E-LEARNING AND APPLICATION MECHANISMS WITH THE BEGINNING OF A CRISIS (COVID-19) IN IRAQ AL-MUTHANNA UNIVERSITY AS A MODEL

Ali Abd Al Razaq Alaboody 1

Asmaa Abdul Wahid Malik 2

Khariya abed fadel 3

Muslim jabbar jundi 4

1, 4 Administration and Economics College, Al Muthanna University, 1E-mail: ali_alaboody@mu.edu.iq , 4E-mail: muslim.jabbar@mu.edu.iq.

2,3 Technical Institute of Al-Diwaniyah, AI-Furat Al-Awsat Technical University (ATU), Iraq. 2 E-mail: asmaa.waheed@atu.edu.iq , ,3 E-mail: Dw.khyr@atu.edu.iq.

Abstract

E-learning is of great importance in light of the rapid developments that the world is experiencing today, and its application in our present time represents a realistic, important and necessary matter, especially after the spread of the epidemic (COVID-19A curfew was imposed in most cities, governmental and private institutions, and all public and private sectors. Therefore, a new challenge has emerged, which is the application of the e-learning system in various educational organizations in Iraq, despite the lack of sufficient preparation for that. Therefore, this research came to reveal the reality of e-learning. In Iraq in general and at Al-Muthanna University in particular, with an explanation of the most important challenges that faced its application through an applied field study that included (15) Fifteen colleges distributed between scientific and humanities colleges to address the reality of e-learning in Iraq and in the university sample of the research in particular by collecting statistics and data on the most important procedures and activities implemented by the university in light of this. The research also aims to form an integrated picture of how to advance e-learning in the university under study. And presenting recommendations that contribute to achieving that goal. This research consists of four sections, the first includes the research methodology, the second represents the theoretical side of the research, while the third section includes the practical side of it, and the fourth section presents the most important conclusions and recommendations.

Keywords: COVID-19, E-learning, Al-Muthanna University.

Introduction

The world is witnessing great challenges in all areas of life as a result of the tremendous developments in various scientific, economic, technological, cognitive, and other fields, in addition to what is required by the wide and rapid changes in the environment and the effects imposed by progress in the technical and technological field in all sectors and organizations, including educational and educational, and the spread of the Corona epidemic and its invasion of the countries of the world, whichaThis led to governments taking many measures that reduce the severity of this epidemic, and among these measures is imposing a curfew and disrupting the attendance of students in schools, universities, and public and private institutes, so e-

learning came as one of the quick immediate solutions as an alternative to in-person education, as it is the only solution to continue the educational process in that period, and that process began. Institutions must prepare and adapt to that and complete all requirements for the success of this experiment, including Al-Muthanna University, which began the complete transformation from in-person education to electronic education at that time. Therefore, this study came to provide a complete vision of that experience and the challenges that accompany it, to be in four axes, where the first axis included the research methodology. The second axis dealt with the theoretical aspect of the concept of e-learning, while the third axis dealt with the practical aspect of it, and the fourth axis presented conclusions and recommendations

2. Research Methodology
1.2 Research problem

She threw The Corona virus crisis has cast a shadow over the education sector It prompted schools, universities, and educational institutions to close their doors to reduce the chances of its spread . This raised great concern among the aphids It was completed Yen for this sector, especially students preparing to take exams that they consider crucial, such as the baccalaureate and others, in light of a crisis that may last for a long time .And this Than Pushing educational institutions to shift to e-learning (E-Learning), as a long-talked-about alternative discussion About the necessity of integrating it into the educational process; Especially after the educational process was directly affected by the automation of industry and the development of "artificial intelligence" technology (Artificial Intelligence and the Internet of Things, as well as the information technology revolution that has invaded most forms of human life and become an integral part of it. Accordingly, the problem of this research is represented in the following questions:

-What alternatives does distance education offer in times of crisis - the Corona pandemic as a model?

-How can we do distance education channels in educational, pedagogical and university institutions?

2.2 research importance

1.   The research gains its importance from the importance of the topicHThe importance of e-learning lies in enhancing the quality of education, as it is considered interactive education, more attractive to students, and relies mainly on visual education and explanatory clips. Which in turn helps to remember information better and faster, which enhances the quality of education.

2.   Seeking to diagnose the reality of e-learning in the colleges of Al-Muthanna University, based on the mechanisms that were followed at the university regarding the application of e-learning.

3.   The research provides an explanation of the concept of e-learning and the extent of its application in one of the educational institutions, namely (Al-Muthanna University)..

4.   He hopes that the current research, like other research efforts, will provide an additional knowledge in the field of e-learning.

3.2 research aims

The research objectives can be summarized in the following points:

1. Defining the concept of e-learning at Al-Muthanna University.

2. Getting to know the opinions of colleges at Al-Muthanna University on the impact of the epidemic ((COVID-19prevailing and how to confront it to continue studying .

3. Identify the positives and obstacles of implementing e-learning at Al-Muthanna University.

4. Proposing a set of recommendations that support e-learning at Al-Muthanna University.

4.2 **The research community and its sample**

The research was applied to one of the educational institutions in Iraq, which is (Al-Muthanna University). Which TIt is located in Al-Mutha Governorate, southern Iraq, The university was established in 2007AndConsisting of(15 colleges)distributed infour Basic complexes located in Medin at Heaven And Rumaitha. The central campus is located north of the city of Samawah on the road linking Samawah and...Judiciary Al-Rumaith HIt is the largest complex in terms of area and number of colleges,Followed by the Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy complex located in the center of Samawah city in the Al-Qashla neighborhood. The College of Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine is also located on the banks of the Euphrates River in the Al-Qashla neighborhood The College of Law will be located in the city of Rumaitha in the future.

3. Theoretical review

1.3 The concept of e-learning

E-learning is gaining attention high In countries of the world, but due to weak infrastructure, lack of necessary resources, and lack of awareness of its importance, the term e-learning was not familiar until 2019, as the scene changed after February 2020, as the Covid-19 situation became worse, and the World Health Organization declared it a pandemic situation. In order to maintain the continuity of study and the continuity of the scientific process and ensure that the wheel of learning does not stop (Sharma & Sharma & Sarkar (2020:3239)) . Implementing e-learning in the education sector has become a necessity in the long term, given the significant impact and noticeable challenge on in-person educational activities in light of potential recurring global epidemics such asCOVID-19. So the future requires a harmonious combination of technology And Teaching using the latest technological solutions to equip classrooms Grubišić et al, 2020:10)) . E-learning was the solution, along with the difficulties and challenges that accompany it.

He knew (Al-Rami, 1990) E-learning means education that is provided electronically via The Internet, internal networks (intranet), or via multimedia such as CDs and disksDVD and others. E-learning is defined as providing educational content (electronic) through computer-based media and its networks to the recipient in a way that allows the possibility of active interaction with this content and features and with his peers, synchronously or asynchronously, and the possibility of completing this. Learning in time, place and speed that suits the circumstances And capabilities Abed,2019:1). According to (Wentling et al, 2000) refers to the term learning YE-learning involves the acquisition and use of knowledge that is often facilitated and distributed by electronic means Ym-mail on computers and networks And he sees (Gotschall (2000) that the concept of learning YM-e-mail is proposed on the basis of distance learning,

thus transmitting lectures to distant locations via video presentations Arkorful & Abaidoo (2014:398-399). The European Commission (2001) also describes e-learning as the use of new multimedia technologies and the Internet to increase the quality of learning by facilitating access to facilities and services as well as long-distance exchange and collaboration. E-learning is viewed as a teaching method for transferring content to the learner through multiple electronic means. Waked (Al-Arifi, 2003)BthatHto provide Educational content through advanced programs stored in the computer or via the InternetAhmed, 2021:77).

Anda description (Twigg (2002) approaches e-learning as learner-centered as well as designing it to include an interactive, iterative, self-paced, and customizable system (Arkorful & Abaidoo, 2014:398-399).

asHe knew (Liaw and Huang (2003) based on e-learning More important Its characteristics ,The first one Environment Te The environment Media the Multiple Andsecond HaIt includes types Multiple Of information .As for the third She isI organizeTeIt supports collaborative communication where users have full control over their learning situationsAndfourthHa AvailabilityE-learning networkstheSupport to access information .FinallyE-learning allows systems to be implemented freely on different types of computer operating systemsArkorful & Abaidoo (2014:398-399).Wet Presentation E-learning is also defined as learning that can be done from anywhere and can be accessed at any time by a person using electronic means to collect data (Zhang & Nunamaker, 2003) (Liliane et al, 2020:1250).

It is defined as learning Ym-mail According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (2005) BIt is the use of information and communication technologies in various educational processes to support and enhance learning in higher education institutions, and includes the use of information and communication technology as a meansa It became complete For traditional Including in Classroom, online learning or a combination They (Arkorful & Abaidoo,2014:398-399).

AndProvides e-learning to institutions and the Students have flexibility of place and time to provide or receive learning information (Aladwan & Smedley (2012:122) And E-learning can be defined as learning without the use of paper-based educational materials and the use of technology in teaching. Therefore, it is seen as the opposite of teachingthe Traditional or face-to-face teaching And Several terms are used for Expression of E-learning such as online learning, virtual learning, and Learning The grilleY, and web-based learning (Jardani, 2020: 58). and heA learning method using modern computer communication mechanisms and networks, multimedia for sound, images, graphics, search mechanisms, electronic offices, as well as Internet portals, whether remotely or in the classroom and intended. he Using technology of all kinds to deliver information to the learner with less effort and more benefit (Abed,2019:1).

E-learning includes various media forms that provide text, audio, images, animation, and video sharing, which includes technologies and processes such as audio or video tape, satellite television, CD-ROM, and computer-based learning, as well as local intranet/extranet and Web-based learning. E-learning, which is broadly synonymous with, includes digital learning, technology-enhanced learning (TEL), computer-based instruction (CBI), and computer-managed instruction as core components (Kannadhasan et al, 2020:262). And E-learning includes a wide range of methods for computer-assisted knowledge acquisitionAnd it works

ondevelopment Knowledge and skills supported by the use of ICT making the world of education more challenging   AndIt requires learningYAn effective electronic learning environment that is well plannedAnd organization AndMotivating and participating students (Grubišić et al, 2020:10) AndE-learning is not just about using web-based technologies or distance learning, it provides a way in which students and other stakeholders exchange information and gain knowledge (Liliane et al,2020:1250).AndE-learning is a necessity for societyTInformation Movement Likewise, universities cannot ignore e-learning thanks to the development of computers and the Internet in education And Proper implementation of e-learning system in universities can help develop skills to use online academic content, as well as familiarize teachers and students with new teaching methods. (Shahnavazi, Mehraeen, Bagheri, Miri, & Mohammad Ghasemi, 2017). Studies also show that e-learning, as a learner-centered teaching method, facilitates and improves higher-order cognitive skills such as analysis, synthesis, evaluation, judgment, critical thinking, and problem solving.AndThe goal of e-learning is to eliminate constraints of time, place, and educational resources, to provide equal, free, and searchable access to courses, to create a unified learning environment for different groups of individuals in any location, and to improve the delivery of lesson content for deeper and more up-to-date learning.(Uppal, Ali, & Gulliver, 2018;) (Zare & Saeed, 2017) (Kasani et al.,2020:97).

Some students who use e-learning have better learning performance and positive behavior (Kirby et al., 2007);While Others were less positive due to difficulty of use And workload Lack of technological skills and lack of face-to-face interactions (Encarnacion et al,2020:385).

2.3 The importance of e-learning

 The adoption of e-learning in education, especiallyin Higher education institutions have many benefits,And based on thatBenefits E-learning is considered one of the best methods of educationI have shown many Studies and authors examine the benefits and advantages derived from adopting e-learning technologies (Klein and Ware, 2003; Algahtani, 2011; Hameed et al, 2008; Marc, 2002; Wentling et al. 2000; Nichols, 2003) Such as the freedom to choose the place of learning, which reduces the cost of travel, meals and accommodation, as well as the free choice of learning time and the ease and speed of distributing and disseminating new information to many individuals. Multimedia and interactive learning stimulate and ensure the success of learning.(Liliane et al, 2020:1249).AndIts importance in reducing time and effort to achieve educational goals with high efficiency, making learning an enjoyable process for the learner, contributing to keeping pace with the knowledge explosion and the growing demand for education, enabling continuous on-the-job training, meeting the learner's needs and requirements, reducing the cost of education, expanding perceptions between the teacher and the learner, and quickly changing programs. Online curricula at the lowest costs, overcoming geographical barriers, and improving the attitudes of teachers and learners towards teaching and learning (Mansour, 2015) . According to (Al-Todri, 2001) E-learning contributes to organizing the work of educational institutions and their departments, creating an interactive educational structure, and providing students with the opportunity to interact via the Internet. And Providing appropriate education for different age groups, taking into account individual

differences (Ahmed, 2021:78).The advantages resulting from adoption can be summarized E-learning in education Which:

1. Flexibility in terms of time and place, so that every learner has the freedom to choose the place and time that suits him.

2. E-learning enhances the effectiveness of obtaining knowledge through easy access to a large amount of information.

3. Stimulates interaction with others and develops relationships between learners.

5- It increases the feeling of equality, as communication tools give every student the opportunity to express his opinion at any time without embarrassment. This is because e-learning environments are tolerant, so they are good ways to provide equal access to the world of information regardless of the users' locations, ages, and origins..

6. Using desk learning that achieves self-stabilization. For example, the synchronous method allows each of them to teach the student at his own pace and speed, whether slow or fast. Therefore, it increases satisfaction and reduces stress (Codone, 2001; Amer, 2007; Urdan and Weggen, Available here. 2000; Al-Qahtani, 2011; Mark, 2002; Klein & Weir, 2003)

7. E-learning environment also helps learners or students to become self-reliant for the reason that teachers are no longer the individual source of knowledge (Arkorful & Abaidoo (2014:401-402) (Abed,2019:5)).

3.3 **Types of e-learning**

The methods used in e-learning are many and varied According to (Algahtani, 2011) There are classifications based on extentShareIn education, others depend on the timing of interaction, while many writers have divided e-learning into computer-based e-learning and online e-learning (Frasconi, Gori and Sperduti, 1997; Dietrich, 1998; Algahtani, 2011). But more clearly, the types of e-learning can be classified into five groups based on the classification developed by (Negash & Wilcox, 2008) and according to the following:

1. Learning in terms of computer dependency is classified into two types: (computer-managed learning) is the process in which classes are managed and organized by computers. (Computer-assisted learning) This technology is also called computer-assisted learningRIt includes the involvement of interactive programs in the field of educationanyUsing traditional computer-assisted teaching.

2. Learning in terms of synchronism is divided into two types: (synchronous learning via the Internet). This technology involves the participation of a group of students at a shared time from anywhere in the world. In Virtual classroom through a computer. (Asynchronous online learning) is almost the same as the synchronous method, but the time here is independent This is a student-centered technology, as they can control the timing of the class.

3. Learning based on flexibility in education is also classified into (static e-learning). In this technology, study materials that have been previously downloaded are uploaded and cannot be changed according to the students' needs. Therefore, this method is called the fixed method. (Adaptive e-learning) In this method, the study materials are very flexible for each student and can be easily changed according to the nature of the learner .

4. Learning in terms of student interaction,It includes (linear e-learning) in this way students can get the opportunity to interact with their teachers (Interactive online learning) This

technique is almost the opposite of the linear method. This is a two-way method of communication where free interaction between students and teachers is always a positive point. 5. Learning in terms of the level of cooperation includes (individual online learning). The focus is on the individual through this technology. It is a method dedicated to e-learning. Teamwork and collaborative work cannot be possible through this technology And (online cooperative learning) a group of students can learn and achieve their learning goals together in a group form by helping each other.(Sharma & Sarkar,2020:3240)(Abed,2019:2)). (Arkorful & Abaidoo (2014:399).

4.3 Challenges of e-learning

Adopting e-learning in higher education institutions poses many financial and strategic challenges, in addition to the challenge of lack of acceptance by some faculty members and their strong loyalty towards direct traditional teaching. usuallyaccompanies himMany doubts about the success of e-learning especially regarding issues such as workload, loss of control and quality (Al-Adwan &Smedley,2012:124)). He adds (Al-Dayel, & Salama, 2004)alsoThe lack of response and interaction of learners with this new style, the lack of trained human cadres to prepare appropriate courses for e-learning, and the lack of sufficient awareness among community members about this type of education.And alsoLack of accessthe appropriateTo the Internet addOfto updatetheContinuous to keep pace with developments in the curriculum, the lack of incentives for the educational environment, the loss of the human factor in education, and the possibility of penetration of learning sites.Ym-mail Some countries do not recognize the certificates obtained by e-learning graduates. In addition to Methodological challenges and limited skills resulting from lack of technical support prevent effective use of learning in various higher education institutions. (Al-Musa and Al-Mubarak, 2005) (Oyedemi,2012) (Rubaai,&Hashim,2019) ((Ahmed, 2021: 78).

be seen((Ceri et al. 2005BanImplementing or adopting e-learning requires making many organizational changes within the organization Organizations Including organizational integrationFor employees Flexible delivery to students (on/off campus). and practice new concepts of teaching)And Thithr These forms of change provide additional work-related challenges, especially for web designers and programmer she Organizations often face difficulties in recruiting Two workers Specialized and skilled to develop high-quality electronic educational materials (Al-adwan & Smedley,2012:124)).

There are also many challenges that hinder the application of e-learning and benefiting from it in the field of e-learning, and they can be identified as follows (Al-Abadi and Zakaria, 2013 222-221). (Abbas, 2013: 329):

1- Technical challenges: The technical challenges are: HThere is a need for the necessary equipment for e-learning, as well as the availability of coffee Yes Technical infrastructure for e-learning, including installing, installing, and using computers and lines that support advanced Internet technology and providing a high-capacity network to ensure speed of response, transmission, and downloading.

2- Financial challenges: Training educational staff to use electronic programs used in the education process and providing high-quality electronic devices, Internet networks, and electronic programs are considered among the costs that must be borne by organizations, as

well as hiring technicians and specialists to follow up on the operation of computers and the network and maintain them. And The cost of establishing study programs, designing educational curricula, and providing specialized classrooms.

3- Human Challenges: Providing technical and educational human cadres capable of promoting this type of education, holding training courses for them, providing technical supervisors for classrooms, and continuous follow-up on this.

4- Social and cultural challenges: These are represented by the intersections between culturesin Considering and dealing with these modern technologies, such as the multiple uses of the Internet, and some trying to legalize its uses, or some considering that its use conflicts with some values and traditions.

5- Legislative and legal challenges It includes enacting laws and instructions that determine the correct use of modern technologies the Use the correct she has.

5.3 Sustainability of learning electronic

Although e-learning represents emergency distance learning during the pandemic, at least 500 million students are unable to access e-learning (United Nations, 2020).(COVID-19) forced universities to migrate their teaching methods to online platforms. E-learning has been widely used in higher education institutions as it provides flexible, accessible, multi-platform, cost-effective and collaborative learning. Many strategies and initiatives have been taken to enhance the features of e-learning to increase Quality education in order to maintain education during this pandemic, and studies show that e-learning and sustainable development offer many advantages to individuals. Therefore, the sustainability of e-learning is important to promote lifelong learning because it allows the reuse of learning resources such as learner skills and knowledge, and e-learning must be a system To ensure its long-term benefit, sustainable e-learning is essential to ensure that higher education is able to adapt to new techno or crises.(Sofiadin,2020:72-74)). In addition, there are many benefits and advantages to this education, including providing strategic scientific and research opportunities for universities represented by cooperation between international universities and the significant increase in holding joint workshops, conferences and seminars, searching for twinning, making agreements and cooperation, which enhances the need for sustainability and investment in it.

4. Field aspect

Despite the fact that most Iraqi universities resorted to e-learning methods with the beginning of the imposition of social distancing measures (due to the health situation that occurred in the country as a result of the pandemicCOVID-19), but Al-Muthanna University was a pioneer in this field. Since the beginning of implementing the provisions of the government program of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and with the formation of the university team to implement this program, the aspect related to e-learning has been one of the priorities of this team's work. The university took a number of measures, took a number of decisions, and held a number of training courses and workshops related to this topic.

The researchers collected data from the colleges affiliated with Al-Muthanna University, which are (College of Medicine, College of Dentistry, College of Pharmacy, College of Nursing, College of Veterinary Medicine, College of Engineering, College of Science, College of

Agriculture, College of Education for Pure Sciences, College of Administration and Economics, College of Law , College of Arts, College of Basic Education, College of Physical Education, College of Humanistic Education) and reviewing what was recorded by the college departments about the mechanisms that have been taken to implement e-learning. The following questions were directed to the college departments of Al-Muthanna University:

1. Has a working group been identified to coordinate with colleges on implementing e-learning?

2. Have training courses, workshops, meetings and seminars been held at your college?

3. What program and applications were used as the primary means of e-learning at the university?

4. What are the measures taken by Al-Muthanna University? To Confronting the Corona epidemic crisis.

5. Did Al-Muthanna University take it upon itself to follow up on the activity of faculty members in its colleges, and what method did it use for the purpose of follow-up?

6. Did Al-Muthanna University use material and moral incentives to encourage the application of e-learning?

7. Is the interface of the e-learning application accepted by students?

8. What are the mechanisms that were used to prepare for exams at the university?

9. What are the scientific activities of Al-Muthanna University during the period of the new Corona pandemic (COVID-19).

After consolidating the answers that were recorded by the researchers and after reviewing the official books, what Al-Muthanna University has done regarding the implementation of the e-learning program was summarized.For the academic year (2019-2020)According to the above questions:

1. Has a working group been identified to coordinate with colleges on implementing e-learning?

1-   The university appointed one of the cadres of the electronic calculator center at the university as a coordinator for e-learning at the universityAndThe ministerial e-learning team was contacted through the university coordinator, where there was constructive cooperation that included attendance at workshops, meetings, seminars, and training courses held by the ministerial team.

2-   A special system was designed at Al-Muthanna University for e-learning on 2/25/2019, where all colleges and scientific departments were included and all academic subjects were entered into this system.

2 . Have training courses, workshops, meetings and seminars been held at your college?

1-   An administrator for the e-learning program has been appointed in each of the university's colleges for the purpose of facilitating communication with faculty members and students.

2-   Faculty members were trained on how to use e-learning tools at Al-Muthanna University by the university's e-learning coordinator.

3-   The university's colleges held a number of training courses and workshops starting on (3/6/2019), where the number of courses and workshops reached (36). As shown in Figure (1) below:
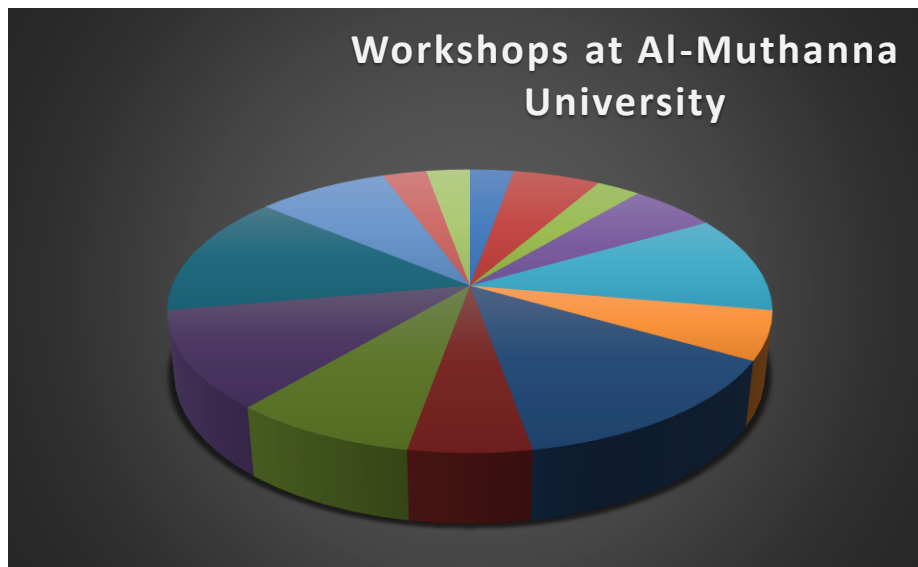

Figure No. 1 Training courses and workshops held in the university's colleges

3. What program and applications were used as the primary means of e-learning at the university?

The program was approved (Moodle) is a primary means of e-learning at the university due to the features this program has and a safe and comprehensive educational environment that includes publishing lectures, preparing assignments, exams, and assignments, and communicating with students. He urged faculty members to use this program officially, but the university has adopted the principle of diversification and flexibility in using educational programs and electronic platforms (based on the Ministry's directives) that are easy to use by the student and help in accepting this nascent experience in principle until all Technical and technical tools for using Moodle exclusively. Figure No. (2) shows the number of programs and platforms used as means of e-learning at Al-Muthanna University.
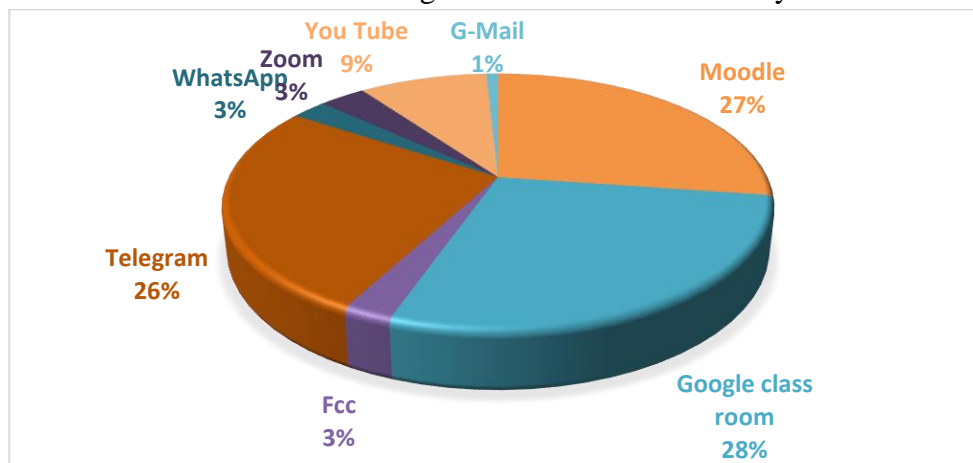

Figure number (2): Programs and platforms used in the e-learning system.

4. What measures has Al-Muthanna University taken to confront the Corona epidemic crisis?

Although the university began working on the e-learning program and preparing a plan to train faculty members and register students in the program designed for that, the steps were not completed for several reasons, including those related to the availability of faculty members during the summer vacation, and others related to the disturbances that occurred as a result of Demonstrations. Which led to a delay in the complete implementation of the program.

With the start of regular regular school hours for students (especially in southern universities, including Al-Muthanna University) and students' regular attendance at school (which was already delayed as a result of the demonstrations), the world was surprised by the spread of the new Corona virus (COVID-19, so that the World Health Organization announced on 3/11/2020 that this virus is a "global pandemic." As a result, the Iraqi government, through the Ministerial Crisis Cell (established by Diwani Order 55), took a set of decisions, the most important of which was suspending official working hours. In all departments and universities, a curfew was imposed. As a result, Al-Muthanna University had to complete the curriculum by shifting directly to e-learning methods and prepare an emergency plan for this purpose. In this regard, the university worked to confront this crisis through a set of measures:

1-   Completing the registration of faculty members in the e-learning system in the university's colleges, as Figure (3) shows the number of teaching staff registered in the e-learning system at Al-Muthanna University.
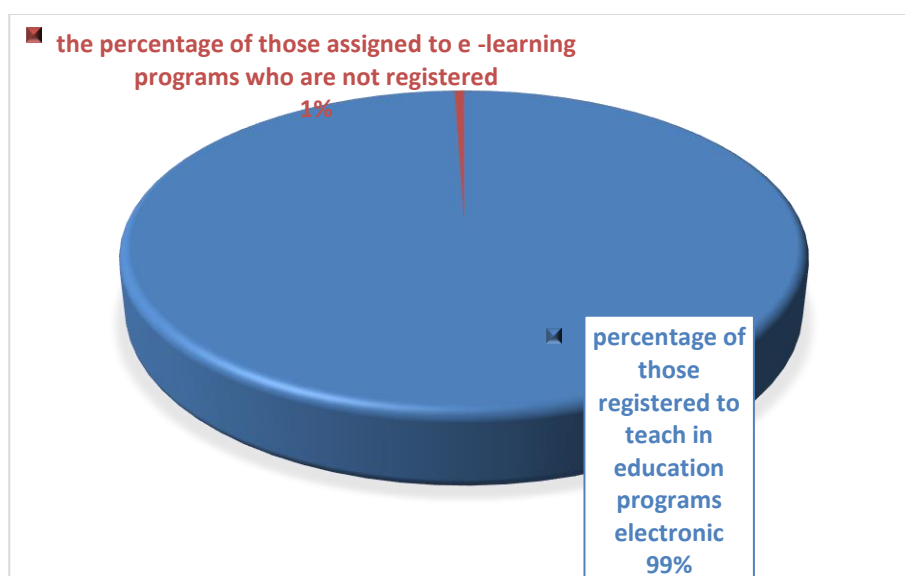
2-

the percentage of those assigned to e-learning programs who are not registered 1%

percentage of those registered to teach in education programs electronic 99%

Figure number (3:Number of faculty members registered in the e-learning system.

3-   Uploading lectures to e-learning websites and platforms, as shown in the figure (4) Number of study materials uploaded to e-learning platforms.
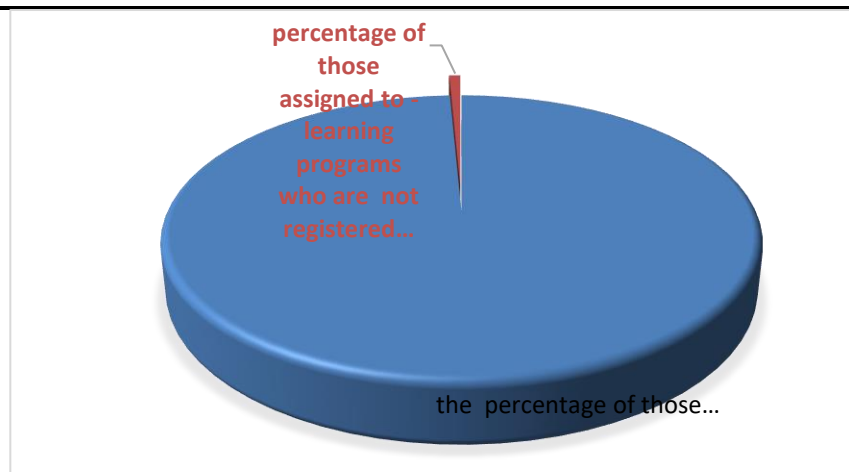
Figure number (4) Number of uploaded academic subjects.

3. Preparing an electronic schedule for the weekly lessons and presenting this schedule to the students (in advance of a sufficient period of time) on the official websites of the university and colleges and various social media outlets.

4. Preparing an educational guide for faculty members on the mechanism of the program (Google Classroom).

5. Did Al-Muthanna University take it upon itself to follow up on the activity of faculty members in its colleges, and what method did it use for the purpose of follow-up?

The university took it upon itself, from an ethical administrative standpoint, to monitor the activity of faculty members on e-learning websites and platforms. There were various procedures to follow up on the progress of electronic classes and ensure that the weekly electronic lesson schedule was filled accurately in accordance with the study plan for the curriculum and taking into account the directives and directives of the ministry in In this regard, these measures include:

1-   Design a form (weekly e-learning system follow-up) to follow up on the progress of the e-learning system at the university. The form included two parts, the first part concerned the academic departments and the second part concerned the college in general.

2-   These forms are standardized by colleges and presented periodically to the University Council. They are discussed extensively, identifying areas of delay and seeking to address them.

3-   Appointing officials to periodically follow up on uploading lectures on e-learning websites and platforms and submit weekly reports on faculty members' commitment to uploading lectures.

6. Did Al-Muthanna University use material and moral incentives to encourage the application of e-learning?

For the purpose of distinguishing the effort made by faculty members at the university, motivating them, and appreciating their constructive stances in providing information to our

students electronically, while taking into account the quality of these lectures, Al-Muthanna University has launched the Scientific Affairs Department's book, No. (S.A./2) in (11/4/2020) University Award for Distinguished Teaching in E-Learning. The university included a set of financial incentives and rewards, in addition to the appreciation of efforts by the university presidency. The award was divided into two categories (scientific and humanitarian), with three winners for each category. A comparison form was also determined that includes a number of requirements, including: Adding external educational resources, providing feedback to students with activities and assignments within the course, using additional applications that enhance the teaching process, the number of electronic classes taught by the teacher, the number of lectures uploaded according to the required curriculum, the compatibility of the lecture with the curriculum vocabulary, the method of directing the lecture, the number of assignments and tests, the interaction between Students, the percentage of students attending the course, the number of courses in which the e-learning instructor participated, and data and reports on e-learning activities. Scientific departments were excluded from this award to achieve the greatest degree of fairness, and the last date for receiving the files of applicants for the award was set on 1/5/2020 before the start of the second semester. A scientific committee was also formed to determine the winners of this award.

7. Is the e-learning application interface accepted by students?

With the start of implementing the e-learning system as an alternative means to basic education, there was clear resistance from students to deal with these alternative means. There was almost a consensus not to deal with e-learning methods and not to enter electronic classes for various reasons, some of which were realistic related to the financial situation of the students, technical problems, or the weakness of the Internet system, and others related to the nature of the student not accepting this system as it is a new system and the experience is not It is still nascent and vague. The university has been aware of these problems since the beginning of the crisis, and has put in place several mechanisms to address students' failure to join electronic classes, including:

1-   The university formed an electronic support team, consisting of a group of teachers and technicians, to communicate with students and identify the most prominent obstacles that prevent them from joining electronic classes, and to convey these obstacles directly to the university presidency.

2-   Al-Muthanna University launched a paternal humanitarian initiative in cooperation with the Crisis Cell in the governorate and the directors of districts and districts in the governorate. By delivering paper lectures and lecture CDs to students who are unable to reproduce these lectures or who are unable to join electronic classes due to their presence in remote areas where Internet services are not available. The electronic support team collected the names, addresses, and phone numbers of these students and delivered them to the above authorities for the purpose of providing lectures to the students.

3-   These initiatives and the diligent follow-up of the electronic support team at the university had a great impact on our students, which increased their confidence in the university's care for them, in addition to the effort made by faculty members in preparing lectures in a variety of ways, all of which led to a significant increase in the number of students

enrolled in classes. Figure (5) shows the number of students enrolled in the electronic classes at Al-Muthanna University.
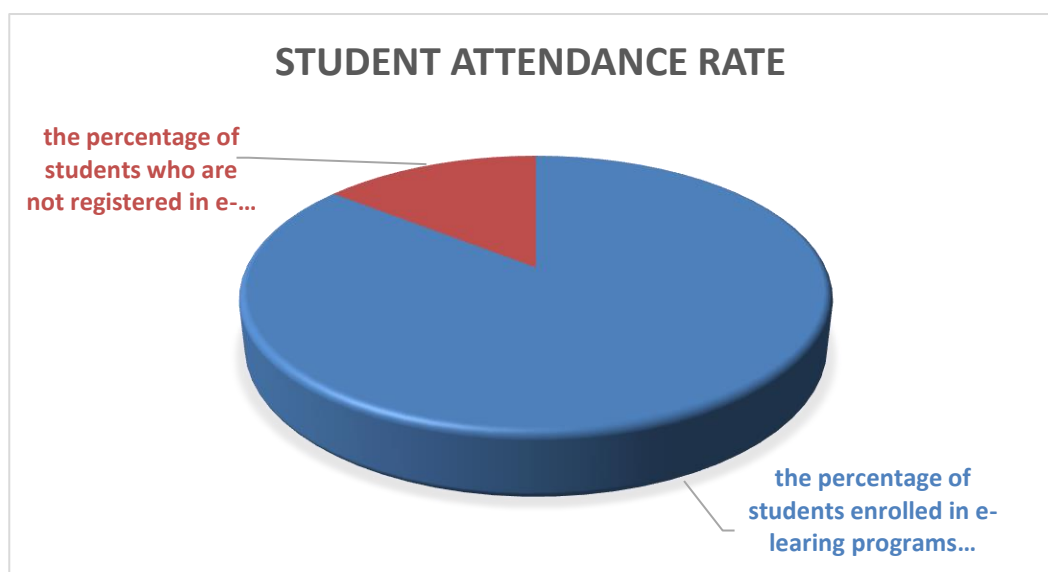

Figure No. (5) Number of students enrolled in electronic classes.

With the end of the first semester and in view of the implementation of the e-learning system during this semester suddenly and directly, without the appropriate preparation (technical and psychological) for the faculty member and the student together, this was accompanied by many successful steps, as well as some failures in implementing the program. Due to the continued partial curfew and the disruption of students' work hours, the university is obligated to implement the e-learning system 100% for the second semester. In order to enhance the successes and avoid the failures that accompanied the work of the e-learning system, Al-Muthanna University adopted an integrated plan to prepare for the second semester. The plan included several axes, including those related to the administrative aspect of electronic faculty members' assignments, adopting electronic schedules within specific and fixed timings, including those related to the quality, nature, and specifications of the electronic lecture, including those related to adopting safe e-learning methods, and including those related to By forming a central team for technical support at the university presidency, with sub-teams for technical support in each college, which is responsible for training teachers and students on using approved programs and addressing any delays or defects in the work of the programs and during uploading and downloading lectures.

8. What are the mechanisms that were used to prepare for exams at the university?
Based on the Ministry's directives regarding the necessity of not ending the academic year except by conducting electronic exams, which is the only solution available at the present time in order to ensure the integrity of the educational process in the country. Al-Muthanna University has taken a number of measures in this regard, which we summarize as follows:
1-   All directives and circulars of the Ministry have been circulated to all formations for the purpose of preparing and preparing all requirements for the success of electronic exams.

2- All logistical requirements have been prepared for the examination committees in all colleges (high-speed Internet and more). From a source, advanced computers, technical support teams) in order to ensure the smooth flow of electronic examinations.

3- Electronic windows have been opened on the official websites of colleges for the purpose of registering the names of students enrolled in the final exams and verifying the email of each student, in order to invite these students to enter the electronic exam halls via the student's email with which they were registered on these platforms.

4- A group of training courses (more than 20 courses) were conducted for examination committees and department heads for the purpose of training them on how to conduct the electronic examination via the (Google Classroom).

5- All colleges conducted training courses for all teachers on the mechanism of conducting the electronic exam and...YIt addresses errors or symptoms that may occur while the program is running.

6- It was completed Preparing two detailed guides (one for the teacher and the other for the student) explaining the mechanism of the electronic exam in precise details.

7-   Experimental exams were conducted in all colleges to train students on how to take the exam and remove their intimidation and fear while taking the exam, as well as to identify the most important observations or problems that may arise during the course of the electronic exam.

8-   A central committee was formed, headed by the Assistant President of the University for Scientific Affairs and membership of the directors of departments (Scholarships, Postgraduate Studies, Planning and Studies, Registration and Student Affairs, and Scientific Affairs) to follow up on the final electronic exams for postgraduate and preliminary studies.

9-   I completed all the colleges of Al-Muthanna UniversityallPreparations for conducting electronic examinations (training, documentation, examination committees, examination schedules, and technical support teams). Indeed, electronic final examinations have been conducted for graduate students in five colleges and are still proceeding in an excellent manner without recording any failure. .

9. What are the scientific activities of Al-Muthanna University during the new Corona pandemic period? COVID-19).

1- Conducting all meetings (scientific committees, department councils, college councils, university council) electronically in implementation of the principle of social distancing and to avoid the obstacles of the curfew.

2-   Al-Muthanna University completed a number of scientific activities (workshops, seminars, discussion circles, training courses) electronically, as the number of these activities exceeded more than 300 electronic activities documented by administrative orders.

3-   Al-Muthanna University completed a number of conferences (the Virtual College of Medicine Conference and the College of Basic Education Virtual Conference), in which many researchers from inside and outside Iraq participated in a documented manner by administrative orders.

4-   Al-Muthanna University hosted more than (20) visiting professors from various countries (the United States of America, the United Kingdom, India, Pakistan, Egypt, Algeria, the

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the State of Kuwait) for the purpose of conducting qualitative electronic lectures in various specializations and for various colleges.

5-   The university conducted a number of scientific discussions for master's theses and doctoral theses in the faculties of (agriculture, science, human education, physical education, sports sciences, management, and economics), and these discussions proceededSuccessfully.

6-   There was clear scientific activity by Al-Muthanna University teachers and researchers through the following:

a)   A comprehensive scientific guide has been issued to introduce the new Corona virus (COVID-19), as the guide includedthedetailstheScientific.

b)   Many scientific researches have been conducted on this virus, some of which are under publication and some have been accepted for publicationaactually.

c)   An engineering team from Al-Muthanna University is working on manufacturing electronic fogging devices and ventilators (Ventilator) and it is hoped that manufacturing will be completedHa.

d)   Al-Muthanna University has designed an electronic medical website to examine and report cases of suspected infection with the new Corona virus, as the university was the link with the crisis cell in Al-Muthanna Governorate by sending information about those suspected of being infected to the relevant authorities to take the necessary action.

e)   The College of Medicine at the university has designed an electronic medical clinic to answer any medical questions or symptoms in order to avoid leaving the house during the curfew.

f)   The University's Continuing Education Center continues to conduct computer proficiency courses, English and Arabic languages, as well as teaching methods courses electronically and without interruption.

g)   Al-Muthanna University launched the electronic platform to approve scientific research for the purposes of promotion and performance evaluation.

5. conclusions and recommendations
1.5 Conclusions

1. E-learning includes formsAndVarious media that provide text, audio, images, animation, and video sharing.

2. E-learning in the colleges of Al-Muthanna University, the research sample, initially received clear resistance from students to deal with these alternative methods. There was almost a consensus not to deal with e-learning methods and not to enter electronic classes for various reasons, some of which were realistic related to the financial situation of the students, technical problems, or the weakness of the Internet system, and others related to the nature of the student not accepting this system as it is a new system and the experience is not It is still nascent and vague.

3. Al-Muthanna University has re-engineered the educational process by defining the role of the teacher, the learner, and the educational institution represented by the colleges of Al-Muthanna University through a specialized work team whose tasks included designing a special system for Al-Muthanna University for e-learning on 2/25/2019, where all colleges and

scientific departments were included and introduced All academic subjects are subject to this system.

4. The colleges of Al-Muthanna University trained the teacher and the learner on the use of e-learning methods by holding educational courses, workshops, and seminars. Al-Muthanna University hosted more than (20) visiting professors from various countries (the United States of America, the United Kingdom, India, Pakistan, Egypt, Algeria, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the State of Kuwait) for the purpose of conducting qualitative electronic lectures in various specializations and for various colleges.

5.. Through e-learning, the learner has the freedom to choose the place of learning. He can learn at home. It reduces the cost of travel, meals and accommodation, as well as the free choice of learning time, speed, ease and speed of distributing and disseminating new information to many individuals.

2.5. Recommendations

1- Given the partial successes achieved so far in light of the use of e-learning systems and programs, we find it necessary to adopt e-learning methods as an integral and auxiliary part of the basic education system even after the end of the current health crisis.

2- Issuing instructions and guidelines by the Department of Studies, Planning and Follow-up regarding the relationship between the student and the administration of the department, college and university.

3- Preparing a guide that organizes the educational process for using e-learning methods and how to interact between this system and the real classroom education system.

4- Issuing student discipline instructions in electronic classes.

5- Determine a legal mechanism to hold a faculty member accountable in the event of a breach of his duties when working in the e-learning system.

6- Issuing legislation regulating the mechanism of operation of e-learning systems in Iraqi universities.

7- Approval of a study subject (at least one) at each level that uses the e-learning system 100%.

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