Effectiveness of Using QR Codes for Ubiquitous Learning: a Case Study of University College, Ratmalana

Gamage, P. G. M. P.

madushi3001@gmail.com

Abstract

Ubiquitous learning rapidly becoming an essential part of learning culture within colleges and universities. The role that played by smart devices in this regard is quite remarkable. In Sri Lankan context using of smart technology in ubiquitous learning is still not popular. Therefore, the aim of this study was to recognize the effectiveness of using QR (Quick Response) codes through smart phones for ubiquitous learning among University College students. This research was carried out with the participation of students and lecturers of University College, Ratmalana. Selected Sample was provided with questionnaires and conducted interviews in order to collect necessary data. According to the response of the above mentioned sample group, using of QR codes in ubiquitous learning is advantageous and motivational in both learning and teaching.

Keywords: Ubiquitous learning, QR codes, Information searching, Information services, U learning, Mobile learning

Introduction

With the rapid development in technology, modern society tend to use advanced technological devices in their routines. One of the main technological devices is the smart phone. Mobile phone technology aids development in learning and teaching processes in multiple contexts. Learners can learn anytime and anywhere and learning can be personalized, situated and authentic (Traxler, 2009). This concept called as "Ubiquitous Learning" (U learning). Several studies were carried out by scholars around the world regarding the usage of mobile phones in the teaching and learning process, but there are only few research studies carried out of using QR scanners in smart phones in this aspect. "But QR codes have become widely popular because they provide a large amount of data comparatively quickly. QR codes can contain information such as text, URL links, or other data that can direct users to sources of further information about a particular place or subject" (Lee et al., 2011). Therefore, this research was carried out in studying the use of QR codes in smart phones for ubiquitous learning and to identify its effectiveness.