

Virtual University Of Pakistan

This book has been designed for the orientation and training of specialists in open and distance learning methods in Asia. It is the outcome of the collaborative PANdora research and development initiative (2005-08) between 24 open and distance learning (ODL) institutions, government departments and non-governmental organisations in 13 Asian countries. The need for thrift and ingenuity in Distance Education (DE) methods in Asia has made Asian DE researchers and practitioners contemplate novel technological methods in DE-open-source software, cell-phone SMS, etc.-from which information and communication technology professionals in all parts of the world can learn. The guidelines in the book have been designed in modular form so that selected sections can be combined according to users' needs and translated into local languages in keeping with the PANdora network's open resources philosophy. Individual modules and combinations of them can be used in specific training contexts. Although the focus of the book is the educational sector in Asia, the guidelines proposed have worldwide application.

At a time when ICTs are proliferating various facets of society and human interactivity, optimizing the use of these tools and technologies not only enhances learning but also transforms learning experiences all together, resulting in an increase of effectiveness and quality of education around the globe. As such, teachers are being challenged to implement a wide range of tools, such as mobile learning and augmented reality, to create smarter learning environments inside and outside of the classroom. Cases on Smart Learning Environments explores the potential of SLE tools for enhanced learning outcomes as experienced by educators, learners, and administrators from various learning institutions around the world. This publication presents cases on the real-world implementation of SLEs in 11 countries that span the continents of Asia, Africa, Europe, and North and South America. Featuring coverage on a broad range of topics such as learner engagement, teacher training, and intelligent agent technology, this book is ideally designed for academicians, instructors, instructional designers, librarians, educational stakeholders, and curriculum developers.

The biennial Digital Review of Asia Pacific is a comprehensive guide to the state-of-practice and trends in ICT for development (ICT4D) in Asia Pacific, carrying 31 updated country reports on the theme of ICT and education.

This book explores foundational theories that have been applied in open and distance education (ODE) research and refined to reflect advances in research and practice. In addition, it develops new theories emerging from recent developments in ODE. The book provides a unique and up-to-date source of information for ODE scholars and graduate students, enabling them to make sense of essential theory, research and practice in their field, and to comprehend the gaps in, and need for further enquiry into, theoretical approaches in the digital

era. It also offers theory-based advice and guidelines for practitioners, helping them make and justify decisions and actions concerning the development, implementation, research and evaluation of ODE.

Since the establishment of Pakistan in 1947, the country has announced more than 15 education policy regimes directing the improvement of education. Each policy has been ambitious in its aims and critical of past failures. A common feature of all policies, plans, programs, and schemes, however, is that all of them have failed to achieve their objectives. Even programmes using international resources have been unsuccessful in significantly changing Pakistan's education sector. The country has been well-advised over the past decade by local, international and donor agencies regarding what is not.

Online education, both by for-profit institutions and within traditional universities, has seen recent tremendous growth and appeal - but online education has many aspects that are not well understood. The SAGE Encyclopedia of Online Education provides a thorough and engaging reference on all aspects of this field, from the theoretical dimensions of teaching online to the technological aspects of implementing online courses—with a central focus on the effective education of students. Key topics explored through over 350 entries include:

- Technology used in the online classroom
- Institutions that have contributed to the growth of online education
- Pedagogical basis and strategies of online education
- Effectiveness and assessment
- Different types of online education and best practices
- The changing role of online education in the global education system

This book highlights cutting-edge research in the economics and management of networks as an interdisciplinary field, offering new theoretical, empirical and practical perspectives on the management, governance, ownership and control of cooperatives, franchising networks and strategic alliances. Further, it presents a strategic group perspective on franchisers and discusses both social entrepreneurship issues in franchising and franchising strategies for Indigenous entrepreneurship in Australia. Lastly, it offers a dynamic capabilities approach to alliance portfolio management and analyses the antecedents of the transitions taking place in the lifecycles of alliances.

Over the past two decades, projects supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) have critically examined the ways in which information and communications technologies (ICTs) can be used to improve learning, empower the disenfranchised, generate income opportunities for the poor, and facilitate access to healthcare in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Considering that most development institutions and governments are currently attempting to integrate ICTs into their practices, it is an opportune time to reflect on the research findings that have emerged from IDRC's work and research in this area. "Connecting ICTs to Development" discusses programmatic investments made by IDRC in a wide variety of areas related to ICTs, including infrastructure, access, regulations, health, governance, education, livelihoods,

social inclusion, technical innovation, intellectual property rights and evaluation. Each chapter in this book analyzes the ways in which research findings from IDRC-supported projects have contributed to an evolution of thinking, and discusses successes and challenges in using ICTs as tools to address development issues. The volume also presents key lessons learned from ICT4D programming and recommendations for future work.

Pakistan Electoral, Political Parties Laws and Regulations Handbook - Strategic Information, Regulations, Procedures

Experts explore current theory and practice in the application of digitally enabled open networked social models to international development. The emergence of open networked models made possible by digital technology has the potential to transform international development. Open network structures allow people to come together to share information, organize, and collaborate. Open development harnesses this power, to create new organizational forms and improve people's lives; it is not only an agenda for research and practice but also a statement about how to approach international development. In this volume, experts explore a variety of applications of openness, addressing challenges as well as opportunities. Open development requires new theoretical tools that focus on real world problems, consider a variety of solutions, and recognize the complexity of local contexts. After exploring the new theoretical terrain, the book describes a range of cases in which open models address such specific development issues as biotechnology research, improving education, and access to scholarly publications. Contributors then examine tensions between open models and existing structures, including struggles over privacy, intellectual property, and implementation. Finally, contributors offer broader conceptual perspectives, considering processes of social construction, knowledge management, and the role of individual intent in the development and outcomes of social models. Contributors Carla Bonina, Ineke Buskens, Leslie Chan, Abdallah Daar, Jeremy de Beer, Mark Graham, Eve Gray, Anita Gorumurthy, Havard Haarstad, Blane Harvey, Myra Khan, Melissa Loudon, Aaron K. Martin, Hassan Masum, Chidi Oguamanam, Katherine M. A. Reilly, Ulrike Rivett, Karl Schroeder, Parminder Jeet Singh, Matthew L. Smith, Marshall S. Smith
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In Asia, Distance Education (DE) is providing major solutions in the areas of education and training. DE methods that are standard in other parts of the world, however, have yet to demonstrate their full potential in Asia. Covering nine DE projects by 39 researchers from 13 countries, this book analyses the DE scenario in Asia, the successes, the failures and the reasons behind them. This book is a unique collation of the results of studies of educational technologies across an extensive network of Asian countries. It also provides a useful snapshot of DE's development in Asia in the early years of the 21st century. The surveys reported cover different DE contexts, methodologies, and levels of generalisability, and

add to the existing scholarship on the subject by providing previously unavailable, firm evidence about DE's prospects in Asia. The contributors give important recommendations that can be translated into practical and political actions to help solve critical socio-economic problems of Asia as well as other parts of the world. International Transaction Journal of Engineering, Management, & Applied Sciences & Technologies publishes a wide spectrum of research and technical articles as well as reviews, experiments, experiences, modelings, simulations, designs, and innovations from engineering, sciences, life sciences, and related disciplines as well as interdisciplinary/cross-disciplinary/multidisciplinary subjects. Original work is required. Article submitted must not be under consideration of other publishers for publications.

It is also essential to study the success of technology use in some of the advanced nations in the Asian region that promote a smarter and well-advanced community. A smarter community in these regions can only be materialized by adopting the latest trends in technology to improve quality of life. Some of these regions need a great emphasis on technology adoption for women empowerment and safety, promoting better health with telemedicine facilities, environment, and disaster prevention with IoT technologies, water treatment and sanitation, and addressing food scarcity issues with smarter precision agriculture. Ultimately, there needs to be more research focused on a smarter and secured community in the Asian region in terms of cultural and socioeconomic factors and technology advancements. ICT Solutions for Improving Smart Communities in Asia explores new possibilities using digital solutions and technologies to create collaborative and smarter communities for advancement in agriculture, the health sector, education centers, human resources, and administrative domains, as well as other areas to improve the overall living standards of people at the community level. This book will cover two main areas: the need for technology development in developing nations, mainly focusing on Asia, and the adoption of some of the advanced regions in Asia as role models for the less developed SAARC regions explicitly. This book is ideally intended for researchers, academicians, IT specialists, regional developers, government officials, practitioners, academicians, and students.

Quality Assurance in Distance Education and E-learning Challenges and Solutions from Asia SAGE Publications India

This integrated learning solution teaches all the Oracle PL/SQL skills you need, hands-on, through real-world labs, extensive examples, exercises, and projects! Completely updated for Oracle 11g, Oracle PL/SQL by Example , Fourth Edition covers all the fundamentals, from PL/SQL syntax and program control through packages and Oracle 11g's significantly improved triggers. One step at a time, you'll walk through every key task, discovering the most important PL/SQL programming techniques on your own. Building on your hands-on learning, the authors share solutions that offer deeper insights and proven best practices. End-of-chapter projects bring together all the techniques you've learned, strengthening your understanding through real-world

practice. This book's approach fully reflects the authors' award-winning experience teaching PL/SQL programming to professionals at Columbia University. New database developers and DBAs can use its step-by-step instructions to get productive fast; experienced PL/SQL programmers can use this book as a practical solutions reference. Coverage includes • Mastering basic PL/SQL concepts and general programming language fundamentals, and understanding SQL's role in PL/SQL • Using conditional and iterative program control techniques, including the new CONTINUE and CONTINUE WHEN statements • Efficiently handling errors and exceptions • Working with cursors and triggers, including Oracle 11g's powerful new compound triggers • Using stored procedures, functions, and packages to write modular code that other programs can execute • Working with collections, object-relational features, native dynamic SQL, bulk SQL, and other advanced PL/SQL capabilities • Handy reference appendices: PL/SQL formatting guide, sample database schema, ANSI SQL standards reference, and more

Aims to teach students how economics really works in the world.

Nowadays mobile communication is a part of culture among young people. Mobile phones are the vehicle for wider social change. Most of the millennials use social media tools such as Face book, Blogs, Twitter, Google, etc. They are 'always on' and connected to geographically-dispersed friendship groups. Mobile Learning means the personalized, connected, and interactive use of mobile phones in classrooms, collaborative learning, fieldwork, counseling and guidance. It is relevant for teaching, learning, research, and creative inquiry. It offers countless applications for self-study, reference, drill and practice, fieldwork, and research in hundreds of disciplines. Thus mobile learning has made "Education for all, anywhere, anytime, and any situation" possible. India has the world's second-largest mobile phone user base and the world's third-largest Internet user-base. In this context, the study conducted by Dr. C.

Thenmozhi and Dr. K.S. Ramakrishnan is a significant one. This book deals with various dimensions of mobile learning in an exotic manner. It is not an exaggeration that this book is a must for students, teachers, and research scholars who are in the field of mobile learning. The book may pave the way for new findings. In that way, it is a lighthouse for the future researchers. The authors have penned such a good work in time and the academic fraternity may get many more such books in future.

Over the last few decades, the use of virtual technologies in education, including foreign/second language instruction, has developed into a substantial field of study. Through virtual technologies, language learners can develop metacognitive and metalinguistic skills, and they can practice the language by interacting with real/virtual users or virtual objects, a very important issue for language learners who have no or little contact with native or target language speakers outside the classroom. Assessing the Effectiveness of Virtual Technologies in Foreign and Second Language Instruction provides emerging research exploring the theoretical and practical aspects of virtual technologies and applications in engaging language learners both within and outside the classroom. Featuring coverage on a broad range of topics such as game-based learning, online classrooms, and learning management systems, this publication is ideally designed for academicians, researchers, scholars, educators, graduate-level students, software developers, instructional designers, linguists, and education administrators seeking current research on how virtual technologies can be utilized and

interpreted methodologically in virtual classroom settings.

Published annually since 1985, the Handbook series provides a compendium of thorough and integrative literature reviews on a diverse array of topics of interest to the higher education scholarly and policy communities. Each chapter provides a comprehensive review of research findings on a selected topic, critiques the research literature in terms of its conceptual and methodological rigor, and sets forth an agenda for future research intended to advance knowledge on the chosen topic. The Handbook focuses on twelve general areas that encompass the salient dimensions of scholarly and policy inquiries undertaken in the international higher education community. The series is fortunate to have attracted annual contributions from distinguished scholars throughout the world.

This book provides a comprehensive introduction to rough set-based feature selection. Rough set theory, first proposed by Zdzislaw Pawlak in 1982, continues to evolve. Concerned with the classification and analysis of imprecise or uncertain information and knowledge, it has become a prominent tool for data analysis, and enables the reader to systematically study all topics in rough set theory (RST) including preliminaries, advanced concepts, and feature selection using RST. The book is supplemented with an RST-based API library that can be used to implement several RST concepts and RST-based feature selection algorithms. The book provides an essential reference guide for students, researchers, and developers working in the areas of feature selection, knowledge discovery, and reasoning with uncertainty, especially those who are working in RST and granular computing. The primary audience of this book is the research community using rough set theory (RST) to perform feature selection (FS) on large-scale datasets in various domains. However, any community interested in feature selection such as medical, banking, and finance can also benefit from the book. This second edition also covers the dominance-based rough set approach and fuzzy rough sets. The dominance-based rough set approach (DRSA) is an extension of the conventional rough set approach and supports the preference order using the dominance principle. In turn, fuzzy rough sets are fuzzy generalizations of rough sets. An API library for the DRSA is also provided with the second edition of the book.

This book covers more than 40 indigenous goat breeds and several ecotypes around the globe and describes genotypic and phenotype traits related to species adaptation to harsh environments and climate change. It also addresses sustainable global farming of local goat breeds in different production systems and agro-ecosystems. Discussing three main global regions: Asia, Africa, and Europe, it particularly focuses on adverse environments such as mountain, semiarid and arid regions. The topic of this highly readable book includes the disciplines of animal physiology, breeding, sustainable agriculture, biodiversity and veterinary science, and as such it provides valuable information for academics, practitioners, and general readers with an interest in those fields.

Pakistan Country Study Guide - Strategic Information and Developments Volume 1 Strategic Information and Developments

Affordable education. Transparent science. Accessible scholarship. These ideals are slowly becoming a reality thanks to the open education, open science, and open access movements. Running separate—if parallel—courses, they all share a philosophy of equity, progress, and justice. This book shares the stories, motives, insights, and practical tips from global leaders in the open movement.

Distance and Blended Learning in Asia is a unique and comprehensive overview of open, distance learning (ODL) and information and communication technology (ICT) in Asian education and training. Broad in coverage, this book critically examines ODL and ICT experiences from Japan to Turkey and from Sri Lanka to Mongolia – drawing conclusions from the successes and failures, and recommending ways in which planning, management and practice may be developed for the world's largest concentration of adult open and distance learners. This pioneering book draws on Asian theory, research and practice to identify the strengths, weaknesses and challenges in all sectors of Asian education and training. It critically and insightfully discusses the ideas, skills and practices that are necessary to advance knowledge in leadership and management, professional development, innovation and quality assurance and research and diffusion. Distance and Blended Learning in Asia provides an insightful, informative and critical review of ODL / ICT developments in schools, open schooling, colleges, universities, workplace training, professional development and non-formal adult and community education. The book is an invaluable reference for ODL / ICT professionals, educators and students anywhere in the world, and is essential reading for all of those involved in ODL / ICT in Asia.

Could information and communication technology (ICT) become the transformative tool for a new style of global development? Could ICT promote knowledge-based, innovation-driven, and smart, adaptive, participatory development? As countries seek a way out of the present period of economic contraction, they are trying to weave ICT into their development strategies, in the same way organizations have learned to use ICT to transform their business models and strategies. This integration offers a new path to development that is responsive to the challenges of our times. In *e-Transformation*, Nagy Hanna identifies the key ingredients for the strategic integration of ICT into national development, with examples from around the world. He draws on his rich experience of over 35 years at the World Bank and other aid agencies to outline the strategic options involved in using ICT to maximize developmental impact—transforming public service institutions, networking businesses for innovation and competitiveness, and empowering communities for social inclusion and poverty reduction. He identifies the key interdependencies in e-transformation and offers a holistic framework to tap network effects and synergies across all elements of the process, including leadership, cyber policies, institutions, human resources, technological competencies, information infrastructure, and ICT uses for government, business, and society. Integrating analytical insights and practical applications across the fields of development, political economy, public administration, entrepreneurship, and technology management, the author candidly argues that e-transformation, like all bold ideas, faces implementation challenges. In particular, the aspiration-reality gap needs to be systematically addressed if ICT-enabled innovation and transformation is to become a development practice. E-transformation is first and foremost about thinking strategically and creatively about the options made possible by the information technology revolution in the context of globalization. To this end, the author provides tools and best practices designed to nurture innovation, select entry points, prioritize among competing demands, and sequence and scale up. He outlines the roles of all participants—political, managerial, entrepreneurial, social and technical—whose leadership is essential for successful innovation.

Distance education is arguably one of the major developments in education during the 20th Century. This title explores the array of distance education theories and practices as they have been shaped by the late-20th Century and then positions these in terms of the contemporary circumstances of the 21st Century.

Quality Assurance in Distance Education and E-Learning: Challenges and Solutions from Asia documents the existing regulatory framework covering quality assurance (QA) systems in distance education (DE) in a number of Asian countries. It draws on the knowledge and

experience of 16 selected DE/e-learning institutions of Asia and reveals the respective development of QA systems and procedures within these providers/programmes. The endeavour towards developing QA systems through various stages of testing and development is in response to the growing public concern for the quality of DE as well as staff aspirations for quality. This book, through the selection of cases from the aforementioned institutions, covers a wide range of QA systems and perspectives of quality in DE. These cases present good practices in QA for DE/e-learning, analyse challenges in assuring the quality of DE products and services, offer possible solutions to meet those challenges, and present lessons for other DE providers.

The delivery of quality education to students relies heavily on the actions of an institution's administrative staff. Effective leadership strategies allow for the continued progress of modern educational initiatives. It is crucial to investigate how effective administrators lead their organizations in challenging and difficult times and promote the accomplishments of their organization. *Research Anthology on Preparing School Administrators to Lead Quality Education Programs* is a vital reference source that offers theoretical and pedagogical research concerning the management of educational systems on both the national and international scale. It also explores academic administration as well as administrative effectiveness in achieving organizational goals. Highlighting a range of topics such as strategic planning, human resources, and school culture, this multi-volume book is ideally designed for educators, administrators, principals, superintendents, board members, researchers, academicians, policymakers, and students.

The biennial *Digital Review of Asia Pacific* is a comprehensive guide to the state-of-practice and trends in information and communication technologies for development (ICTD) in the Asia Pacific region. This fourth edition (2009-2010) features 30 economies and four sub-regional groupings. The chapters provide updated information on ICT infrastructure, industries, content and services, key programs, enabling policies and regulation, education and capacity building, open source, and research and development initiatives, as well as ICTD challenges in each of the economies covered. The common framework that underpins these reports allows readers to undertake a comparative analysis and assess progress across Asia Pacific. In addition, regional overviews provide a synthesis of ICTD trends, regulatory issues, and lessons for managing innovation in the network economy. The thematic chapters focus on issues in ICT in education, a key area in ICTD. The authors are drawn from government, academe, industry and civil society, providing a broad perspective on the use of ICTs for human development.

Award-winning in its first edition, this book is an essential guide to the use of technology in flexible and distance learning, weighing up the pros and cons of different media. Fully updated, this second edition: examines criteria and guidelines for the design and delivery of effective teaching, using modern learning technologies focuses on the use of the Internet for distance and flexible education considers the design and use of emerging technologies such as web-based video-conferencing and speech recognition places emphasis on organisational and management issues and how these influence the effective use of technology gives attention to the integration of online teaching with campus-based face-to-face teaching. With a focus on basic principles and general

guidelines this guidance applies to existing and emerging technologies. It is essential reading not just for those specialising in flexible and distance learning and distance education, but anyone concerned with the integration of technology with teaching.

Last year, the Dubai International Conference in Higher Education considered the global challenge of sustaining success in higher education. This year, we posed the question: 'How do universities combine rigour with relevance?' Once again we have invited all those involved in the higher education community to come together to share insights related to the provision of education that is rigorous and at the same time relevant. The three key premises of the conference are these: 1. Higher education institutions must demonstrate their relevance to the needs of the workforce in a landscape of constant and rapid economic and social change. 2. They must maintain the rigorous academic standards that are the hallmark of a quality institution. 3. With the accelerating power and reach of the web, universities must meet unprecedented challenges as technological innovation disrupts their traditional business model. Unless individual universities prove that they are capable of adapting successfully in the face of these three pressures, their futures may be uncertain.

In recent years, information and communication technologies (ICTs) have gained significant importance and become vital to the operations of both organizations and individuals. However, there are numerous factors that have affected the adoption of ICTs including access and accessibility barriers, political participation, and social empowerment. This has attracted the attention of researchers who are interested in understanding the socioeconomic influences of ICT adoption and how these technologies impact the infrastructure of modern organizational activities. Recent Developments in Individual and Organizational Adoption of ICTs is a collection of innovative research on the methods of organizational and infrastructural advancement through the application of information and communication technologies. While highlighting topics including internet banking, supply chain management, and e-government services, this book is ideally designed for managers, researchers, policymakers, politicians, business practitioners, educators, decision scientists, strategists, and students seeking current research on the socioeconomic impact of ICT adoption.

The amount of publicly and often freely available information is staggering. Yet, the intelligence community still continues to collect and use information in the same manner as during WWII, when the OSS set out to learn as much as possible about Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan by scrutinizing encyclopedias, guide books, and short-wave radio. Today, the supply of information is greater than any possible demand, and anyone can provide information. In effect, intelligence analysts are drowning in information. The book explains how to navigate this rising flood and make best use of these new, rich sources of information. Written by a pioneer in the field, it explores the potential uses of digitized data and the impact of the new means of creating and transmitting data,

recommending to the intelligence community new ways of collecting and processing information. This comprehensive overview of the world of open source intelligence will appeal not only to practitioners and students of intelligence, but also to anyone interested in communication and the challenges posed by the information age.

To provide the most effective, relevant distance education, Global Education urges an examination of the full range of literature and historic development behind technology-based education and communication studies.

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