

An Analysis in Online Hadith Courses Based on Students Perspective

Mesbahul Hoque¹, Muneer Ali Abdul Rab², Kauthar Abd Kadir¹,
Yuslina Mohamed³, Ahmad Sanusi Azmi¹

¹Faculty of Quranic and Sunnah studies, University Sains Islam Malaysia, ²Faculty of Syariah and Law, University Sains Islam Malaysia, ³Faculty of Major Languages Studies, University Sains Islam Malaysia

Email: mesbahul@usim.edu.my

Corresponding Author Email: muneerali@usim.edu.my

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Abstract

This study analyses the framework of online Hadith courses from the perspective of students. Using an analytical method, it focuses on understanding the effectiveness of online platforms in delivering Hadith courses, as well as identifying the key elements that contribute to a positive learning experience. The findings of the study indicate that online Hadith courses offer several advantages, including flexibility in terms of time and location, access to a wide range of resources, and the ability to learn at one's own pace. However, some challenges were identified, such as the need for self-discipline and motivation, as well as potential limitations in interactive discussions and personal interactions with instructors. Based on the analysis, the study proposes some suggestions for framework of online Hadith courses.

Keywords: Online, Hadith, Education, Course, Islam.

Introduction

Online Hadith courses have become increasingly popular in recent years, due to its several advantages and opportunities (Mustapha et al., 2021). One notable advantage of online Hadith courses is the accessibility they provide to a global audience. People from all corners of the globe can enrol in these courses and study at their own pace from the comfort of their homes. This flexibility in learning schedules is another key benefit that online platforms offer, enabling students to manage their studies alongside other commitments.

Furthermore, online Hadith courses often utilize multimedia tools to enrich the learning experience. By integrating videos, interactive quizzes, and other engaging resources, these courses make studying Hadith more dynamic and interactive for learners (Hoque et al., 2019). Through an examination of these connections, this study aims to offer insights on how online Hadith courses can be structured more effectively to meet student expectations in the future. At the end of study, we recommended few suggestions include virtual forums for discussion, live sessions with instructors, and course materials incorporating real-world case studies and practical exercises. These elements collectively aim to enhance the overall effectiveness, engagement, and knowledge assimilation in online Hadith courses.

Overview of online Hadith courses

Definition of Hadith

Hadith refers to a saying, action, or approval attributed to the prophet Muhammad. It provides guidance and insights into various aspects of life, including religious practices, ethics, social conduct, and legal matters Mesbahul (2021) The collection of Hadith holds immense significance in Islamic education, requiring a solid grasp of the science of Hadith (ilm al-hadith). Understanding the different grades of Hadith, methods of narration, and criteria for authenticity are essential components to delve into. By delving into the chain of narration (isnad), text of the Hadith (matn), and commentary (sharh), individuals can achieve a deeper understanding of the Prophet's teachings and enrich their knowledge of the Islamic tradition.

Importance of studying Hadith

The holy Quran which is the primary source of guidance for Muslims. However, Hadith provides additional context, explanations, and practical applications of Quranic teachings (Mesbahul, 2021). By studying Hadith, individuals can develop a more comprehensive understanding of the Quran and its implementation. Hadith also crucial for Islamic education and scholarship, it provides spiritual guidance and insight into Shariah laws and Islamic history (Shinta et al., 2023). Moreover, Hadith provides invaluable insights into the life, character, and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him. It offers practical guidance on various aspects of life, including acts of worship, ethical conduct, interpersonal relationships, and social responsibilities. By studying Hadith, individuals can gain a deeper understanding of the Prophet's teachings and strive to apply them in their daily lives.

Popular Online Platforms in Hadith studies

The landscape of Islamic education has been transformed by the emergence of online platforms, offering accessible and interactive channels for learning, including courses on Hadith. Some popular online platforms in Hadith studies are:

1. **Islamic Online University:** The Islamic Online University (IOU) offers a variety of courses, including those related to the study of hadith. They provide structured online courses taught by qualified instructors, allowing learners to deepen their understanding of hadith in a systematic manner (<https://iou.edu.gm>, 2024).
2. **Bayyinah TV:** Bayyinah TV is an online learning platform that offers a range of Islamic courses, including a course on the study of hadith. It provides video-based lessons by renowned scholars, along with supplementary materials and resources (<https://bayyinahtv.com>, 2024).
3. **Iqranetwork:** Iqra network is an online Islamic educational platform that offers courses in various Islamic disciplines, including hadith studies. The Hadith course has four levels divided into three stages: Basics of Hadith, Intermediate Stage and Advanced Stage. (<https://iqranetwork.com/courses/hadith-curriculum>, 2024). They provide both self-paced and instructor-led courses taught by qualified scholars, covering different aspects of hadith sciences.
4. **Shaykhi Academy:** an online platform that offers Online Courses in Islamic Studies including online Hadith course, such as: Aqeedah online, Quran Tafseer online, Hadith online, Fiqh online, Ethical teachings of Islam and Seerah Online (<https://shaykhi.com/islamic-studies-online-course>, 2024).
5. **Al-Madina Institute:** Al-Madina Institute offers online courses and resources on various subjects, including hadith studies. They provide video lectures, webinars, and study materials

by respected scholars, allowing learners to delve into the study of hadith (<https://madinainstitute.com/>, 2024).

6. AlMaghrib Institute: AlMaghrib Institute is an online learning platform that offers courses on different Islamic topics, including hadith sciences. They provide recorded video courses taught by qualified instructors, allowing learners to study at their own pace (<https://www.almaghrib.org/>).

The role played by these online platforms in Islamic education is substantial, offering a cost-effective alternative to traditional approaches. Learners have the liberty to revisit lectures and materials at their leisure, promoting self-paced learning and sustaining continuous involvement with the course content (Chowdhury et al., 2018). Although, there are some challenges in online Hadith courses, like limited personal interaction with instructors and peers or potential distractions in self-directed learning, however it can bring forth benefits such as improved accessibility, flexibility in learning timetables, and captivating course material.

Advantages and Benefits of Online Hadith Courses

Accessibility to a Global Audience

Enrolling in online Hadith courses offers global accessibility to authentic Islamic teachings from respected scholars, allowing students to study at their own pace from anywhere. Multimedia tools enhance learning with interactive content, while virtual platforms facilitate connections with peers worldwide through forums and virtual classes (Gherhes et al., 2022). This cost-effective and flexible option allows individuals to deepen their knowledge of Islam without disrupting their daily routines, making it easier to engage with course materials and interact with instructors and fellow learners regardless of location or schedule constraints.

Flexibility in Learning Schedules

Online Hadith courses provide unmatched flexibility for students to learn at their own pace, location, and convenience. This freedom allows learners to access course content from anywhere in the world, breaking away from traditional classroom settings. With a variety of courses available for different levels of study and interests, students can choose programs that align with their educational goals (Chowdhury et al., 2017).

These online courses also offer self-directed learning opportunities, allowing participants to customize their educational journey according to their schedules. The asynchronous learning options enable students to complete lectures and assignments at their preferred time within set deadlines, helping them manage their time effectively without compromising on the quality of education (Mostafa, 2024). The benefits of flexible scheduling in online Hadith courses extend beyond convenience, leading to improved time management and performance. Students who engage in virtual sessions experience reduced daily stress associated with commuting to physical campuses, resulting in higher satisfaction with their classes. Studying from home provides comfort and minimizes distractions, creating an optimal learning environment.

Utilization of multimedia tools for enhanced learning experience

The integration of multimedia tools in online Hadith courses is a game-changer for students looking to enhance their learning experience. By incorporating a variety of multimedia technologies such as videos, sound clips, interactive graphics, and collaborative sharing features, online platforms create an interactive and stimulating environment for learners

(Hoque et al., 2020). These resources are instrumental in encouraging active participation and comprehension of intricate concepts by presenting information in diverse formats (Abid et al., 2022).

Furthermore, the availability of technology enables students to engage with course materials from any corner of the globe at any given time. This flexibility allows learners to interact with the content at their own pace, resulting in a more customized learning journey. Additionally, the utilization of multimedia tools in online Hadith courses aids in reinforcing information retention through interactive elements like quizzes and discussion forums (Ali et al., 2019).

In essence, the incorporation of multimedia tools in online Hadith courses not only boosts the accessibility and flexibility of learning but also significantly contributes to enhancing student engagement and comprehension of complex Hadith-related concepts.

Key Elements for effectiveness of online Hadith courses

Engaging course content

Interactive and engaging course content is essential for online Hadith courses, providing a rich learning experience. A well-structured course should include lectures, articles, e-books, and historical context to guide students in incorporating teachings into daily life. Offering diverse resources caters to different learning styles, enhancing the overall experience (Hollister et al., 2022). Practical application is key in Islamic studies programs, seamlessly integrating into Hadith courses. Exploring how Prophet Muhammad's teachings can be applied in real-life situations deepens student connections with the Hadith. Interactive dialogues, case studies, and hands-on assignments develop critical thinking skills, preparing students for personal growth and societal contributions.

Incorporating multimedia tools like videos and interactive quizzes elevates the learning experience, making course material visually appealing and engaging. Virtual discussion forums promote collaboration and community among learners, fostering engagement throughout the course (Wong et al., 2019).

Ultimately, comprehensive, diverse, and interactive materials are vital for maximizing the effectiveness of online Hadith courses. These elements create a vibrant learning environment that encourages deep understanding and practical application of Hadith teachings.

Interactive communication with instructors and peers

Engaging in active communication with instructors and peers is a fundamental aspect of online Hadith courses. The quality of interaction has a significant impact on student satisfaction and academic achievements. Research indicates that students are more satisfied and perform better when there is high engagement, timely feedback, and clear communication from instructors (Samuel et al., 2023). Moreover, the effectiveness of online courses depends on the instructor's performance, course design, and meeting students' expectations (Zamri et al., 2021).

In the realm of online Hadith courses, creating a supportive environment through student-teacher interactions has been proven to positively impact learner satisfaction (Wilging & Johnson, 2009). When students feel supported by their peers and instructors, they are more motivated to actively engage in the course.

The incorporation of interactive elements like forums, group discussions, and quizzes is crucial for enriching the online learning experience in Hadith courses (Interactive Learning Tools). These tools not only encourage participation but also provide opportunities for students to clarify concepts, exchange insights, and collaborate with their peers.

Effective Assessment Methods

Effective evaluation techniques are essential in online Hadith courses to assess student learning outcomes accurately. Assessment methods play a critical role in measuring students' understanding of course content, progress, and ability to apply knowledge (Zamri et al., 2021). Providing timely feedback helps students identify strengths and areas for improvement, promoting ongoing learning and development.

Diversifying assessment approaches with quizzes, projects, and hands-on activities enhances the learning experience. Quizzes test comprehension, projects allow practical application and critical thinking, and open book assessments encourage independent research. Technology can streamline assessment processes through online platforms for assignments and virtual exams, while interactive methods like peer reviews foster collaboration among students. Implementing these assessment strategies ensures active student participation and demonstrates their understanding of the course material (Ahshan, 2021). Offering constructive feedback and self-assessment opportunities empowers students to take control of their educational journey and strive for continuous improvement. Reliable assessment methods are vital in online Hadith courses for evaluating performance, encouraging active learning, and supporting ongoing growth and advancement.

Challenges of Online Hadith Courses

Lack of personal interaction with instructors and classmates

Insufficient personal interaction with instructors and peers in online Hadith courses can pose a significant disadvantage for students. Numerous studies have emphasized the negative impact of the lack of physical presence, leading to a disconnection that undermines the overall learning process (Al-Shorman et al., 2019). Students are deprived of crucial non-verbal cues like eye contact and gestures, which play a vital role in establishing rapport and comprehending the instructor's message. The absence of interactive activities such as group work and peer discussions further impede student engagement and collaboration (Sadek, 2021).

Furthermore, online learning environments may not cater to all learning styles. Visual learners, for example, struggle due to the absence of hands-on tasks and face-to-face interactions essential for their learning methodologies. The inability to physically interact with course materials or peers can hinder their ability to grasp concepts effectively.

Moreover, the lack of personal interaction can lead to feelings of isolation and disconnection from classmates. Students may experience detachment from their peers, resulting in a sense of loneliness and a loss of social connections crucial for holistic learning experiences. This isolation can also affect motivation levels as students miss out on the camaraderie and support that typically accompanies face-to-face interactions (Khaled et al., 2020).

Overall, the deficiency in personal interaction with instructors and peers in online Hadith courses presents challenges in creating a conducive learning environment. To tackle this issue effectively, it is imperative for online platforms to integrate interactive components that foster engagement, collaboration, and a sense of community among students.

Potential distractions and lack of motivation in self-directed learning

Challenges arise for students participating in online Hadith courses due to potential distractions and a lack of motivation in self-directed learning. The shift to online education demands a strong sense of self-motivation and independence, qualities that may be lacking in some learners. Studies have highlighted that students who struggle with skills like time

management and organization may face lower success rates compared to their peers (Meşe & Seville, 2021). Additionally, maintaining enthusiasm throughout an online course can be difficult for those who lack self-discipline and confidence in their abilities.

Moreover, the absence of personal interaction with instructors and classmates in online Hadith courses can result in feelings of isolation and disconnection. Students might long for the lively exchange of ideas present in traditional classroom settings, such as face-to-face discussions and group activities. This lack of immediate interactions can lead to decreased focus and involvement, making it hard for students to remain engaged and actively participate in the course.

Furthermore, external factors like technical difficulties, limited internet access, and interruptions during online classes can create distractions that disrupt students' learning experiences (Yeh & Tsai, 2022). Issues with infrastructure, expensive internet plans, and unreliable connectivity can hinder students from fully engaging with course materials and joining virtual discussions effectively.

Limited opportunities for practical application and hands-on learning

Online Hadith courses face challenges in providing practical application and hands-on learning opportunities for students. The lack of physical engagement in rituals or activities related to Hadith teachings can hinder understanding. Additionally, the absence of personal interaction with instructors and peers creates a gap between theoretical knowledge and practical implementation (Hoque, 2019). Distractions and lack of motivation in self-directed learning can impede students' engagement with the practical aspects of the courses. To address these obstacles, online Hadith courses should incorporate virtual simulations and interactive exercises to replicate real-life scenarios for practical application. Creating a sense of community through virtual platforms and live interactions with instructors can also enhance collaboration among students. By implementing innovative strategies to bridge the gap between theory and practice, online courses can improve students' engagement with the teachings of Hadith.

Proposed suggestions for Online Hadith Courses

Incorporation of virtual discussion forums for student interaction

Utilizing virtual discussion platforms in online Hadith courses is paramount to boosting student interaction and engagement. These forums serve as a space for students to converse about course content, pose inquiries, and exchange insights with both peers and instructors (Hernández-Lara & Serradell-López, 2018). This mode of interaction cultivates a feeling of community and cooperation, ultimately deepening comprehension and retention of Hadith teachings.

Studies indicate that peer-to-peer interaction is crucial for building connections and aiding learning processes. By integrating virtual discussion platforms, students can partake in meaningful dialogues, share viewpoints, and glean knowledge from each other's experiences (Mustapha, 2021). This form of interactive learning environment enriches the overall educational experience and fosters a more profound grasp of the Hadith.

Moreover, virtual discussion platforms offer communication flexibility, allowing students to engage in conversations at their own convenience and pace. This asynchronous method of interaction caters to different learning preferences and timetables, facilitating active participation in discussions (Onyema, et al., 2019).

Furthermore, the utilization of virtual discussion platforms can support continuous learning

beyond scheduled lectures. Students can revisit conversations, contemplate previous exchanges, and delve further into topics of interest. This accessibility to course materials encourages self-paced learning and motivates students to take charge of their academic journey (Ong& Quek, 2023).

In essence, integrating virtual discussion platforms into online Hadith courses is vital for establishing a dynamic and interactive learning atmosphere. By harnessing technology to promote student interaction and collaboration, these platforms play a significant role in enhancing the efficacy of online education platforms in disseminating Hadith teachings.

Increase engagement through live sessions with instructors.

In order to foster greater participation in online Hadith courses, it is imperative to recognize the significance of effective communication and interaction during the learning process. As emphasized in a variety of research studies, students' satisfaction and success in online education are closely tied to their engagement with course material and instructors (Hollister et al., 2022).

Integrating live sessions with instructors can offer students a more individualized approach to learning. These sessions create a platform for immediate interaction, allowing students to ask questions, seek clarity, and engage in discussions centred around Hadith teachings. This direct engagement not only aids in grasping complex concepts but also nurtures a sense of connection and camaraderie among learners.

Furthermore, live sessions present an invaluable opportunity for instructors to share additional insights, real-life examples, and practical applications of Hadith teachings. They can also provide guidance on navigating challenging topics, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and its practical implementation. This interactive method enriches the overall learning experience by offering a deeper understanding for students.

Additionally, live sessions facilitate peer-to-peer interactions, enabling collaborative learning where students can exchange ideas and perspectives. This collaborative environment encourages critical thinking, active participation, and a holistic comprehension of Hadith teachings within a diverse online community.

By incorporating live sessions with instructors into online Hadith courses, educational platforms can elevate student engagement, promote meaningful interactions, and establish a more immersive learning setting. Ultimately, these live sessions are instrumental in boosting student motivation, encouraging active learning, and enhancing the overall educational journey for those pursuing Hadith studies online.

Expand course materials to include real-life case studies and practical exercises

In order to enrich the online Hadith learning experience, it is crucial to broaden the scope of course materials by integrating real-life case studies and hands-on exercises. By incorporating these elements, students can bridge the gap between theory and practice, thereby enhancing their comprehension and memory of Hadith teachings. Real-life case studies serve to contextualize and make the teachings more relatable and captivating for students. Similarly, practical exercises encourage active participation and reinforce learning through practical application (Penn et al., 2016). Moreover, real-life case studies enable students to understand how Hadith teachings can be applied to contemporary societal issues such as social justice, gender equality, environmental sustainability, and interfaith dialogue. This exploration not only deepens their understanding of the timeless wisdom in the Hadith but also installs a sense of relevance in today's world. Practical exercises complement these case studies by

providing a structured approach for students to implement these teachings in diverse scenarios. By expanding the course materials to include real-life case studies and hands-on exercises, online Hadith courses can cultivate a dynamic and interactive learning environment. This approach not only enhances students' grasp of the material but also equips them with practical skills that can be applied in real-life situations (Mahdi et al., 2020). Through this integration of theory and practice, students develop critical thinking abilities and gain a profound insight into the profound teachings of the Hadith.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, this study examined the framework of online Hadith courses from the perspective of students and sought to evaluate their effectiveness and identify key elements contributing to a positive learning experience. The findings revealed several advantages associated with online Hadith courses, including the flexibility to study at convenient times and locations, access to a wide array of resources, and the ability to learn at one's own pace. However, the study also identified certain challenges, such as the lack of motivation, as well as limitations in interactive discussions and personal interactions with instructors. Based on the analysis, the study proposed some suggestions to enhance the framework of online Hadith courses.

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