

**E-Learning, Knowledge Transfer and Intellectual Communication in the Mobile Age:  
Consequences of Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) Mediated Communication**

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Abstract

Information and communication technologies (ICT) significantly change the way learning is conducted, with the increase of ICT for instructional design and delivery, technology-supported learning models are eroding the dominance of traditional classroom (physical presence of educators and learners) mode of learning. The availability of ICT can provide opportunities and possibilities as well as threats and dangers to teachers and learners. This paper explores the impacts and limits of the ICT-mediated communications for e-learning, focusing on the human communications in the mobile age.

The learning environment inherits the discourse and debate of the traditional classroom, such as, communicate with an instructor, or carry on a discussion with fellow students, as well as the literary practices of academia, such as writing a term paper, or presenting / debating a written argument. Yet, with the move into the online (wired and wireless) environment, all conditions for learning change. This change is juxtaposing the complexity in the mobile age that as mediated human communication becomes more and more non-linear, decentralized, and rooted in multimedia, the distinction between orality and literacy becomes less evident and less important, resulting in redefining humanity.

After an introduction on ICT mediated communications, Section 2 critically examines the ways / modes of the (non-)application of new media technology in the classroom either as a substitute for face to face or as a flexible mode of delivery. Section 3 examines the consequences of new media technology will be debated, focusing on the impacts on the knowledge agencies (teachers and educational institutions), the end users (students), as well as the pedagogical outcome of teaching and learning. The paper ends with critical remarks on the prospect of intellectual – knowledge communications in the mobile age.

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