

The Measurement of the University Students' Intention to Use Real-Time Online Learning in Sri Lanka: An Empirical Study with the Decomposition of the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB)

Rajaratnam A.^{1*}, Kulathunga K. M. S. D.²

Trincomalee Campus, Eastern University, Sri Lanka,¹

University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka,²

arthikar@esn.ac.lk, dushyanthak@sjp.ac.lk

ABSTRACT

Real-time online learning is a newly emerged paradigm in the education system across the world. The worldwide education system has experienced the new-normal mode of teaching and learning with the prime support of real-time online platforms especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the existing body of knowledge has not sufficiently dealt with the student's acceptance of the new learning model even though the situation necessitates further exploration. To explore the student's intention to use real-time online learning, the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) has been adopted as the primary theoretical model. Followingly, the study attempted to decompose the TPB if the antecedents were used three or more times in the literature from 2002 – 2022. Consequently, the study recognized Perceived Usefulness, Perceived Ease of Use, Perceived Risk, and Compatibility as the antecedents of Attitude, Perceived Self-Efficacy, and Facilitating Conditions as the antecedents of Perceived Behavioral Control. This study used a structured online questionnaire to collect the responses from students at national universities in Sri Lanka. Consequently, 382 responses were collected. Data were analyzed using SmartPLS 4 and the proposed hypotheses were tested using PLS-SEM. All of the antecedents are also demonstrated to have a significant positive impact on the corresponding constructs of the TPB, in addition to the hypotheses put forth on attitude, perceived behavioral control, and subjective norm with the behavioral intention to use. The findings will be beneficial specifically to the policymakers to formulate key strategies to incorporate real-time online learning in the education system, thus, education will become more accessible and affordable.

Keywords: Real-time Online learning, Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB), Decomposed TPB, Sri Lanka