

The Future of Online Learning

JINMING Zhang

North China University of Water Resources and Electric Power School of International Education and Engineering English Major 450000, Zhengzhou, Henan, China

ABSTRACT. *In 2020, the outbreak of the coronavirus had deeply changed this world. Due to the rapid spread of the Covid-19, people have to be isolated at home. For students, the inability to return to school because of the epidemic has forced their studies to be transferred from offline classrooms to online classrooms. At the same time, video conferencing software based on DingTalk and Tencent Meeting has become the main stream choice for teachers. Even if these two products are from the top two companies in China, Alibaba and Tencent, the two have the top Cloud Computing1 technology. However, when teachers play videos, there are obvious delays and stalls. Does this mean that online education is not feasible? Although offline education is better than Online education in experience, But Online education still has advantages that offline education cannot match.*

KEYWORDS: *Future, Online, Learning*

1. Introduction

Online Learning contains many benefits which can help people study:

1.1 The First Benefit is That There Are No Boundaries

Online Learning is conducted on the Internet. If you have a computer or a mobile device. You can use Coursera² or edX³ to learn what you want. Furthermore, Coursera provide a chance to get a certificate as long as users complete the corresponding courses according to the requirements and pay the corresponding fees, they can obtain a delicate certificate with a prestigious school certification. The certificate fee for most courses is only about 250 RMB. As for the edX, it can also give you systematic study course and you can also get a certificate from a famous school.

Through these two pictures, we can find that many professionals and students put the certificates they obtained on these websites on their LinkedIn accounts, and become a method to show their competitiveness. More importantly, these sites will not limit your academic qualifications, anyone who wants to study will have the opportunity to obtain the certificate of the prestigious school courses they admire.

And this is unmatched by offline learning. Because offline learning is restricted by the scene, it can only be carried out under certain circumstances. For those students who live in underdeveloped areas and in ordinary schools, watching prestigious school online courses are also an important way to gain additional knowledge. During the Covid-19 epidemic, Peking University and Tsinghua University have launched their own free public courses on websites such as Bilibili.com, and the professors who teach the courses are even the best professors in these schools. Therefore, these courses are the top in our country in terms of production level and content, and before this, these schools will only offer some similar courses for their own school students. Because of the outbreak of Covid-19, all students had to stay at home. Although the enjoyment of educational resources is not equal for everyone, but everyone has the right to use the Internet, and this is the original intention of the birth of the Internet.

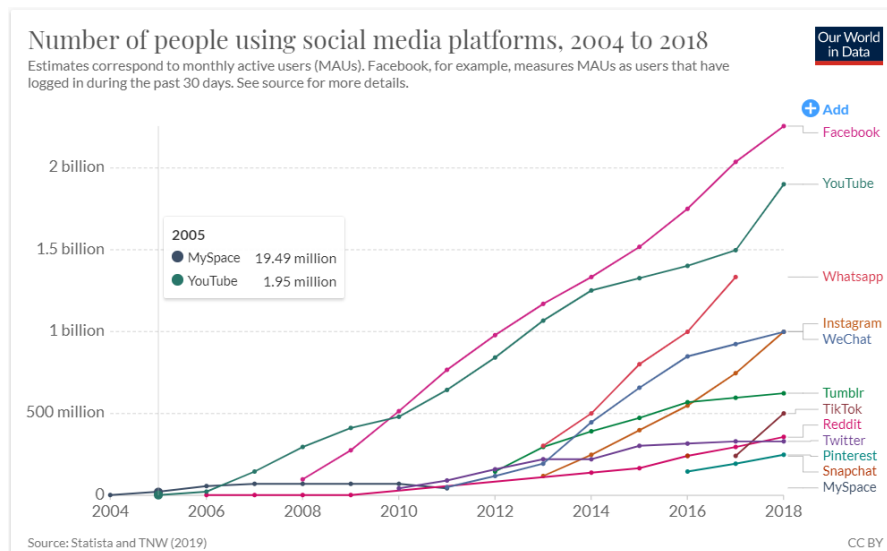


Fig.1 "Number of People Using Social Media Platforms, 2004 to 2018" from Our World in Data

1.2 The Second Benefit is Networking Opportunities

Thanks to the development of the mobile Internet, the convenience of social platforms is getting stronger and stronger. According to the data, Facebook added 105 million users in Q1, taking it to 2.60 billion MAU, a 10% increase YoY. And in China, The most influential social software is WeChat. The quantity of this software at about 1 billion. Moreover, A company called "Xiao E Tech" which is used to be a company invested by Tencent has become the first choice for many online research. Like executive education at PBC School of Finance in Tsinghua University and my recent online study from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.



Fig.2 Zhou Xiaochuan: Financial Research Should Be Strengthened to Deal with the New Crown Epidemic

As for these Business executives, Online Learning platform it's a good choice to communicate with the top Chinese entrepreneur, such as Zhou Xiaochuan and Wu Hequan, they are the former Governor of the People's Bank of China and the President of Internet Society in China.

In a word, the Online Learning can give you a unique experience when you build a networking with a good tutor. And you can through these Online Learning activities to study what you cannot learn in college.

1.3 The Last Benefits of the Online Learning is Low Cost

In China, many mechanisms will offer the offline activity which can help students to experience the real scenes of the business negotiations, Top 500 company internship or the Stock market transactions. But offline learning has the specific location to complete. And many of these activities were conducted in Hong Kong. For most people, going to Hong Kong requires more than 1,000 RMB in travel expenses, such as by high-speed rail or plane. You also need to apply for a pass to Hong Kong. The price of Hong Kong is very high in the world, which is higher than the consumption level of most cities in the mainland China. Moreover, these offline projects usually have a project fee of more than 5000 RMB and an accommodation fee of more than 1,000 RMB. For most families, this is even a full source of income for a month. But after the outbreak of Covid-19, these institutions have launched a large number of online activities. Although the content of this project is similar to that of offline activities, it has essentially become a live online course due to the absence of tolls and project costs. Due to the low-cost operation of the organizer, the

fees charged to the trainees have dropped to less than 1000 RMB or even 500 RMB. For students who want to improve themselves through additional projects, this is the best choice for them. During the epidemic, the celebrity economy⁷ spawned by the live broadcast industry has also become a new format in China, and the Internet celebrity economy is an industry built on the basis of live video. In foreign countries, some business schools have launched their own online customized senior executive education, and this is just because some executives who are unable to attend MBA because of busy work. For example, online executive education at Stanford University⁸. But MBA in the traditional sense require high fees, and the total cost of Stanford, the world's champion business school in 2021 is as high as 110,000 US dollars, which is equivalent to the annual income of a top investment bank analyst. Also, the executives working on the east coast of the United States, they usually choose the Harvard Business School or Wharton Business School on the East Coast and only Stanford Business School. However, the online executive education launched by Stanford Business School not only attracts executives from the East Coast because it is very famous in the top financial industries such as Private Equity Funds and Venture Capital, but also because of its low fees of about \$10,000 and personalized customized courses let them choose this course without hesitation. At Carnegie Mellon University's New York campus, financial engineering students learn knowledge through online courses and use the campus located on Wall Street to facilitate their internships. And their employment rate even reached 100% after graduation.

calculate your financial aid package.

Below is the cost of attendance, including tuition and other expenses, for a first-year MBA student for the academic year, from Sep. 11, 2020 to Jun. 13, 2021.

| Cost | Single Student | Married Student |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Tuition | \$74,706 | \$74,706 |
| Living Allowance | \$33,693 | \$55,929 |
| Books and Supplies | \$1,671 | \$1,671 |
| Materials and Program Fee | \$900 | \$900 |
| Transportation | \$1,050 | \$2,250 |
| Medical Insurance | \$5,928 | \$5,928 |
| Health Fee | \$696 | \$696 |
| Total | \$118,644 | \$142,080 |

Fig.3 Stanford Business School MBA tuition

In the end, what I want to say is that online education has many advantages that offline education can't match. With the development of the times, online education plays a more important role in modern society. Although offline education has many

inherent advantages, with the development of technology, those inherent advantages of offline education are being impacted.

2. Online Learning under the Progress of Science and Technology



Fig.4 Conceptual Picture about Apple Glasses

In recent years, owing to the development of 5G and other communication technologies and the popularization of Cloud Computing, information transmission speed and carrying capacity have been greatly improved. In particular, the popularity of 5G has created technical conditions for the upgrading of mobile smart devices. For Apple, the world's most powerful technology company, the advancement of 5G technology will not only help its iPhone and iPad upgrade, but also promote its development of AR/VR technology and autonomous vehicles. For Online Learning,

advances in AR and VR technologies can improve user experience, and thus are closer to offline real classrooms in terms of authenticity and experience. According to a Bloomberg report, the Apple AR Glasses will bring information from your phone to your face. Specifically, the eyewear “are expected to synchronize with a wearer’s iPhone to display things such as texts, emails, maps, and games over the user’s field of vision.”

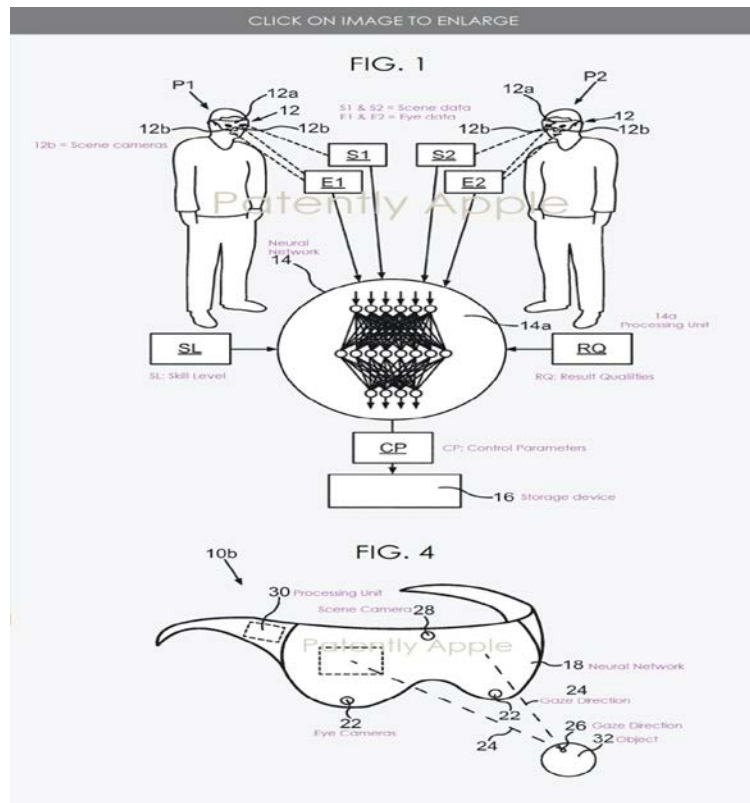


Fig.5 Apple Glasses' Patent Picture from the U.s. Patent Office

Perhaps when products such as Apple Glasses are launched, many schools will encourage students to use Apple Glasses to take classes. In the future, Apple Glasses will become one of the indispensable devices for American students like iPad and MacBook.¹⁰ In China, as Apple launches products in the AR/VR field, manufacturers like Huawei and Xiaomi will also launch similar products to please consumers. Due to the globalized supply chain of manufacturers such as Apple; China, as its most important part, will also make breakthrough progress in the relevant industrial chain. With the application of AR/VR technology, Online Learning will be the first choice. The holographic projection in science fiction works will gradually be realized with the combination of AR/VR technology, 6G and satellite Internet. When it reaches a certain level, it will replace offline learning to a large extent, just like e-books replace paper books; although it is not a complete replacement, but in the future, most people will rely on Online Learning for learning.

Of course, since Online Learning cannot be completely replaced, further integration of online education and offline education will be the main trend of future education development. Students will take classes in a specific offline location and

will use AR/VR technology to communicate with people in different regions at that specific location. Just like students who are busy in the city, this technology allows them to go online Experience rural life or classrooms of foreign students; and this also allows them to save a lot of costs.

In our country, the monthly income of more than 600 million people is only 1,000 RMB, and there are still many students in less developed areas who cannot enjoy the corresponding education due to insufficient resources. The advancement of technology will increase the level of education, which in turn will increase the level of education nationwide. And this is also a major social problem urgently needed to be solved in contemporary society.

3. Conclusion

In summary, Online education will become more and more important in the future society, especially under the progress of the Internet and AR/VR technology, online education will cover more people. For students, online education can be used as a supplement to offline education to improve their access to knowledge. For educators, online education will become their main teaching method more and more than offline education, and this is precisely because of their borderless and low cost. For the country, due to its low cost and high coverage, online education will allow more people with low education level to improve their education level in order to solve major social problems.

My point is that online learning can better deal with cross-cultural communication issues, it can make it easier for people of different nationalities and different countries to communicate. In today's society where globalization and unilateralism are intensifying, online learning can become a way for people from different countries to communicate, allowing people to understand, support and respect each other more.

References

- [1] Cloud Computing is the ability to access a pool of computing resources owned and maintained by a third party via the Internet.
- [2] Rachna Arora, Anshu Parashar / International Journal of Engineering Research and Applications (IJERA) ISSN: 2248-9622 <http://www.ijera.com/> Vol. 3, Issue 4, Jul-Aug 2013, 1922 | Page Secure User Data in Cloud Computing Using Encryption Algorithms, pp.1922-1926
- [3] With 2.3 billion users, Facebook is the most popular social media platform today. YouTube, Instagram and WeChat follow, with more than a billion users. Tumblr and TikTok come next, with over half a billion users. Esteban Ortiz-Ospina (September 18, 2019) The Rise Of Social Media Our World in Data <https://ourworldindata.org/rise-of-social-media#:~:text=With%202.3%20billion%20users%2C%20Facebook,more%20than%20a%20billion%20users.>