Educational requirements for the employment of E-Learning Platforms in the educational process from the point of view of educational supervisors

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Abstract: The aim of this study is to identify educational requirements for the employment of E-Learning Platforms in the educational process from the point of view of educational supervisors, the researchers used the descriptive survey approach (the questionnaire design). The study was conducted on 37 students with educational supervisors from Ash Sharqiyah North and South Governorates Oman. The findings of the study indicate that the importance of the availability of educational requirements (general, human, and technical) to employ educational platforms in the educational process came with a high level. Results showed no significant differences at significant levels (α≤0.05) among the dimensions of the study due to the variables (gender, educational qualification, and experience). The study recommended the necessity of adopting the educational requirements for employing E-Learning Platforms by the concerned authorities in the education, communication, and information technology sector to keep pace with the Fourth Industrial Revolution and to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

Key Word: E-Learning Platforms, Educational requirements, educational supervisors.

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I. Introduction

Contemporary societies are witnessing fundamental technological changes, which imposed themselves on the nature of life in them, and on the methods of work used in their institutions, among them educational institutions in the public and higher education stages, as technology today plays a major role in these institutions, especially with the emergence of the Internet, which has become a fundamental feature, a feature of the learning environment for learners and teachers alike (Al-Juhani, 2016).

In particular, the technologies of the second generation of the Web (Web 2.0), such as: social networking sites, wikis, and blogs, impose themselves on the fields of teaching and learning, due to the advantages it has, the most important of which are that most of them are free and easy to access and use without requiring special skills, as it provides learners with a diverse context in which they can build their knowledge of different styles, whether visual, auditory, audiovisual, spatial or textual (Adcock & Bolick, 2011).

The e-learning platforms come at the forefront of the technologies of the second generation of the Web (Web 2.0), which is witnessing an increasing demand for recruitment by faculty members (Yagci, 2015), due to the vitality and fun it gives to the teaching and learning process, which drives the learner to interact with the content provided through it, as well as with his peers and mentor, in addition to his involvement in a number of missions that develop his skills (Batsila et al., 2014).

The concept of e-learning platforms refers to a variety of applications of the second generation of the Web (Web 2.0) that provide different methods of education via the Internet, through a diversified context, in which the study is concurrent or asynchronous (García & Jorge, 2006).

Today there are several such platforms available, for example, the Acadox platform, the FreshGrade platform, the Easy class platform, the Edmodo platform, and others. He has conducted many studies concerned with investigating the effectiveness of educational platforms in the educational process, including the study of Al-Juhani (2016) that showed a statistically significant relationship between the direction of female graduate students towards the use of the Edmodo educational platform and their behavioral intentions in their future use.

Al-Rashdi and Al-Sakran’s study, 2018, which resulted in the fulfillment of all educational requirements (general, human, and technical structure) from the point of view of supervisors in Al-Kharj, while Al-Bawi and Ghazi study (2019), which showed the impact of using the Google Classroom platform on raising academic achievement and providing students with positive directions towards e-learning.

The Abu Musa (2018) study confirmed the philosophy adopted by educational platforms such as self-learning and collaborative learning. And the study of Al-Baqmi (1436 AH), which showed that e-learning needs
special requirements, whether in the field of infrastructure, building effective electronic curricula, preparing students and providing them with the necessary skills to use technology effectively - or preparing teachers before and during service and training them in this type of learning.

Aljuda study (2019) that found the effectiveness of educational platforms in developing cognitive, emotional, and innovative abilities of female students.

1.2. Study Problem
The study aims to investigate the Educational requirements for the employment of (E-Learning Platforms) in the educational process from the point of view of educational supervisors. The problem was formulated in the following main question:
What are the Educational requirements for the employment of (E-Learning Platforms) in the educational process from the point of view of educational supervisors from Ash Sharqiyah North and South Governorate - Oman?

It has the following sub-questions:
1. What is the extent of the availability of educational requirements (general, human and technical) to employ (E-Learning Platforms) in the educational process from the point of view of educational supervisors from Ash Sharqiyah North and South Governorate - Oman?
2. Are there statistically significant differences at the level of ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) between the averages of educational supervisors' responses to educational requirements for employing (E-Learning Platforms) in the educational process due to the variables (gender, educational qualification, work experience)?

1.3. Research Objectives
The study aims to achieve a few objectives including:
- Define the educational requirements (general, human and technical) to employ (E-Learning Platforms) in the educational process in the stages of basic education from the point of view of educational supervisors.
- Focuses on the different basic education stages, whose students vary in their ability to deal with modern technology and technical devices.
- Response to regional and global trends that call for the need to use and develop technology in the educational process.

1.4. The limitations of the study
The study was conducted in the first semester of the academic year 2019/2020 in Ash Sharqiyah North and South Governorate in Oman on 37 educational supervisors.

1.5. Study Importance
The importance of this study is that:
1. The study is useful in determining the proper educational requirements for the characterization of educational platforms by the supervisor as a result of the increasing number of users by students and teachers, and this study is useful in guiding them with the right guidance.
2. The study benefits decision makers in the Ministry of Education in the Sultanate of Oman to adopt the idea of creating an educational platform that serves the school and local community.

1.6. Study Terms
The researchers define the terms of the study procedurally as follows:
- **Educational requirements:**
The different educational needs necessary to employ electronic educational platforms in the educational process, which should be met in the stages of basic education to achieve educational goals as estimated by educational supervisors.

- **E-learning Platforms:**
An integrated set of interactive online services that provide teachers, learners, parents and other participants in education with information, tools and resources to support and enhance the provision of education and management.

- **Educational supervisors:**
Supervisor of the specialized scientific subject, who is scientifically and educationally qualified, and works to assist, develop and raise the level of performance and adequacy of teachers in the field of using educational methods and techniques.
II. Methodology

2.1 Research design:
The study relied on the descriptive and analytical approach and the comparative approach as the most appropriate for this study as it relies on the study of the phenomenon as it exists in reality, and is interested as an accurate description and expresses a qualitative or quantitative expression.

2.2 Data Collection Instruments:
After reviewing the previous studies, the researchers constructed the questionnaire consisting of 65 questions divide to three dimensions that included the requirements (general - human - technical). The questionnaire was applied to a sample of (20) supervisors and supervisors, and the stability factor was calculated using the Chronbach Alpha equation, to find the coherence coefficient of (0.972), and this value of the stability factor is acceptable in educational and psychological research.

2.3 Procedures of the study:
The study followed the following procedural steps:
2.3.1 Re-arbitration of the study tool used and extracting honesty and consistency, after presenting it to several arbitrators to amend it and develop it for the purposes of achieving the objectives of the study
2.3.2 Choose a group of educational supervisors in a stratified, random manner.
2.3.3 Distributing questionnaires to the members of the study sample and asking them to fill out the questionnaires accurately and objectively.
2.3.4 The tool was distributed to respondents giving them a enough opportunity to answer, and it took 12 days to distribute the questionnaires and collect them. The retrieval rate was (74%), which numbered (37), out of a total of (50) questionnaires.
2.3.5 Analyze data statistically using the Social Sciences Statistical Package (SPSS) version 19 and extract results based on study questions. The results were extracted, discussed and compared to the results of previous relevant studies. And then present recommendations and proposals considering the results of the study that was reached.
2.3.6 The degree of the importance of employing educational platforms (E-Learning Platforms) in the educational process in basic education stages has been divided from the point of view of educational supervisors divided into five levels, based on the averages of responses.

2.4 Data analysis:
The researchers used:
1. Arithmetic averages, standard deviations, ranks and degrees.
2. One Way ANOVA analysis to test the statistical differences between the averages of the variable categories for more than two categories (such as the qualification variable, experience and study level).
3. The T-Test to test the differences between independent binary samples (gender).
4. The Chronbach Alpha equation for stability.

III. Findings

Answer of first question1. What is the extent of the availability of educational requirements (general, human and technical) to employ (E-Learning Platforms) in the educational process from the point of view of educational supervisors from Ash Sharqiyah North and South Governorate- Oman?

The findings of the study indicate that the importance of the availability of educational requirements (general, human and technical) to employ educational platforms in the educational process came with a high level.

Answer of Second question 2: Are there statistically significant differences at the level of (α≤0.05) between the averages of educational supervisors’ responses to educational requirements for employing (E-Learning Platforms) in the educational process due to the variables (gender, educational qualification, work experience)?

Results showed no significant differences at significant level (α≤0.05) among to the dimensions of the study due to the variables (gender, educational qualification, and experience).

V. Recommendation

1. The study recommended the necessity of adopting the educational requirements for employing (E-Learning Platforms) by the concerned authorities in the education, communications and information technology sector to keep pace with the Fourth Industrial Revolution and to achieve the goals of sustainable development.
2. Training supervisors on practical applications of using e-leaning platforms in the educational process.

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