



INTRA - Innovative Technologies Of Responsible Automation
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E-LEARNING PLATFORM

Report on choosing Moodle as an e-learning platform for adult education



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E-learning is an umbrella term for the use of digital technologies to deliver, support, and enhance learning and training. E-learning can take different forms, depending on the objectives, content, methods and platforms used. Some of the main types of e-learning are:

- **Synchronous e-learning:** this is a real-time learning mode, where learners and trainers interact via tools such as video conferencing, chat, webinars, etc. This mode requires more organization and coordination, but it encourages interaction and collaboration between participants.
- **Asynchronous e-learning:** this is a flexible learning mode, in which learners access content and activities independently and at their own pace, without the simultaneous presence of trainers. This mode requires greater motivation and self-regulation, but allows for greater personalization and adaptation to individual needs and learning styles.
- **Blended e-learning:** this is a learning modality that combines synchronous and asynchronous e-learning elements, also integrating moments of face-to-face learning. This modality offers a greater variety and richness of experiences, but requires more planning and management by the trainers.

2

E-learning platforms are the software systems that allow you to create, deliver, manage and monitor online learning paths. There are several e-learning platforms, which differ in functionality, features, costs, and licensing models. Some of the main e-learning platforms are:

- **iSpring Learn LMS:** This is a cloud-based, easy-to-use e-learning platform with advanced user and content management, great course and material creation capabilities, and a powerful reporting.
- **TechRadar:** This is an e-learning platform that offers a series of online courses specific to the type of learning, such as language or programming.
- **Quiddis:** this is an e-learning platform that is based on the theories of andragogy, i.e. adult learning, and offers personalized and innovative solutions for corporate training.



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- **Moodle:** it is an open source and free e-learning platform, which offers great flexibility and customization, supporting different types of content, activities, assessments and interactions.

Adult education is a specific area of e-learning, which is aimed at people who have left initial education and training and who want to continue or update their learning for personal or professional reasons. Adult education presents particular challenges and opportunities, which require the appropriate design and implementation of e-learning pathways. Some of the main aspects to consider are:

- **The need to know:** Adults must be aware of the reasons and benefits of learning, which must be linked to their goals, interests and needs.
- **Experience:** adults have a wealth of previous knowledge and skills, which must be enhanced and integrated with new content and methods, also considering any resistance to change.
- **Self-concept:** Adults have greater autonomy and responsibility in their learning, which must be supported by appropriate guidance and feedback, as well as opportunities for choice and reflection.
- **Readiness to learn:** adults are more motivated to learn when they are faced with real and relevant situations, which require the application and resolution of problems.
- **Learning orientation:** adults prefer results- and performance-oriented learning that is useful and transferable to their personal and professional lives.
- **Motivation to learn:** adults are influenced by internal and external factors, such as self-esteem, curiosity, recognition, promotion, etc., which must be stimulated and encouraged.

The choice of Moodle as an e-learning platform for adult education can be motivated by several factors, including:

- **Free and open source:** Moodle does not require licensing or installation costs, and allows great freedom to modify and customize the source code, according to your needs and preferences.



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- **Flexibility and customization:** Moodle offers a wide range of options and settings, allowing you to create and manage synchronous, asynchronous or blended e-learning courses, with different access levels, roles and permissions.
- **Variety and richness:** Moodle supports different types of content, such as text, images, audio, video, etc., and different types of activities, such as forums, chats, quizzes, glossaries, wikis, etc., which enrich the learning experience and foster interaction and collaboration.
- **Evaluation and monitoring:** Moodle allows you to create and manage different types of assessments, both formative and summative, both automatic and manual, and to monitor the progress and results of learners through detailed reports and statistics.
- **Compatibility and integration:** Moodle is compatible with different e-learning standards and formats, such as SCORM, IMS, LTI, etc., and easily integrates with other systems and services, such as Google Drive, Dropbox, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, etc.