

Class Session 12: Research in Distance Education

This lesson gives us an overview of research in the field of distance education. There are five categories of research in distance education: learning outcomes, learner perceptions, learner attributes, interaction, and distance education technology. Research about learner perceptions focused on the levels of students' satisfaction, anxiety towards distance education, and motivation of learners to learn. Investigations about learner attributes focus on age, gender, learning style, learners' previous education, or previous distance education experience. The other category is interaction, in this category researchers investigate about the amount of interaction, and how this affects students' satisfaction and achievement.

This lesson was very interesting. Research in distance education has different areas of study, learning outcomes is always the primary area to investigate, but there are some other important areas where investigations need to focus so new ideas can emerge to help students succeed in distance education.