ICT for inclusive learning: How can eLearning help it?



M^a de Fátima Goulão Universidade Aberta, Portugal fatimapgoulao@gmail.com

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Topics

(1) Global causes

② Our work

- a. Objectives
- b. Participants
- c. Instrument
- d. Data analyses

3 Results

(4) Conclusions



Why use ICT and eLearning in education?

How students feel about it?

Men and women feel the same way?





Societies are constantly changing. These changes are felt on different levels, particularly concerning the knowledge one, provoking a need of adjustment within society and individuals.

Knowledge as become an economic issue, as well as a factor to combat the exclusion, and one of the keys to a better quality of life.



Knowledge is one of the essential elements of the society's development, due the reach and the rhythm of the transformations that society has been suffering. *Lifelong learning*, is the indispensable key to the twenty-first century, now requires universities to radically review their structures, modes of functioning, and attitudes.



Because of this panorama the traditional phases of a worker's life:

formation – employment – retirement

are no longer the same.

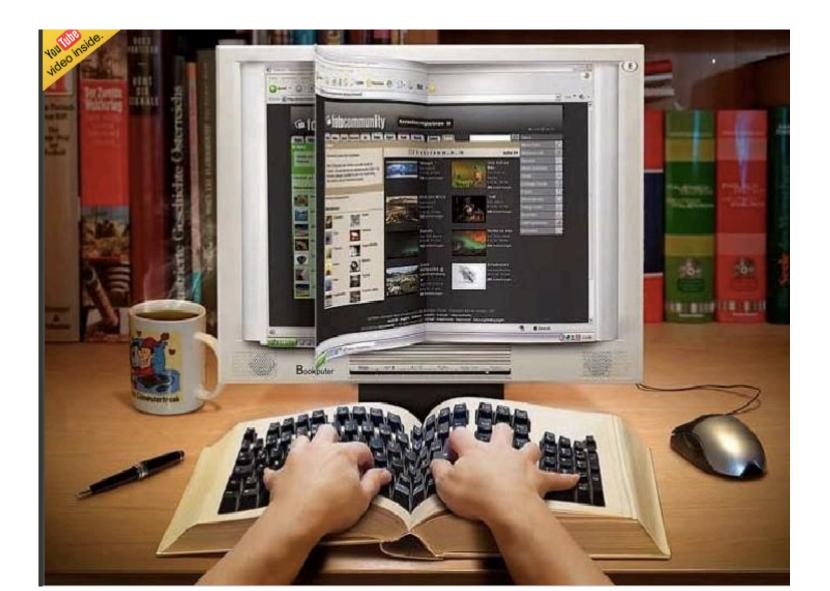
So...



"When planning for a year, plant corn. When planning for a decade, plant trees. When planning for life, train and educate people."

Chinese proverb: Guanzi (c. 645BC)

How can ICT and eLearning help it ?





They give to students the opportunity to study **anywhere** and **any time**...

They help the development of the autonomy of the students

Other opportunities



Flexibility & Adaptation







Our research's aim was, on one hand,

to identify how one group of **Distance Learning students feels** about and **evaluate the integration of ICT** in education and the **eLearning** on their learning process.

On the other hand,

to verify their behavior *comparing genders*.



Participants

A total of **80 elearning students** participated in the survey, as volunteers; all responses were anonymous. The **26 males** and the **54 females** had a age range of **26 – 60 years** (M = 38.40, SD = 7.51).



The questionnaire was compiled from the literature and it has a structure of a Likert Scale. It include 28 statements. The scale was divided in two sub-scales *Part I - Studends' attitudes toward the use of ICT in educational field* and *Part II - Students' attitudes toward the use of elearning for learning*.

The items' evaluation was between **Strongly agree** and **Strongly disagree**.



Results





The mean score for the 28 items was 85.25 (SD = 6.80). A high Cronbach's alpha value of **.80** was obtained.

The level of agreement and the degree of consensus on the General Questionnaire ...

variable	Average	30	
General Questionnaire	3.04	0.24	

Clear agreement of results and a high consensus.

In terms of a global questionnaire the values obtained [t(80) = -.489, n.s] for the variable sex expressing **the lack of effect**.



Part I and Part II

Part I – ICT in Educational Field		Part II – eLearning for learning				
Average	SD	Average	SD			
3.03	0.23	3.05	0.31			
	(Ŷ				
 Clear agreement of results 		 Clear agreement of results 				

• High consensus.

• Moderate/High consensus.



Part I – ICT in Educational Field	Part II – eLearning for learning
[T (80) =340, n.s.]	[T (80) = -1.33, n.s.]



Some ideas...

- This students had a positive attitudes towards learning using Internet
- ✓ They believes it is important and necessary ICT and eLearning's usage in education
- They are aware of their implications and the need for knowledge of this systems for a better use of their potential
- ✓ This perception was **not gender specific**

It is also important ...



MORE FREEDOM means **MORE RESPONSIBILITY** to do not lose the main objective – the academic formation, the current preparation and acquisition of tools that allow learning throughout life.



These new scenarios and learning formats should lead to a change of attitude and of posture towards this entire process.

This change must be in both sides -

students and teachers.



Maria de Fátima Goulão fatimapgoulao@gmail.com fgoulao@uab.pt