

**BACK TO THE FUTURE: HIGHER EDUCATION IN 2022****E'zoza Bekmatova**

Student of Chirchik State Pedagogical Institute of Tashkent region

**Bakhtiyar Dilshatovich Bekmatov**

Teacher of Chirchik State Pedagogical Institute of Tashkent region

[b.bekmatoff@yandex.com](mailto:b.bekmatoff@yandex.com)**ABSTRACT**

The crucial word in any area of our lives for the next couple of years is the coronavirus. It has brought too many changes. But COVID-19 has not affected education as radically as it seems at first glance. Yes, we are faced with several short-term consequences: distance learning, the inability to study abroad, mandatory vaccination, etc. But has the coronavirus changed the face of higher education as a whole so much? In fact, all the trends, which we'll talk about existed before COVID-19, but they didn't develop as quickly. He only sped up their movement.

**Keywords:** artificial intelligence (AI), VR technologies, 3D models, Skillbox and Coursera, mental health.

**INTRODUCTION****Use of technology**

In 2022, introducing the latest technologies into the learning process will continue. Covid-19 has contributed a lot to this. He forced universities to develop new methodologies to teach students remotely. Already today, artificial intelligence (AI) and VR technologies are used in education. The latter can be useful not only to gamers. It's a great tool for learning. For example, with their help, you can see 3D models of molecules or go on an excursion to the museum without leaving the walls of the university. Using virtual reality, in general, is an important trend in education. The new type of teaching. There are several things here.

**Online learning**

Obviously, the remote format will go nowhere. Online educational platforms such as Skillbox and Coursera have gained many new users during the pandemic. So, the demand in Yandex. The workshop grew by 30-50% [1]. People are wondering if online courses can replace education. In 2022, we are waiting for a hybrid format: a

mixture of distance and full-time learning. It existed before. For example, some courses could be taken online. But, as a rule, these were "third-party" subjects: life safety, information security, and so on. A hybrid form of education will be convenient for those who work or do not want to visit the university every day. However, the online mode deprives you of part of the student experience: interacting with friends and teachers.

### **Program**

For Uzbekistan, this is a novelty, but in foreign universities, there is already a rethinking of the importance of hard and soft skills. Hard—those skills in your speciality that you get at the university. Soft—flexible skills related to a person's personality. For example, communication, time management and critical thinking are soft skills. And employers value them no less than professional ones. Teaching a novice editor to work in another program is faster than correcting the inability of a super-specialist to communicate with colleagues. The first will take a week, and the second - several months. Although, of course, this does not apply to all professions. In any case, soft skills are becoming more popular, and universities teach them to their students. Most likely, in 2022, programs will take more into account flexible skills.

### **Exams**

Amid the pandemic, some countries have cancelled final and entrance exams. So, in the United States, many universities, including the Ivy League, announced that they would accept applications without SAT results. And the British government allowed not to pass graduates of A-level exams - the final grades were determined by teachers. In Uzbekistan, the Unified State Exam was temporarily made optional.

If the COVID situation does not worsen, in 2022 graduates will return to a normal examination regime. Although in the United States, for example, the subject SAT was cancelled forever, and part of the essay was removed from the general.

### **Taking care of mental health**

Another positive effect of COVID-19. In 2020-2021, universities began to take more care of the psycho-emotional state of students. For a long time, the topic of psychological health was bypassed. However, the coronavirus situation has brought too much additional stress and strain into students' lives to ignore. Just imagine-every fourth student experiences mental health problems. They suffer from depression, insomnia, neurosis, eating disorders and so on. In response, foreign universities began to actively develop centres of psychological assistance on campuses, cooperate with

youth organizations and foundations, and generally reduce pressure on students. In Russia, this trend is less noticeable, but in global education, it will occupy an important place in 2022. COVID-19 has forced us to talk openly not only about physical health but also about mental health.

### **Academic mobility**

Over the past two years, the academic mobility of students has noticeably decreased. It is understandable - the coronavirus has spoiled the plans of many. And not only for students but also for teachers and universities themselves. After all, the contributions of international students make up a significant percentage of income for universities, and the number of foreigners affects their rankings. Many students who entered abroad were forced to stay at home and study online. Such an experience.

### **CONCLUSION**

Fortunately, this negative effect of COVID-19 is not with us forever. Already, countries are gradually opening their borders to foreign students. Although there are still such as China, Australia or Japan, where it is still difficult for students to get to. There is a risk that this is only temporary relief and in the next wave of coronavirus, restrictions will return.

You need to understand that the crown will go nowhere. Most likely, it will mutate every year, like the flu virus. This means that higher education will adapt to new realities. The only question is how fast.

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