Effectiveness of the Canvas Learning Management System: Students view of the Nawaloka College of Higher Studies.

Gunarathna D.G.R.L., Dayananda A.P.M.M.D.B., Ransara P.W.A.S.D
ruchira@pgiimed.cmb.ac.lk, **dulanja@wyb.ac.lk**, shana191@kln.ac.lk

Abstract

Remote education is the current trend in the education sector and it's accelerated with the current pandemic situation throughout the world. Students do not need to attend class physically but there are several advantages and disadvantages. To achieve this goal of remote education different kinds of tools are used by institutes, universities, and colleges. The Canvas is one of the LMS systems and this study's major objective was the effectiveness of the Canvas by the students' view. This was good for understanding students' ideas about this LMS and under those results, College can develop its design to make students satisfied as well. The survey research method was used for the study and the data were analyzed from covering objectives.

The study revealed most students were not getting its advantages and some of the tools were not using much. They did not have enough training about Canvas and its tools. Students responded as some of the tools are advanced to use easily. Within these comments, it can be designed to use the easy way. The survey recommended workshops, students' feedback and a survey in teachers' view about Canvas from time to time will be good to make to carry out students educational purposes for a long way.

Introduction

Nawaloka College of higher studies is one of the premier higher education providers in Sri Lanka with linked Swinburne University of Technology, Australia. The offering courses are Foundation and Diploma Programs and the top-up programs. This study was selected only for diploma programs students using five departments. Diploma in Business, Engineering, Information Technology, Health Science, and Hospitality & Event Management. With the Covid pandemic situation of the world, every area was looking at their works through the online Education sector and also went to do online education as a result of this college started remote education through Canvas LMS.

Canvas is a web-based learning management system used by around 400 educational institutions for success. Their story brings out the best education for students. With this Canvas can be given access to every educational work and manage online courses. The institution can create and present online learning materials and assess student learning, students to engage in courses, and receive feedback about skill development learning achievement. Canvas includes the following six standard user roles: Admins, Designers, Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Students, and Observers. As per the role, the canvas will change its mode as an example: Admin can create profiles, add courses and students can work on that provided platform only. In recent times the online e-learning platforms have increased with the development of information communication technology. The Canvas LMS was created by the US instructor Company. Then students when enrolling in their units should have made their Canvas profile, it has some advanced process and the College is advising and supplying guidelines to make it because every student is learning things and the matters are looking, doing

through the Canvas. With this canvas, students are allowed to view multimedia lectures, communicate with teachers, download course materials, take online quizzes and submit homework and class work assignments. In addition, many students' matters can be solved. With these expected benefits, it's good to see how students are approaching this. If we are looking at student views about this Canvas can be sorted out if they have problems with this.

Problem Statement

With this covid pandemic institution, online education is in high demand and education institutes implement different kinds of systems to provide good and better education experience for their students. But some of the problems are there in online education, there are many questions. Are they satisfied with the online education mainly the systems used by the institutes are quality standard systems or not? The course fee is the same as face-to-face classes and online classes. Internet fee is additional expenses for the online education. Internet problems and the slower connection problem also is the main issue Sri Lankan people are facing. When login into canvas students should be pre-ready installing another app called MFA as a security protection app. Without this app, the canvas is not working. So students should have a medium knowledge to make the canvas app properly. The most important thing is Canvas tools. There are many tools in the Canvas and students have not good usage of most tools. Main problem is this survey.

Objectives

The principal objective is to study the effectiveness of the Canvas LMS system. Under this objective, the study is going through deeply to achieve other objectives. Those are

- To examine students satisfaction with the Canvas LMS system

- To examine Canvas LMS issues facing by students

- To identify problem resolving key things of Canvas

Methodology

The study method is the survey research method. This study was conducted on a sample of 20 students from the five programs. The five programs are Diploma in Business, Engineering, Information Technology, and Health Science. The population is Diploma students in Nawaloka College. 100 Structured questionnaires have been provided through the Google forms and 95 answered forms were received back. Data analyze part done with the tables.

Results and Discussion

The first part of the study examined the students' reactions to the use of Canvas tools and several aspects and some of them are tabled as follows.

Table 1: Most useful canvas tool for learning

Most useful canvas tool for learning	Respondents	Percentage
Announcements	60	63%
Attendance	8	8%
Chat	12	13%
Collaboration group sites	9	9%
Discussion Group	5	5%
Grade Book	90	95%
Massage(Inbox)	15	16%
Modules	80	84%
Quizzes	65	68%
Syllabus	70	74%
Webex	12	13%

The findings show that the majority of respondents (95%) mentioned the usefulness of the grade book. There they have to submit assignments, tests, and other reports for examination purposes. So respondents recognized it as the most useful tool in Canvas. The findings show that the 2nd majority of respondents (84%) mentioned their most useful Canvas tool as the Modules. Modules wanted them to join for online lectures. When they click on the relevant module their other tools could be seen on the screen. The syllabus (74%) is a good level as per the students' view. discussion group (5%) mentioned the use seems to be less because they already have different easy tools and software to do more useful discussion.

Table 2: Canvas Tools for very easy to use

Canvas Tools for very easy to use	Respondents	Percentage
Announcements	71	75%
Attendance	34	36%
Chat	35	37%
Collaboration group sites	22	23%
Discussion Group	17	18%
Grade Book	52	55%
Massage(Inbox)	82	86%
Modules	12	13%
Quizzes	56	59%
Syllabus	91	96%
Webex	13	14%

A large number of Students responded (96%) syllabus is the easiest thing to use from the Canvas and the 2nd majority responded (86%) for the message option is easy using the tool in Canvas. Modules (13%) were the hard-using tool in the results. The modules have a lot of options and when login collaborates ultra-sometimes search engines are not supporting and the network issues are also being a problem. Other results as below,

Communication improvement ability through the Canvas (45%) agreed with this from the 95 respondents and the (17%) respondents disagree with this.

Enhancing the Learning through Canvas (31%) most respondents were neutral with this and (21%) disagree with this.

Track the students' progress through Canvas (41%) Strongly agreed and (22%) were agreed. Strongly disagreed (7%) and (15%) disagreed. As per the results of this many students recognized this is good for tracking their progress.

Conclusion and Recommendation

In this covid pandemic situation, distance learning was the key factor in education providers in the government and non-government institutions. As a result of this, it seems to be students focusing on some of the tools in Canvas, unfortunately. As the world recognized LMS, this was a good opportunity to use this kind of international LMS for college students. Creating a workshop to introduce the importance of Canvas will be a good advantage for focus to get benefits from Canvas more than before. And the student's feedback should be recommended to get from each department intake-wise. Moreover, organizational support, interaction, self-efficacy will be helpful to make students satisfied with this Canvas LMS. It seems that some of the tools are not flexible for students, so it can change the design of those tools and make it easy to get involved with those tools in Canvas. Another survey should have been done in future retouching teachers' views also that will be good for the future improvement of the Canvas.

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