (because Moodle incorporates such widely used IT tools as wikis, blogs and forums), provide feedback, consolidate and test progress (via interactive quizzes and tasks), develop collaborative writing skills, even to share experience with other teachers. The objectives of the article are to reveal the purposes and methods distance learning tools are used in and out of ESP language classroom, what problems teachers encounter while using distance learning tools with full-time students, how to deal with them.