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INNOVATION AND TRADITION IN MIXED FORMS OF TEACHING ENGINEERING STUDENTS

Distance learning is defined as “the technology of obtaining knowledge by means of telecommunications, where the interaction of the learner and the teacher goes the distance.” In distance learning, the role and requirements to teachers constantly change. Lectures are just a fraction of the teaching process which focuses on students' creative information research, the ability to independently acquire the necessary knowledge and apply it in solving practical problems with the use of modern technology [3, p.101]. Teachers of distance courses should have universal training: have good command of modern pedagogic and information technologies, to be psychologically prepared to work with students in the new learning and cognitive environment. Through such means of distance learning as discussion forums, electronic discussion of the acquired material, mailing lists, a new learning environment, in which students feel part of the team, the motivation to learn increases [2, p.56]. Teachers must master the methods of creating and maintaining a learning

environment, develop strategies of efficient interaction among the participants of educational process and improve student creativity and skills.

In the West, this form of teaching and learning appeared quite a long time ago and immediately became popular among students through its economic performance and the effectiveness of learning. Distance learning is called 'education throughout life' because the majority of students are adults. Many of them already have a higher education, but due to the need of upgrading or expanding the scope of activities necessary for their job, they have to assimilate new knowledge quickly and accurately and acquire skills. The most popular method is learning through series of programs that have a clear direction.

The effectiveness of distance learning is based on the fact that the trainees themselves feel the need in further study, and are not subjected to pressure from the outside. They have the opportunity to work with educational materials in this manner and to the extent that is appropriate to them directly. The effect is largely dependent on how regularly the learner is engaged into language activities. The analysis of the implementation of distance learning shows that the actual pool of potential students includes those who are often on business trips, military personnel, geographically dispersed audience, women on maternity leave, people with disabilities, those who combine study and work, employees enhancing their skills [1, p.289]. And despite the fact that distance learning involves obtaining basic secondary education this area has not received active implementation into the educational process at schools, colleges and other post-secondary educational institutions.

In Ukraine, a large role in education is devoted to the methods of active learning, self-education. It goes through a distance learning system.

Key technologies of distance learning are:

network technology: a kind of distance learning technology, based on the use of telecommunications networks and facilities for students, Internet educational teaching materials, online interaction with faculty;

-case technology: a multimedia set of teaching material, which includes: a tutorial disc and visual aids on a portion. The teacher organizes regular consultations to constantly control students' learning;

-TV - technology: a kind of distance learning technologies, in which the student uses the television as a source of training information, and he sends materials for teacher's review and assessment [4, p.120].

What is most important in distance learning is the student who can learn when it is necessary and convenient, selecting specific rate of learning. Many students can return to some parts of the course to revise material. We live in the modern world of technology and, therefore, select ourselves what technologies to use. You can select the video conference, e-mail, telephone, Internet, traditional hang-outs sent by mail (print, audio-, video and e-learning materials). The ability to work in an educational server helps students solve problems with educational materials and counseling at a distance in their spare time. Most students prefer such forms of control: essays, practical tasks, assessment of the level of knowledge in the process of personal interviews with the teacher, self-esteem. For most of the students engaged in distance learning, regardless of the course, the learning process is easy and positively affects them. So, more than half of the students say that during this training they have mastered the ability of independent work, improved their knowledge and gained confidence in their abilities and future plans. It can be concluded that students are longing to distance learning.

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