

USING SOCIAL MEDIA AS A PLATFORM FOR TEACHING HIGHER EDUCATION- WHAT DO THE STUDENTS EXPECT?

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ABSTRACT

Technology integration in Higher Education is a necessity that no one contends. However, there is need for a systematic attempt at integration, which is based on best practices. These best practices evolve from continuous evaluation of and reflection on attempts at integration. Such reflections, amongst others should explore perceptions, expectations and challenges of all concerned stakeholders, such as students, course facilitators, curriculum developers, learning system designers and so on. This paper is a reflection on an attempt to use a social media platform to deliver a postgraduate diploma in education course. An earlier paper had presented reflections of the delivery of this course from the perspective of the facilitators. This paper presents the views of the students who participated in the semester long course. The paper states the perceptions of the students on the use of the platform for learning. Furthermore, it explains the responses of the students on the challenges, they faced as a result of using the social media platform to access parts of the course. Finally, it shows what the students would have expected to have been done, such that they would overcome the challenges. Based on all these, the authors expounds, what needs to be done for effective integration of the Facebook as a platform for learning especially at this level of education.