



## **Beyond Class; Google Classroom**

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### **Abstract**

This study aimed to identify the impact of using Google Classroom as an e-learning system through its application in the curriculum of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the impact of educational development. In this paper, the reader will be introduced to a popular LMS, Google Classroom, which is widely used in K-12 schools. Google Classroom is an effective and revolutionary application for education, both in the conventional classrooms and a virtual learning environment. As an application, it is designed to meet the remarkable characteristics of its users within the classes needs. It opens the windows to endless prospects for the teachers and their students inside and outside the classroom. It is a self-directed leaning as well as a teacher-student communication, assessment, curricular enhancement and parental oversight. The researcher used the descriptive approach in this study. The study recommended the need for further studies that support the application of Google Classroom and its role in the development of education.

**Keywords:** Google Classroom, E-learning, Schools.



## **1. Introduction:**

The world is witnessing a rapid development in all areas of life, especially in the field of technology, so it is necessary for institutions to develop their strategies and tools to cope with this development known as cognitive explosion. By rephrasing the methods and methods of teaching that use them; the man relied on the skills of scientific thinking to confront the cognitive explosion Technology, and employment to solve problems in scientific and systematic ways.

Many countries develop their students to be active in their country through invention and problem solving in a systematic and scientific way. Salloum and Mustapha (2013) stressed that educational institutions must manage e-learning through an electronic application that facilitates communication with teachers and students, supports traditional education and is an integrated system responsible for the online learning process. This system manages admission and registration processes, management of educational materials, assignments, tests and follow-up of student learning. This application is called the Learning Management System (LMS) and the latest applications in this area (Google Classroom).

Higher education institutions have begun to keep pace with this development and rethink their educational strategies to conduct self-evaluation and to develop and update curricula in line with ongoing technological development. E-learning is one of the most popular methods in this period, for its role in raising student achievement level, saving time, effort and continuous training opportunities, updating curricula and upgrading students' learning skills. The study aims to develop an effective e-learning management system



that contributes to the policy of universities and schools towards the use of e-learning. One of the latest applications in e-learning is GC, a free application that provides the teacher with all the services that help them deliver student learning content, easy to use, and the ability to connect and use all other Google applications to learn easily.

### **1.1 Problem Statement:**

Educational institutions seek to limit barriers to their students, to try to diversify teaching methods and use e-learning. Therefore, a study problem shows that it is difficult to choose the best application for e-learning management, because it is looking for the best, easiest and least expensive to computerize and use the learning process in all universities and schools and try to answer the following question:

What is the impact of applying G.C in the development of Saudi education?

### **1.2 Study Significance:**

E-learning is a great place in Saudi Arabia to develop solutions that meet the current requirements of life. The student has become the focus of the educational process. It is necessary to introduce the latest technology in the field of information technology to adopt the student himself, Knowledge, and the importance of this study to

1. E-learning is one of the cornerstones of development and change.
2. This study may contribute to the application of this application in school and university education.
3. The absence of studies on this subject, being a modern application and linking the educational and technical aspects with each other.



### **1.3 Study Objectives:**

The present study aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. To recognize the effect of applying G.C in the development of Saudi education.
2. Measuring the effectiveness of applying G.C in the development of students' scientific thinking skills.

### **1.4 Study Questions:**

1. What is the impact of the application of G.C in the development of Saudi education?
2. How effective is G.C in the development of students' scientific thinking skills?

## **2. Background and literature review**

### **2.1 Introduction:**

Recently, the world invades by rapid changes in every aspect of life. The technology impacts politics, society, and education sectors. Many people start spending most of their times using smart phones and laptops in this digital age. Under this massive growth of information, the educational companies demand teachers, students, and even parents to use this revolution for enhancing teaching-learning process. Moreover, many schools start to depend fundamentally upon different learning management systems to improve the learning environment. As Bersin te al. said "the tradition mode of education was shifted forward towards new approaches in teaching and learning with the application of e-learning tool. This shift mainly carried out by the implementation of LMS".(Bersin et al., 2009) These systems allow teaching and learning to happen outside the classroom and beyond the school-day. In this paper, the reader will be introduced to a popular LMS, Google Classroom, which is widely used in K-12 schools.



## **2.2 The concept and characteristics of the learning management system:**

(Bob, Kurt & Gina, 2011) defines the Learning Management System (LMS) as a software application for managing, tracking and documenting educational content and learning through the Internet. (Peter & shane, 2016) is a server-based application that provides e-learning through the Internet and controls it at any time. Watson and Weston (2007) defined it as a system that is capable of linking learning objectives, lessons and individual pursuits, and integrating lessons and courses with the curriculum.

The researcher defined it as an online application that helps supervisors and teachers manage and control e-learning.

(Peter & shane, 2016) emphasized that the knowledge management system has the following characteristics:

1. All learning functions are managed in one system, allowing the teacher and student through this system to achieve a high level of security and protection and be able to distribute powers to users.
2. Provide registration service in order, and add people easily and in different ways.
3. Enjoy the central computing advantage of the administrative process, the use of self-service, and the ability to quickly compile and deliver educational content.
4. Promotes training initiatives on a scalable platform through the Internet and technical support and development.
5. Availability of records, curricula, budgets and tables management

## **2.3 Learning management systems in Saudi Arabia:**



- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has not lost sight of the development of e-learning and distance education. It has pioneered the establishment of e-learning centers and e-learning centers in all public and private universities with 24 public universities and 8 private universities.
- Some Saudi universities use more than a system to manage learning, including commercial and free of charge, especially. For example, King Saud University is currently using blackboards, bridges and muddles at the Institute of Arabic Language as well as King Khalid University using blackboards, bridges and study, and some use other systems.

#### **2.4 Google Classroom:**

Google Classroom is an effective and revolutionary application for education, both in the conventional classrooms and a virtual learning environment. As an application, it is designed to meet the remarkable characteristics of its users within the classes needs. It opens the windows to endless prospects for the teachers and their students inside and outside the classroom. It is a self-directed leaning as well as a teacher-student communication, assessment, curricular enhancement and parental oversight. "The primary aim of LMSs was support learning management and consequently mostly were promoted tools for learning content management, student schedule, and attendance grading and similar" (Woolley, 1994; Nicholson, 2007).

#### **2.5 Apply Google Classroom in Education:**

Google Classroom was launched by Google Company for future paperless classrooms. It enhances the organization of the educational process in an effective way; a good way for



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a better interaction. This online classroom may serve many purposes for the teachers. First, it could work as a supplement for students who can access the content and communicate with their colleagues and their teacher. The second purpose is the use of Google classroom as the only platform for the course. The students would interact with the content, other students, and the teacher via this LMS. Third, it may be utilized as a facilitator for the students by providing them with variety of online and additional contents. Amazingly, the teachers are open to many educational resources by connecting to the internet. Being online during the class time gives the students and their teacher the chance to explore and discover new information about the subjects all the time. As teachers, evolving the classrooms with this powerful system come through creating online courses and asking the students to access by using the code provided. They can organize their classes' streams by adding subjects to posts. In addition, the students with their teachers can filter the streams to find their specific subjects. In addition, the educators may add images or load power point presentations to their lessons freely. In addition, they can add the course-syllables, class notes, readings and online lectures. Not only creating lessons, but also assignments as well, the teachers have the opportunity of generating many different missions online, and share them with the students. Moreover, the students can participate in any online activities with their teacher and colleagues. Keeping students in touch online is a great way to increase the learning process. Beyond the overall Google Classroom functions in the classroom, it connects to Gmail which means exchanging messages between the teacher and the class as a whole or individually. This way helps both of them in communicating easily. Beside the teacher-student communication, the teacher can interact with their parents also by using the inbox." When considering communication between teachers and families, it is imperative to realize the



overlying goal of both stakeholders to educate and socialize the student between the homes and school settings"(Vickers & Minke, 1995). The educators can share the students' performances with their parents, and they can also post comments and feedback on the students' works. It is considered a useful application for its effectiveness and constant communication between the school and the students' families. "Both teachers and families are relying more heavily on using technology in order to communicate effectively. Using technology has the ability to build connectedness from the family to the school since communication can be instant"(Kosaretskii & Chernyshova, 2013). According to Natale and Lubniewski, as educators, being accessible through various forms of communication lines is important to reach families where they are socially, from a technological sense, and individual needs are important for student success as well as positive rapport with the student's family (2018). Google Classroom represents one of the most popular learning management systems inK-12 schools around the world. It supports teachers and students in learning process.

## **1. Discussion and results**

The researcher used the descriptive approach in this study and through the study of theoretical framework and previous studies, showing the importance of the subject of learning management systems in general and the application of Google Classroom in particular, as well as its important role in the development of education in Saudi Arabia, where this application is free for all users and can be used directly through the Internet,





which is inexpensive since it does not require a private infrastructure.

The current study showed a statistically significant impact on the application of Google Classroom and its role in the development of education in Saudi Arabia, The researcher sees through the previous studies that there is a great interest by the Ministry of Education in Saudi Arabia regarding the application of Google Classroom, through the provision of education service and its benefits in the future and its impact on working life.

## **2. Recommendations and future studies:**

After studying the results of the study, the researcher concluded that the application of Google Classroom as an e-learning management system has many benefits in the educational process. The researcher recommends the following:

1. The recommendation of the Ministry of Higher Education to apply Google Classroom on a wider scale, because of its obvious impact on the achievement and development of education in Saudi Arabia.
2. Develop the application infrastructure and provide wireless internet access in all educational facilities.
3. As a result of the paucity of previous studies, the researcher recommends further studies on the impact of the application of Google Classroom in the development of education and the addition of other variables.



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