The Mobile Learning Ecosystem

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Mobile Learning Defined

- **Learning or training**: knowledge construction, skill development and performance support
- **Learners participate** across locations, times and contexts
- Enabled by **portable devices** and web connectivity
- M-learning devices: **handheld, portable, connected, always-on, personal, ubiquitous**

...contingent on needs and context
The Mobile Learning Ecosystem

Outcome:

To identify the various components of the m-learning system and understand how they contribute to the effectiveness of mobile learning.
Dimensions of Mobile Learning

- Pedagogical
- Temporal
- Technological
- Transactional
- Physical
When?
How long?
Within what time limits?

• Ad-hoc learnable moments
• Longer stretches of learning

e.g., during a bus ride, while walking a dog, during a lecture
The Physical Dimension

Where?
What layout?
Within what physical limits?

• Place, position, location
  • geographical coordinates, layout, pertinent circumstances, context and its limitations

  e.g., on the bus ride, at home, during clinical practice
The Transactional Dimension

Who?  With whom?
For whom?  From whom?
What roles?

Palalas, A. (in press)
The Technological Dimension

How?
Using what tools?
Within what infrastructure?

• Technologies as enablers:
  • mobile devices
  • connectivity, network/web
  • computational power
  • software
• Virtual space

  e.g., apps, Internet, telephony, built-in camera, Wi-Fi, cloud computing, AR
The Pedagogical Dimension

What materials?
What m-learning designs/frameworks?

• Learning theories and approaches
  • strategies
  • activities
  • procedures
  • content and materials
  • scaffolds and supports

e.g., situated learning, activity theory, ecological constructivism, context-aware activities, assessment tasks
The Mobile Learning Ecosystem

- Temporal
- Transactional
- Physical
- Technological
- Pedagogical

mLearning
If we teach today’s students as we taught yesterday’s, we rob them of tomorrow.

John Dewey

Thank you!

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• References: