



**“Changing Education through blended  
learning”**

**Research Scholars**

*Qusai Kh. Abdalhameed*

*and*

**Hind Y. Abdallah**

### Abstract:

The scenario of education will change if classrooms become places of active and interactive participation in learning rather than just passive listening. The students of today are quite exposed to a variety of learning materials like e-books, social media and web-content, they can explore more and discover more, but when students have to go through a plain lecture method and take down notes, they experience a disappointment as they are not too comfortable with the one sided method. This may discourage or disengage the students as there would be limited access to question and answer interactive session. The Students of today are mostly accustomed to active learning and a one-way communication may not bring the desired results. The classroom scenario should develop knowledge for students. They are not comfortable nowadays receiving one-dimensional information. Students are interested in doing meaningful actions with content acquired and show disregard if they have to listen to a lecture. When a class group meets in the classroom, the projects and assignments get done much easier and effectively. Therefore the classroom experience must be made meaningful and productive ensuring its worth, the time, energy and money invested in it.

This brings us to the blended method of education, where we are able to blend online media and in-class learning. In this paper the author brings out the concept of blended learning or Flipped model of education.

### Keywords:

flip, blended, flipped

### Introduction:

“Flipped Learning has dared me to be more, do more, believe more for the students I serve” – Celeste Clemons.

The generations today are used to the rapid pace of being wireless, everything is technology assisted. Our learners are full of information from all different sources. So it is a challenge for the teachers to develop a best method to teach students. We must make use of this knowledge that youngsters have to build a meaningful education. The present generation have developed a system of dependence on technology. It influences their values and the way they think. This is the main structure of the community of education. Through the blended learning can meet the requirements of the present generation. Blended education is a process in which learning is imparted through a combination of personal instructions and computer based, computer assisted activities. It encourages active participation and healthy interactive sessions between educators and learners. Instructors make lessons so that students can learn at home as well and the active participation is done in the class time. This is very useful for those who have part-time or full- time jobs, they can get the benefit of learning without burden or stress.

In traditional lecture method the learner has to immediately grasp and remember what is said by the instructor there is no facility of reflection of matter or to go back to what was said and re learn it at the learners own pace. The learners who have impairments, are assisted through this blended learning. The learning is application based, where the instructors have enough time to guide the students in quality learning of the concepts.

### Benefits

: The blended classroom does justice to the learners as well as the instructors' time. It taps out the best from the instructors and the learners as each persons' talent and learning style is being considered and given equal importance. Complicated topics are discussed with much ease and expertise as the technology fills the gap of requirements. This method enhances co-operative and collaborative learning. Learners feel more involved and a part of this as they can provide their inputs, edits and suggestions.

### Requirements to enable any classroom to become a blended classroom:

The classroom would have to be modified to become a blended classroom. In order to make this possible the preparations or requirements are as follows:

- Students and instructors should be counseled in order for them to accept this kind of method.
- Avoid using terms like ‘just experimenting’ as this can bring about resistance.
- Explain to the students what blended method of education is, otherwise they would be in the forced impression of self-learning and would over burden themselves.
- The interior of the classroom could be changed with circular seating arrangement to facilitate group discussions and blended education activities.

- The lesson plans of the in class and after class activities should be connected.
- Introduce the students to the plethora of availabilities on the internet like e-books, libraries and technology apps that will allow them to access their study matter.
- Instructors should bear a positive attitude as there would be more to see to and arrange.
- Take small but significant steps to bring about the change.
- The learning outcomes as well as the objectives should be considered.
- Lesson plans should include the activities to be conducted based on that topic.
- Class time should be planned to give the students maximum learning time.

### Presentation:

This method reverses the roles of methods of lecture and homework. Before teaching the lessons, a short video is created like an introduction or a teaser, then when the students come to the classroom the teacher asks for inputs from the students point of view based on that and thereby develops the lesson and learning matter. In the blended of flipped classroom students learning takes place at home through the introduction video and then the class activities follows. In this method Higher-order thinking skills are developed more easily. The activities that could be conducted in this are as follows:

- Analysis of documents.
- Debates.
- Group discussion.
- Peer- think, pair, share.
- Project based learning.
- Problem solving.
- Skill development or concept practice.

### Role of the teacher in a flipped or blended classroom:

- Training and practice would perfect a teacher's skills to prepare for a blended classroom.
- The content suitable for the flipped classroom should be selected by the teacher for the flipped learning method.
- Collaboration with other educators from other branches in that level of education could give some insight on how to improve the flipped classroom method of education.
- Videos of lessons should be accompanied by discussions in order to bring out what the child saw in the video.
- Feedback should be done in the form of collaborative discussions.
- Teacher – student interaction would help the optimal learning to take place.
- Creative methods should be found out for assessment.
- Teachers function as an advisor, guide and facilitator with the students, motivating them to do well.

### Conclusion:

Some learners may not be able to access the internet or technology due to financial or physical incapacity. In this case the school could function as a mediator and bring blended education to the learners. If teachers are given proper assistance and support, the learners would very easily learn through the blended learning.

### References:

- (Feb 2014) Jared Stein, Charles R. Graham, "Essentials for Blended Learning: A Standards-Based Guide: Volume 7 (Essentials of Online Learning)".
- (2004) Josh Bersin "The Blended Learning Book: Best Practices, Proven Methodologies, and Lessons Learned".
- (2016) Catlin R. Tucker, Jason T. Green, and Tiffany Wycoff, "Blended Learning in Action: A Practical Guide Toward Sustainable Change".
- (2014) Heather Staker and Michael B. Horn "Blended: Using Disruptive Innovation to Improve Schools".
- (2008) D. Randy Garrison and Norman D. Vaughan, "Blended Learning in Higher Education: Framework, Principles, and Guidelines".