

International Journal of **Human Sciences Research**

THE USE OF DIGITAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC STUDY AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN DISTANCE EDUCATION

Ellen Fernandes Lopes

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2609-8443>

All content in this magazine is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution License. Attribution-Non-Commercial-Non-Derivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0).



Abstract: Digital libraries are technological platforms with wide visibility, easy and remote accessibility, constituted by numerous reliable and multidisciplinary sources with scientific value that provide quality to the development of autonomous academic research in the learning process. This study aims to demonstrate the effectiveness of using these digital libraries linked to academic research in distance education and to demarcate the user's profile by their characteristics of age, level of education, region of the country in which they reside, area of knowledge of the higher education course. current. In the same way, it seeks to determine the accesses and their monthly frequency, the navigability and the quality of the content through quantitative research with professionals in the field of education and students of distance learning and a descriptive study with bibliographic review, respectively with consultation of scientific articles. from the electronic database. It is noted that, in general, these tools are heavily used, since 97% of respondents access, and 88% use in academic research at least one of the three platforms in this article, they are: EBSCO, Minha Biblioteca and Biblioteca Virtual.

Keywords: Digital Libraries, EBSCO, My Library and Virtual Library.

INTRODUCTION

The fate of books and libraries is a topic that has been routinely discussed in recent times, whether in works of fiction or even in academic works. The progress of digital technologies and the simplicity of access to different styles of materials on the world wide web is apparently weakening the age-old predominance given to the book (physical artifact) and the resulting discount of libraries. This is not the primary occasion when the predominance of the book is put at risk. At the end of the 19th century, the

French journalist and bibliophile Octave Uzanne, influenced by the French school of fiction, predicted the disappearance of this tool in the work "The end of books". Long before the technological innovations of digital readers and audiobooks, Uzanne formulated a story motivated by the development of phonographic technology, an innovation that would replace the book and equivalent to the audiobook of today (ASCOLI; GALINDO, 2021).

Learning and knowledge about Digital Libraries began approximately in the 1980s, and, at the present time, the theme has reached vast national and international literature. Regardless of not having a concrete concept and with support in the field of Information Science, for this reason several authors seek to define digital libraries, in line with what can be seen in the literature itself. Regarding the absence of a consensus among the authors for the establishment of a meaning, distinguishing itself as a position of consent among the definitions, the collection style of these libraries that is accessible in digital format despite the way it was generated (LIMA, 2018).).

Online Distance Education, classified as an educational genre at the time of the fourth revolution marked by the use of digital technologies through *internet access*, became in 2020 the only possible way to consider education (BORBA; MALHEIROS); ZULATTO, 2020).

In recent times, the need for adaptability of original trends and the adoption of innovations due to the evolution of the *internet has become even more evident*, one of these academic tools is the Digital Libraries.

These platforms are the most recognized and influential digital technologies in higher education institutions, through a large investment for their implementation (PINTO; LEITE, 2020).

The relevance of this study lies in the search for proof of access and effectiveness to studies and academic research carried out independently at a distance.

The materials provided in these environments of easy access and consultation are reliable sources, renowned with guaranteed origin, which makes it an instrument that engages and promotes growth in the development of academic research for all those present in this student community who are users of such technologies.

GOALS

This study has the general objective of understanding the use of digital libraries: EBSCO, Minha Biblioteca and Biblioteca Virtual in terms of effectiveness in remote academic studies and research. The specific objective is to delimit the user profile of these technological platforms by age, level of education, region of the country in which they reside, area of knowledge of the current higher education course and advance in the elucidation of access and constancy in visits within the monthly period to these platforms, confirm the practice of academic research carried out through these channels, navigability of these virtual environments, quality of content in the face of a quantitative approach with professionals from the educational segment and students of higher education at a distance, in order to understand the effective experience of using the virtual libraries of this audience.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In a common perspective, there was the exchange of atoms for *bits* where companies that worked with reading periodicals, magazines, books, among others, were restructured, some did not leave aside their physical and analog instruments, but entered the digital market adding in their range

of action, as is the case with libraries, as they operate fundamentally with concrete materials, and given that, they have also replaced their products and services to encompass the utilities of consumers of digital content. The transitions instituted by the physical-digital-virtual exchange trigger breaks in all branches (SEGUNDO; ARAUJO; DIAS, 2018).

Through the *internet*, the practical reach of books and an immensity of data and information has become close. There were also advantages for the execution of basic interactive processes between peers, which brought development to intellectual works, as well as the organization and renewal of collective thinking - collaborative vision (BORBA; MALHEIROS; ZULATTO, 2020).

The faceted navigation brings the possibility of providing the user of a digital library with information organized in a base, with answers already far-fetched, from the point of view of the convenient data of that user. This is supported by a moderately intuitive platform, which reduces the demands for carrying out a simple and complex research (PEREIRA; MOREIRA; SEGUNDO, 2021).

A research has the purpose of seeking to understand and unravel the phenomena that happen in the existential world, that is, how such phenomena manifest themselves, what is their role and basis, what changes are made, why and how they are performed, and until phase admit interference or adjustments (MARCONI; LAKATOS, 2021).

My Library has a collection of digital books with thousands of technical, academic and scientific titles, distributed in seven groups: Medicine, Health, Exact, Legal, Applied Social, Pedagogical and Arts & Letters. In total, there are 12 relevant academic book publishers in Brazil and 15 publishing labels. This universality in a

practical, instinctive platform with several built-in instruments, which can be accessed from any device connected to the *internet* (MINHA BIBLIOTECA, 2020).

The Virtual Library is a digital grouping consisting of thousands of titles in different branches of knowledge, such as: law, gastronomy, education, medicine, economics, engineering, marketing, tourism and others. Currently present in more than 400 educational institutions with more than three million active users. Featuring titles from Pearson and 25 partner publishers (BIBLIOTECA VIRTUAL, 2021).

EBSCO is a leading provider of research databases with e-journals, journal subscriptions, e-books and discovery service for libraries of all kinds. For more than 07 decades, it has been associated with libraries to improve research with quality content and technology (EBSCO, 2021).

METHODOLOGICAL PROCEDURES

This is a descriptive study with bibliographic review, concomitantly with consultation of national and international scientific articles from the electronic database; quantitative research with data analysis carried out through a digital form, answered between May 08 and June 01, 2021, by 93 students and professionals of distance higher education, anonymity was guaranteed and the profile of the respondents traced by the following information: age, education level, region of the country in which they reside, current higher education area of knowledge; were asked about access, frequency of monthly virtual visits, academic research, navigability, quality of content and academic studies carried out in virtual libraries – EBSCO, Minha Biblioteca and Biblioteca Virtual.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

The confidentiality of the respondents' identity was ensured through anonymity and to define the user profile of these digital library services, the information requested in the questionnaire was: age, education level, region of the country in which they reside and area of knowledge of the current higher course, as can be seen in the figures below.

The importance of digital libraries is noted, since among the 93 respondents to the form among education professionals and distance learning students, 97% access such platforms and even quite frequently, estimated monthly, and only 4% of these people do not access during this period, let's see in figure 5 and 6.

The effectiveness for carrying out academic research and studies is demonstrated in questions 7 and 10, as well as the ratification of the positive quality of these materials when the “bad” option is not chosen by the respondents. Regarding navigation within these tools, in this aspect it was not characterized as “bad” by any of the respondents in front of the completed form.

In line with what was pointed out in the results, the use of digital libraries proved to be effective for research and academic studies in the distance learning environment.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is concluded that through this research, the use of digital libraries: EBSCO, Biblioteca Virtual and Minha Biblioteca associated with the development of study and academic research proves its effectiveness in distance education.

The result highlights the relevance of its effectiveness for academic studies and research of these innovations that add learning and knowledge to virtual users.

1. How old are you?

18 to 23 years	22
24 to 29 years	17
30 to 35 years	16
36 to 40 years	14
more than 40 years	24



Figure 1 - Age group.

Source: Prepared by the author.

2. What is your schooling?

Higher education	33
(attending)	11
Higher education	4
(complete)	31
second graduation	14



Figure 2 - Level of education.

Source: Prepared by the author.

3. In which region do you live?

Midwest	4
North	1
North East	6
south	12
Southeast	70



Figure 3 - Region of the country where you reside.

Source: Prepared by the author.

4. Your current higher education course is part of which area of knowledge?

Exact and earth sciences	10
biological sciences	3
engineering	6
Health Sciences	23
agricultural sciences	1
applied social sciences	9
human sciences	26
Linguistics, letters and arts	3
Other knowledge area	12

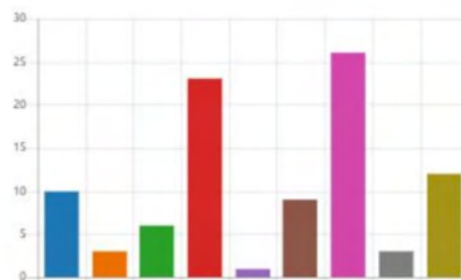


Figure 4 - Current higher course knowledge area.

Source: Prepared by the author.

5. Have you accessed the digital book platforms mentioned below?



Figure 5 - Access to digital platforms.

Source: Prepared by the author.

6. Approximately how many times during the month do you access these platforms?



Figure 6 - Monthly access frequency.

Source: Prepared by the author.

7. Do you use the aforementioned digital book platforms for your academic research?



Figure 7 - Use of digital platforms for academic research.

Source: Prepared by the author.

8. Classify the navigation on the platforms with one of the following words:



Figure 8 - Navigability.

Source: Prepared by the author.

9. Rate the quality of the content (books, scientific articles, periodicals, among others) present on the platforms in question with one of the words listed below:

Great	29
Good	37
satisfactory	22
Regular	5
Bad	0



Figure 9 - Content quality.

Source: Prepared by the author.

10. Do you consider it important to link your academic studies to the content available in these digital libraries?

Yes I consider it very relevant	76
Yes I consider it relevant	15
I don't consider it	0

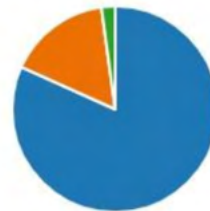


Figure 10 - Academic Studies.

Source: Prepared by the author.

The digital form answered by 93 students and professionals of distance higher education who had their profile traced by the following data: age, level of education, region of the country in which they live and area of knowledge of the current higher education, were asked about access to digital book platforms and 97% have already accessed at least one of the libraries that are the object of study in this work and on the monthly frequency only 4% did not access within this period, this evidences the usefulness of these technological instruments; access for the development of academic research was also proven, as 88% responded positively to this question, highlighting the importance of this instrument in the productions of the academic community; when asked about navigability, no person pointed this question

as bad; regarding the quality of the contents, whether books, scientific articles, periodicals, among others, no person classified it as bad; Finally, in relation to academic studies and the importance of using these platforms, no person marked the option “I don't feel the need at the moment”, which exposes the respondents' awareness of the great value of research carried out in these virtual environments that are Digital Libraries.

REFERENCES

ASCOLI, A.; GALINDO, M. L. **A quarta revolução e a necessária reinvenção da biblioteconomia**. Encontros Bibli: Revista Eletrônica de Biblioteconomia e Ciência da Informação, v. 26, p. 1-21, 2021. DOI: 10.5007/1518-2924.2021.e75961 Acesso em: 18 maio 2021.

BORBA, Marcelo de Carvalho; MALHEIROS, Ana Paula dos Santos; ZULATTO, Rúbia Barcelos Amaral. **Educação a distância online**. Autêntica Editora, 2020.

COMO FUNCIONA: O QUE É A MINHA BIBLIOTECA. Minha Biblioteca, c2020. Disponível em: <<https://minhabiblioteca.com.br/como-funciona/>>. Acesso em: 11 maio 2021. <https://integrada.minhabiblioteca.com.br/#/books/9788597026610/>. Acesso em: 18 maio 2021.

LIMA, G. Â. B. D. O. **Bibliotecas digitais: novas tendências na navegação em contexto**/Gercina Ângela Borem de Oliveira Lima (organizadora). 1. ed. Rio de Janeiro: Interciência, 2018, p. 38.

MARCONI, Marina de Andrade; LAKATOS, Eva Maria. **Técnicas de Pesquisa**. Grupo GEN, 2021. 9788597026610. Disponível em: <<https://integrada.minhabiblioteca.com.br/#/books/9788597026610/>>. Acesso em: 18 maio 2021

PEREIRA, C. M.; MOREIRA, W.; SEGUNDO, J. E. S. **Classificação facetada: proposta de categorias fundamentais para organizar teses e dissertações em uma biblioteca digital**. Encontros Bibli: Revista Eletrônica de Biblioteconomia e Ciência da Informação, v. 26, p. 1-21, 2021. Disponível em: <<https://periodicos.ufsc.br/index.php/eb/article/view/79427>>. Acesso em: 18 maio 2021.

PINTO, Marta; LEITE, Carlinda. **As tecnologias digitais nos percursos de sucesso acadêmico de estudantes não tradicionais do Ensino Superior**. Educ. Pesqui., São Paulo, v. 46, e216818, 2020. Disponível em: <<https://periodicos.ufsc.br/index.php/eb/article/view/79427>>. Acesso em 11 maio 2021. Epub Mar 20, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1590/s1678-4634202046216818>.

QUEM SOMOS. Biblioteca Virtual, 2021. Disponível em: <<https://www.bvirtual.com.br/QuemSomos>>. Acesso em: 11 maio 2021.

SEGUNDO, Sanderli José da Silva; ARAUJO, Wagner Junqueira de; DIAS, Guilherme Ataíde. **Prospecção de cenários futuros: estudo aplicado a biblioteca virtual Paul Otlet**. Biblios, Pittsburgh, n. 72, p. 94-112, jul. 2018. Disponível em: http://www.scielo.org.pe/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1562-47302018000300007 Acesso em: 18 maio 2021. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5195/biblios.2018.438>.

SOBRE EBSCO. EBSCO, c2021. Disponível em: <<https://www.ebsco.com/about>>. Acesso em: 12 maio 2021.