

# NEW ERA OF E-LEARNING IN CORONA PANDEMIC : UNIVERSITIES OF IRAQ

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## Publication History

Manuscript Reference No: IJIRIS/RS/Vol.08/Issue01/API10080

Received: 03, April 2021

Accepted: 25, April 2021

Published Online: 03, May 2021

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26562/ijiris.2021.v0801.001>

Citation: Ahamed(2021)." New Era of E-Learning in Corona Pandemic: Universities of IRAQ. IJIRIS: International Journal of Innovative Research in Information Security, Volume VIII, 01-05.

<https://doi.org/10.26562/ijiris.2021.v0801.001>

Peer-review: Double-blind Peer-reviewed

Editor: Dr.A.Arul L.S, Chief Editor, IJIRIS, AM Publications, India

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**Abstract:** Impact corona pandemic (COVID-19) exploded a new digital dawn in Iraqi education achieved via e-learning to avoid threat of corona virus among learners. This step occurred across all the world in several scopes, and concentrated in education sector. Government of Iraq and others are taking all steps to facing the challenges and threats of corona virus disease (COVID-19) and avoid second wave of corona virus (COVID-20). One of these steps is using e-learning in all education sectors to prevent spread this virus among learners. The goal of show this paper is to present new era of e-learning and significance role in prevent spreads corona pandemic in universities of Iraq.

**Keywords:** E-learning, Corona pandemic, Digital transformation, New strains (COVID-20)

## I. INTRODUCTION

There are significant factors to build clear idea in new ear of education and one of these factors is e-education (e-learning) [3]. Education consider as a backbone of any country in the entire world. Usually in catastrophes time the countries are used to suspend their institutions such schools, universities and other governmental offices for sometimes [5]. In the current time entire world faces and fighting the unusual virus called COVID -19, Fig. 1 shows statistic of Iraq country and globally as well as university of Sumer, in addition, beginning the second wave of the Sars viruses call (COVID-20) as a new strain, has been spreading in South Africa, UK and also in other countries[11]. However, all governments around the world prepared to lockdown and required from the people to stay at their personal homes as a precautionary measure due to safe their life of these viruses [4].After that, the universities and schools in all countries struggled and started in activation new learning known as e-learning in learn and teach the students in this time period.

In decade, the technology has been advancing rapidly in all sides of our life included business, medicine, and education...etc., e-learning became umbrella as one of these sides especially in education and use smart devices like mobile or computer with available the internet technologies via new cloud techniques to deliver and send huge tasks in e-learning through different institutions around the world. Previously , these ideologies and using e-learning showed in last decades and recognized through the history, but now the e-learning became truth and main pillar and backbone in education and applied inevitably in all universities and schools via different platforms such as Google Class room, zoom, Google meet...etc., and technological arm to all institutions of education(e.g. [1], [12], [5]).Thus, e-learning presented as new vast gate of teaching rather than traditional ways in teaching and learning.

Moreover, E-learning has the high ability to offer and share different resources and materials through e-gate like e-mails, Google drive and different e-platforms to show slideshows, videos, PDFs, and many documents and as bridge to connect with large social media . It is also conducting as a (live online class) with teachers synchronously and non-synchronously. However, this article has presented the new concepts of distance learning. It also has examined the effect of new technology such e-technique of cloud computing by different platform via internet on the learners and teachers. The study showed multi-skills and many strategies that instructor how be interaction and effective in online.

Moreover, the article included several e-channels that used in different universities and focused on role of e-learning in combined e- Curriculum with e-technique (e.g. [6], [8], [9]). In addition, this study explained advantages as well as challenges which faced researchers and learners. In this respect, this article examed new application of e-technique through e-learning compared with traditional ways for learning in universities for both students and instructors for example how to using e-platform like Google classroom ,Google meet ,FCC, ZOOM, Google Hangouts ..etc, and communicate with their colleague and teachers in their lessons.



Fig.1 show statistic of Iraq country and globally with University of Sumer

Thus, the main aim of this paper is to demonstrate important maiden e-learning ways in institutions especially in universities and show role e-learning in crisis such corona pandemic to Continuation the learning and teaching in education sector (e.g. [10], [13], [14]).

## II. E-LEARNING IN UNIVERSITIES OF IRAQ

Actually e-learning became an effective technological tool that use for teaching and learning especially in universities. Generally, computer, mobile and several devices use and support internet are very essential as an environment to knowledge and development the skills (e.g. [4], [14]). 1

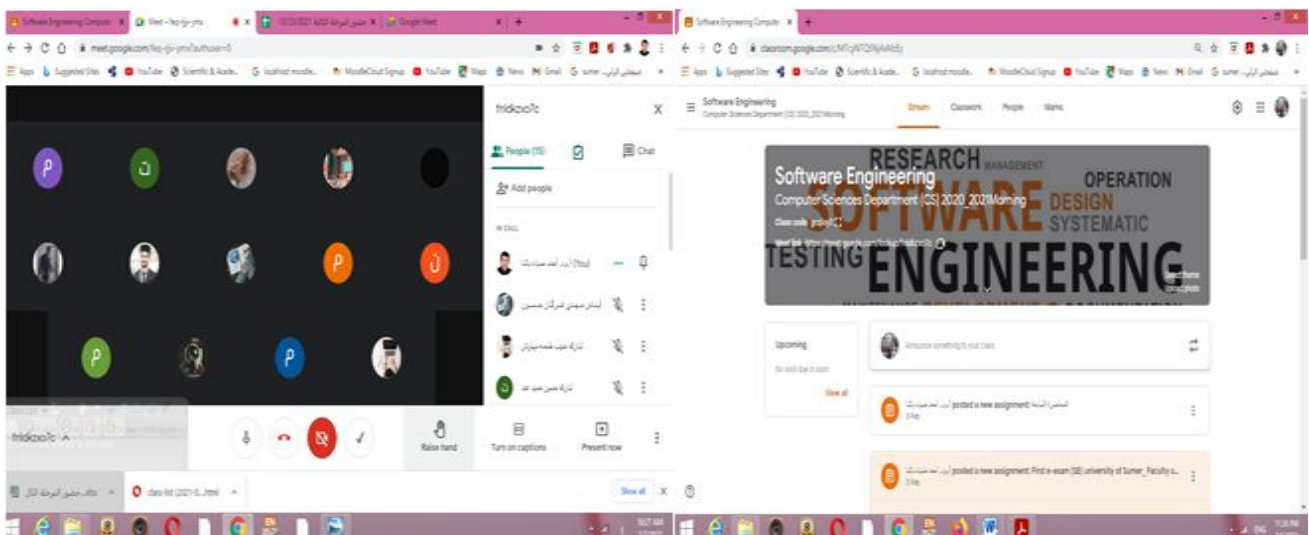


Fig.2 Explain e-learning synchronically in university of Sumer\_ Iraq

Moreover, facilities of ICT, IT and applications of e-learning contribute in digital collaboration and still presents an opportunities to share and interactive through social media and e-class via different platforms and applications of Google like Google classroom, Google meet, Google drive ,zoom, FCC...etc., thus, e-learning considered as huge e-gate and self-paced to instructors and students to show and available several features and webs or synonyms like WBT, CBT, IBT for sustainability e-education or install multi software in computers or mobile via download and upload different software and programs by e-platform to support e-class (e.g. [8], [13]).

In spite of, e-learning presents all courses that are available in all time synchronously and asynchronously to provide anybody want to learn and teach or increasing knowledge and enhancement his/her experience and skills whether in home or institution Fig.2 and Fig.3 explain e-learning synchronically in university of Sumer\_ Iraq and how easily login to e-platforms and download or upload different file and conducts e-exam with practice several e-tasks. In difficult circumstances such corona pandemic, consequently e-learning can be described as convenient way to learning and teaching, because covered all topics included in classroom trainings.

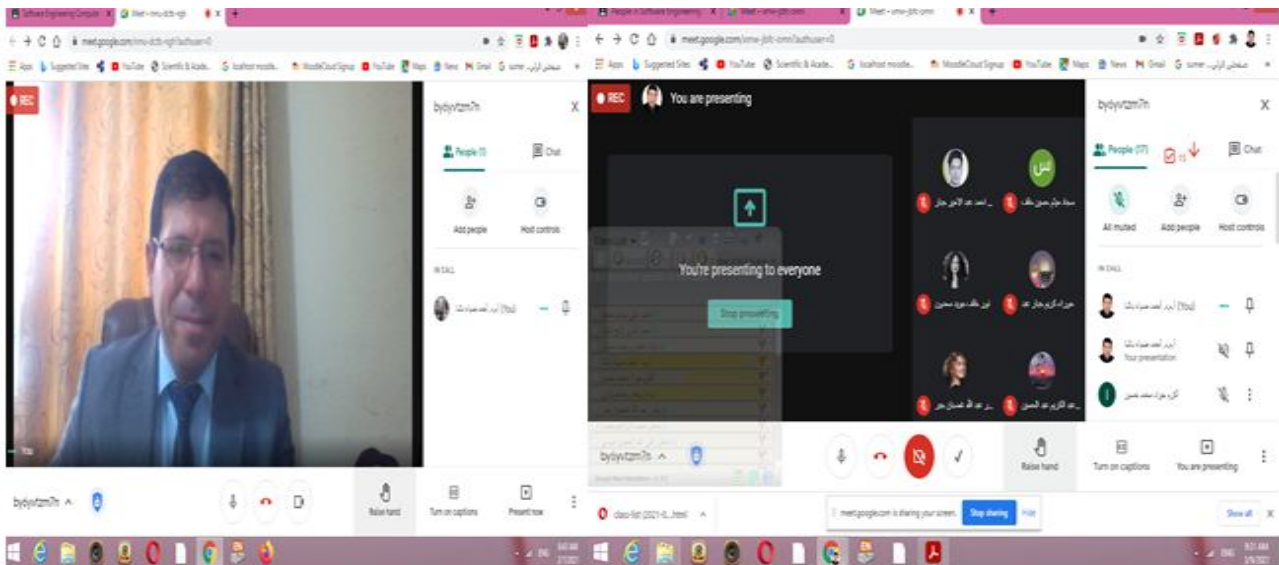


Fig.3 Explain e-learning in university of Sumer\_ Iraq and interactive with lecturer

### III. E-LEARNING AND E-CLASSES IN UNIVERSITIES

Development of information technology especially in education sector displays suitable and alternative e-environment for all learners in difficult circumstances like corona pandemic (COVID -19 and COVID-20) for learning and teaching (e.g. [3], [13], [12]). Nonetheless, the roles of e-learning in driving learning in all universities of world became essential and urgent request in this e-ear, whether was synchronously and asynchronously with intensify teaching material, because e-learning consider an opportunity to both teachers and learners to changing their manner and pedagogical strategies to improve efficiency of teaching and learning. Moreover, the learners in different institutions of education have been coordinating with e-learning system and using several modern technologies and platform in e-class like Google meet, Google classroom, Zoom FCC, hangout, etc. to increase and enhance their teaching and knowledge .In addition, E-learning can help learners and teachers a creative ideas and help both to have their own new electronic method (e.g. [1], [7], [11]).

In this respect, appearance of new technologies supported by huge of programs as e-tools considers essential part to deal daily in our e-life (Digital transformation) and through internet by mobile or computer devices to use several applications and internet explores such as Google, you tube, Instagram, blogs ,tweeter and many more of software and programs added to learners' engagement and increase interactivity within the e-classroom to enhance their e-education manner with moderation of Information and communications technologies (ICT) that supports new digital technologies like email, multi-audio equipment ,cameras and video conferencing also to influencing and supporting learners and teachers in universities that has been achieving many changes in life of e-way (Digital transformation)to all learners(e.g. [8], [2], [14]).

### IV. E-LEARNING AND CRISIS (COVID-19\_ COVID-20)

While all the world fighting (COVID-19), new strains of (COVID-20) appeared as a second wave of corona pandemic and many medical's organizations struggled to finding solves and treatment to rescue the people in whole the world with continuous convert the COVID-19 to COVID-20 as a one virus in two diseases as a second wave of corona pandemic[6].

In this respect, numbers of researchers in e-learning wrote about corona pandemic in their articles especially in institutions of education and how the study passing with e-learning to overcome corona pandemic. Moreover, with difficult circumstances of live in all sector, but the sector of teaching and learning still achieves high successes through e-learning and using multi-e-tools via different platforms in universities and schools to coexistence in corona pandemic (e.g. [6], [11], [14]). For example in Iraq, the government lockdown all schools and universities in country to avoid spread COVID-19, e-learning emerged as one of best solutions to continuous of e-study through number of platform like Google meet, Google classroom, Zoom FCC, hangout, etc. Fig.4 shows different e-platform. Moreover, using social Media tools help to interactive students and teachers to communicate with each other that offered free access to e-classes synchronously and asynchronously.

This converting in education refers to the importance role E-learning in driving the education specifically in corona pandemic (COVID-19 and COVID-20) crises [4]. Consequently, learners become familiar with accessing their lessons increasingly on different e-platforms and that help them to complete study systematically whether was synchronously or asynchronously to get higher grades and become ready for any e-exam for the coming year. Furthermore, lots of countries in the meantime using e-learning to continuous the study by using e-learning via multi- platforms such as Course and Moodle in campus that considered as one of the e-platforms for e-learning in the world like China, Turkey and Iraq to continuous of e-learning status during corona pandemic (COVID-19 \_ COVID-20) crises Fig. 5 (e.g. [5], [9], [2]). Thus, all universities in Iraq established e-control rooms to manage e-study or exam students and give lectures across this new revolution of e-study (e-learning) in universities of Iraq contributed in enhance and develop all schools and higher education to mimic all advanced universities and schools in the world.

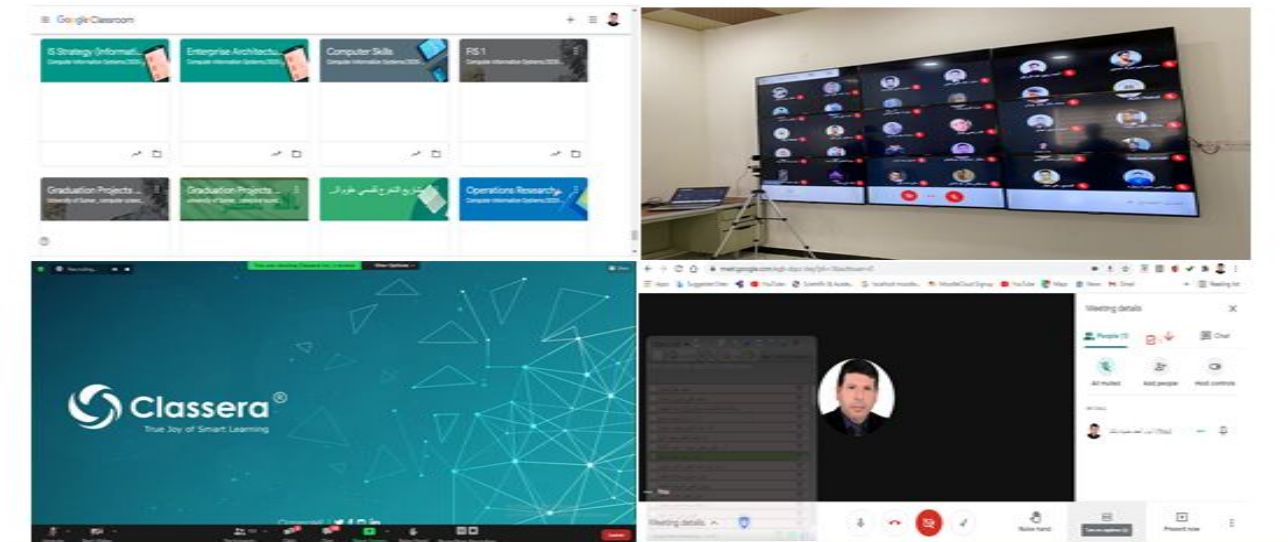


Fig 4 shows different e-platform in education of Iraq



Fig.5 Explain Corona pandemic (COVID-19 and COVID-20) crises in Iraq

### V. CONCLUSION

Using e-learning at home is one of the best steps to prevent spread of COVID-19 or COVID20 among learners and make virus slow. Consequently, all universities, schools and colleges have been closed in Iraq and other countries through corona pandemic.

Technological advancing in information technology becomes an essential part of our daily life. Using e-learning internet across the mobile, computers and smart devices have been used wildly and vitally in teaching and learning synchronously or asynchronously in education sector. This paper has proved and explained how e-learning and using multi-applications such as FCC, Zoom, Google classroom YouTube , hangout and many others have been contributed in solve the crisis of corona pandemic and study at home.

## VI. SUGGESTIONS

Sustainment the e-learning in universities and schools in Iraq essential to prevent occurs setbacks in education sector in crisis like corona pandemic and emergency cases in learning and teaching and taking a step to expanding the education synchronously or asynchronously to all learners that helps universities in moving toward best and higher education level and give opportunities for who wants learning online with available technological advancing that interactive via smart devices like mobile , computers, and different devices internet through many e-platforms that using e-learning tools in the classroom to encouraging learners in downloading or number of applications and uploading answers via e-class and help teachers to manage e-classroom online easily.

## Acknowledgment

I would think University of Sumer to support my work, in spite of challenges and threats of corona virus disease (COVID-19\_COVID-20) this paper done in faculty of Computer of Sciences & Information Technology and thanks staff; students and my colleagues to help me in published my work.

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