

THE HOLES OF ONLINE LEARNING IN THE PHILIPPINE EDUCATION SYSTEM

by:

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The start of the year 2020 was unfavorable for all the people around the world, especially for the Philippines. Businesses were temporarily closed leading to a significant decline in the economy. Institutions such as elementary, secondary, and tertiary schools were also declared closed until this period of time, 2021. To continue education, online learning is one of the options that the Department of Education has provided for the students and parents wherein the faculty members and students will conduct meetings through devices known as personal computers, smartphones, and tablets. However, problems continue to arise because of the new normal setup of the educational system—online learning.

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Online learning is a way to cope with the impacts of the pandemic in the educational system. Students can still learn in this time of difficulty even with restrictions. Nevertheless, it is revealed by Rotas and Cahapay (2020) in their study that there are issues and concerns regarding the shift to online learning. One of these is the unstable internet connection which adversely affects the efficiency of learning because students fail to attend online meetings and submit requirements on time. Insufficient learning materials and sources is also a problem. This negatively affects students, especially that there are restrictions due to COVID-19 pandemic. Lastly, students carry the heaviness of problems regarding the ambiguous contents of lessons in which teachers can clarify in a face-to-face setup.

The situation of the educational system in the Philippines can be described by the hardships and struggles being encountered by the faculty members and students who are

participating in online learning. The unstable internet connection, lack of learning sources, and vagueness of instructional materials greatly contributed to the issues and concerns regarding online learning. Numerous students, as well as faculty members, recognize gaps in the implementation of online learning in the Philippines. Thus, the Department of Education, with the help of the LGUs, incessantly seeks solutions to resolve these problems.

References:

Rotas, E. E. & Cahapay, M. B. (2020). Difficulties in remote learning: voices of Philippine University students in the wake of COVID-19 crisis.

<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1285295.pdf>