

HOW MODULAR DISTANCE LEARNING HELPS DEPED IN THE REALIZATION OF LEARNING CONTINUITY PLAN

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Most people have unfavorable impressions of distance learning. However, modern techniques and practices such as learning management systems, Modules, web-based learning, and so on have altered that by making learning more accessible and efficient. Modular distance learning is one such technique that involves the use of modules prepared by teachers and consists of various learning activities and tasks based on the essential learning competencies.

Self-learning modules are printed or digital for students that offer tailored instructions and facilitate the self-learning process. Other materials, such as textbooks, manuals, activity sheets, and so on, can be utilized in modular distance learning alongside the modules. The goal is to make sure that students have everything they need to study, even when the school is locked down.

Distance learning was essentially developed to ease the learning operations of students who did not have an Internet connection and hence could not attend online classes. Also, a poll done by the education department in the Philippines found that most parents whose children were in schools chose digital and printed modular systems for learning.

Printed modular distance learning was used in the Philippines during the COVID-19 pandemic, and it produced good results since it conformed to the Department of Education's standards. While the overall quality was deemed high, there was a disparity between the outcomes of large urban schools and small rural schools. The perceived

quality of printed modular distance learning was poorer in the latter. This means that teachers must keep an eye on small and urban schools that use PMDL to improve quality and results.

Although the general deployment of modular distance learning was effective in the academic year 2020–2021, teachers and administrators experienced some significant challenges. These issues include the availability of summative evaluations; the appropriateness of the activities necessary for learning efficiency; and, most importantly, parents' inability and lack of engagement, particularly in rural and small schools. Because the summative assessments, activities, and outputs weren't good enough, the learners couldn't practice on their own or self-regulate.

To overcome the hurdles and make the learning process more effective, students must stick to their weekly schedule and finish all exercises on time. Individual learning monitoring tools should be used by teachers so that they can keep an eye on their students' progress and help them as needed based on their needs and skills.

A modular system is an effective intervention that can be sustained with adaptations based on location and time. It has a lot of advantages over traditional ways of learning, such as making content, activities, tasks, and assignments easier to find and it is also cost-effective.

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