

# Identifying Research Priorities and Needs in Mobile Learning Technologies for Distance Education: A Delphi Study

Kurubacak (2007)

<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ901295.pdf>

## **For which topic were research priorities identified?**

mobile learning technologies for distance education

## **In which location was the research priority setting conducted?**

international

## **Why was it conducted at all?**

Understanding the future priorities and needs of mobile learning technologies can help online workers understand (a) how to manage their roles and tasks and (b) how to pay careful attention to the needs of a diverse online community.

## **What was the objective?**

to identify, categorize and rank the future research priorities and needs for mobile learning technologies

## **What was the outcome?**

a ranking list of 17 research topics

## **How long did the research prioritization take?**

No information provided.

## **Which methods were used to identify research priorities?**

Delphi

## **How were the priorities for research identified exactly?**

Step 1: brainstorming of research priorities: steering committee brainstormed major research issues and challenges, categories, priorities, and needs for mobile learning technologies over the next ten years, ideas then categorized, survey with 52 research topics drafted, steering committee reviewed survey, final refinement of survey consisting of 48 topics. Step 2: Delphi: Delphi round 1: participants asked to rate each topic. Step 3: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to re-rate topics based on mean ratings of round 1 and asked to rate accuracy of mean ratings. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked if they wanted to modify their answers based on round 2 responses and asked again for accuracy of ratings

## **Which stakeholders took part?**

Experts in the field: online administrators, online communication designers, online content providers, online learners, and online support staff from the broad area of distance education. 72 participants in all 3 rounds.

## **How were stakeholders recruited?**

Professional listservs were used to introduce the study and to ask the digital community whether they would like to participate voluntarily in this research: following general criteria: at least three years work experience in the distance education sector, and/or a wide variety of experiences and activities of working in settings where educational service providers are transforming to distance education, and/or knowledge of design and delivery of distance learning courses, and/or comfort with utilizing new hardware and software tools, and skill in multimedia production.

## **Were stakeholders actively involved or did they just participate?**

Stakeholders not only participated but were also actively involved in the research prioritization process: They were part of a steering group. The members were involved in the Delphi process.