

**Class Participation Assignment 1**  
**Course: SYSC5409W WINTER 2014**  
**Professor: Ali Arya**

**Students Group:**

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**CP-1 Describe digital tools used for education. Explain how successful they have been in using digital media and how they could be improved. This was a group task. Make sure only one person submits but lists the names of all involved.**

**Answer:** Digital Tools have been very useful these days in improving education by making use of various digital media technologies. **Some of the digital tools our group discussed during discussion are:**

- 1. Online Labs** like MIT OpenCourseWare, Udacity, Khan Academy are good examples of e-learning these days. Millions of students are taking advantage of these videos, study materials, practical assignments etc.
- 2. E-classrooms** – In today's world we have students from all over the world attending class sessions from different parts of the world using e-classrooms. People can sit anywhere in the world with internet facility and on a preset time can attend a virtual classroom.
- 3. CU Learn at Carleton University** – It's a great digital tool in order to consolidate all course materials at one place and with accessibility from anywhere 24\*7.
- 4. Time Management/Utilization:** Professors can share their course material (slides, ebooks) beforehand and so students know about lecture content in advance and will be more prepared about it.
- 5. Accessibility:** More content is available online in the form of ebooks, slides, journals, papers, videos, thus provides students with all the information they require and not like old one book system.

6. **Practical Approach:** Students can learn things by doing them practically at the same time they read about it. Hence enhances their learning. Typical example can be of learning any programming language.
7. **Avoiding Boredom and Creating Interest** – Some people do not like to attend classes and hence this education system using videos, ebooks develops interest in student and thus brings fruitful results.

**Negatives and improvement:** Digital tools are no doubt useful these days but one important thing that is still missing is discussions among students. In a regular classroom with a professor students have different doubts during the class which professor can answer and can help other students as well. Also students at times can get distracted by youtube videos, VOIP softwares like Skype, Google hangout during their learning.

In order to improve the interactivity and discussion among students professor can create online forum where students can post their queries, also a live chat queue can be presented during online classrooms wherein students can form a queue in order to clear doubts and also the solutions to doubt can be posted in forums for all the students.