



Indonesian Journal of Multidisciplinary Research



Journal homepage: <http://ejournal.upi.edu/index.php/IJOMR/>

Postgraduate Students' Attitude Towards the use of Digital Library Repositories for Research in Kwara State

Abiola Olatunji Ogunleye

Department of Educational Technology, University of Ilorin, Ilorin Nigeria
Correspondence: E-mail: ogunleyebiola@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Digital library repositories are information resource environments, that offer accurate and reviewed information materials to users, collected from a variety of reliable sources. Studies have shown that despite the numerous benefits associated with digital library repositories, it is being underutilized. This study adopted a descriptive research design of the survey type. The sample of the study comprised 375 respondents from three universities in Kwara State, Nigeria. The research question was answered using descriptive statistics while t-test and ANOVA were used to test the hypotheses at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study revealed that postgraduate students' attitude toward the digital library repositories for research was positive; there was a significant difference between male and female postgraduate students' attitude towards the digital library repositories for research, and there was a significant difference in postgraduate students' attitude towards the digital library repositories for research based on institutional ownership. The study concluded that the majority of postgraduate students have a positive attitude toward digital library repositories for research. Therefore, this study recommended that postgraduate students should be encouraged to develop skills to integrate digital library repositories into their day-to-day learning activities and in conducting their research.

© 2023 Kantor Jurnal dan Publikasi UPI

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Submitted/Received 03 Jan 2023

First Revised 15 Feb 2023

Accepted 30 Apr 2023

First Available online 08 May 2023

Publication Date 01 Sep 2023

Keyword:

Attitude,
Digital library,
Postgraduates,
Repositories,
Research.

1. INTRODUCTION

The strongest tool shaping the educational landscape in the 21st century is Information and Communication Technology (ICT) (Adeoye, 2023). The development of ICT has vastly transformed every domain of human life and permeated all human endeavors, particularly education (Abanikannda & Ajani, 2019). The application of ICT in education has brought about ground-breaking leaps in teaching, learning, and research, especially in the formation, dissemination, and application of knowledge. It provides resources and services to support the learning, research, and educational goals of higher institutions (Ohei & Brink, 2019), providing greater international presence and information exchange of academic institutions and fabricating an all-round creative learning environment thereby permeating all aspects of teaching and learning in higher institutions including the Academic libraries (Fadillah *et al.*, 2022).

Libraries play a crucial role in society by providing essential information to their users thereby quenching their thirst for knowledge. The integral function of any academic library is to support learning, teaching, and research in educational institutions. Library's major objective in the conventional print environment is bridging users of the information to the sources of information (Salubi *et al.*, 2018).

Most of these were done without the use of ICT and were time-consuming. These scenarios have changed with greater application and integration of ICT in libraries, Academic libraries are therefore now introducing digital library services (Dewiyanti *et al.*, 2021). The expected goals and outcomes of these services are to expand the arrays of information resources obtainable, and therein add value to its various library collections by making accessible information contents through electronic means and platforms with the intention that students, researchers, staff, and the entire members of the academic community can access them whenever and wherever (Owusu-Ansah *et al.*, 2018).

Libraries now operate digitally, and these services open new channels to the universe of knowledge and information, connecting cultures across geographical and social boundaries. IFLA and UNESCO emphasized that the digital library forms an integral part of the services of a library in academic institutions, applying new technology to provide access to digital collections. It further revealed that digital library repositories are the result of the organization of digital information resources. Consequently, it may well be that the information in a digital library is already on the web, although the use of search engines is a powerful means of locating information, however, it is often hard to find what you want on the world wide web and to be sure that what has been found is authoritative and authentic.

As focused collections of selected resourced materials, digital library repositories are usually better and more reliable sources of information for conducting research than the web at large (Naqvi, 2014). These digital library repositories can mitigate the difficulty most academic libraries in Nigeria have been experiencing in providing materials to library users on account of the alarming rate of inflation in the prices of books and journals, poor policies and project implementation strategies, as well as inadequacy in the funding of the Nigerian educational institutions having a trickle-down effect on the institution libraries (Abubakar, 2011).

Digital library repositories can present several prospects to postgraduate students far beyond what textual libraries provide. Having a global reach to all national and international networks through the digital library is a great advantage to students' postgraduate studies and educational advancement. Qualitative research leads to the acquisition of useful skills, desirable values, and competencies necessary for self-reliance, and ultimately contributes to

societal development. Digital library repositories provide authentic, authoritative, peer-reviewed scholarly contents to back up and promote efficient postgraduate research activities.

However, [Okiki and Asiru \(2011\)](#) observed the attitudinal shifts among postgraduate students in terms of their approach to information, research, and use of technology to information. Attitude toward an object can play important role in influencing behaviors towards that object. Some students found it difficult the use technology or to use digital technology to conduct research ([Ardies et al., 2013](#); [Anh, 2022](#); [Sudaryat et al., 2022](#)). However, it was also revealed by [Ljubojevic et al., \(2014\)](#) and [Maulid and Sakti \(2022\)](#) that students were also more motivated to make use of digital technology for its ease and convenience when conducting research ([Bolaji & Ibrahim, 2023](#)). Relevant to this study are gender and institutional ownership.

Gender is an important influence in many aspects of the teaching and learning process and could have a significant impact on research most especially conducted in ICT ([Frankin et al., 2016](#)). Institutional ownership differences could play a vital role in postgraduate students' attitudes towards the digital library repositories for research, as many of these repositories are needed to be subscribed to and made accessible by their various institutions ([Nuhu et al., 2021](#); [Risnandar & Sakti, 2022](#)).

Preliminary investigations and literature have revealed that academic libraries are facing challenges in terms of postgraduate students' approach to its information stores. There is an attitudinal shift away from the digital library repositories, as postgraduate students are more in-tune with search engines and unreliable sources. Digital library repositories containing collections of scholarly content would provide opportunities for postgraduate students to conduct research at their convenience and add authenticity and authority to their research.

The research question is about postgraduate students' attitudes toward digital library repositories for research. Hypotheses are:

- (i) H_{01} : There is no significant difference between male and female postgraduate students' attitudes toward the digital library repositories for research.
- (ii) H_{02} : There is no significant difference in postgraduate students' attitudes towards the digital library repositories for research based on institutional ownership.

2. METHODS

This study adopted descriptive research of the survey type. The target population consisted of all the postgraduate students of federal, state, and private universities in Kwara State. 375 samples were selected for the study. The data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics of simple percentage and mean, while the hypothesis formulated was tested at 0.05 level of significance using ANOVA. A questionnaire tagged PSATDLRR was used to elicit responses from the respondents on Attitude, the draft instrument was given to three educational technology lecturers for face and content validity of the instrument. The corrected instrument was pilot tested to determine its reliability. The data collected were analyzed with Cronbach Alpha, resulting in a reliability coefficient of 0.83.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Temperature

Demographic Information is shown in **Table 1**. From the respondents, 242 males and 133 females are involved. They are from different universities.

To investigate postgraduate students' attitudes toward the digital library repositories for research (see **Table 2**), a questionnaire was administered. Data collected was analyzed using

the mean, and the overall postgraduate students' attitude was determined through the grand mean. Since the items of the questionnaire were structured on a four-point Likert scale, the decision rule was based on the benchmark of 2.50. Therefore, items with mean scores of 2.50 and above were regarded as agreed or positive attitudes while items with mean scores below 2.50 were regarded as disagreed or negative attitudes.

Table 1. Demography data.

Affiliation	Population	%Population	Samples
University A	4825	81%	304
University B	882	15%	56
University C	227	4%	15
Total	5934	100%	375

Table 2. Distribution of respondents based on attitude towards the digital library repositories for research.

S/N	Items	Mean
1.	Using digital library repositories can enable effective ways of sourcing research materials	3.54
2.	I feel that digital library repositories contain more focused collections for research than search engines	3.00
3.	I feel it is quicker to use physical books and print materials than digital library repositories for research	2.61
4.	it is not easy accessing the contents of the digital library repositories	2.68
5.	I believe the digital library repositories will assist in locating authentic and authoritative contents	3.30
6.	Using digital library repositories can boost independence in searching and usage of information resources	3.21
7.	I feel that the internet is too vast and may contain much irrelevant information as compared to the digital library repositories	2.89
8.	I feel it is easier to read print materials as digital library repositories usage can become uncomfortable	2.87
9.	I believe that digital library repositories give very current information content and research materials	3.19
10.	I feel the digital library repositories do not contain materials in my research field.	1.97
Grand Mean		2.93

The **Table 3** revealed that postgraduate students agreed that using digital library repositories enables effective sourcing of research materials; digital library repositories contain more focused collections for research than search engines; and they also agreed that it is quicker to use physical books and print materials than digital library repositories for research and that it is not easy accessing the contents of the digital library repositories. the table further revealed that Item 10; digital library repositories do not contain materials in their research fields, with a mean score of 1.97 indicating that postgraduate students disagreed with the item. The grand mean of 3.24 is greater than the benchmark of 2.50 which

shows that postgraduate students' attitude towards using digital library repositories for research was positive.

An independent sample t-test was conducted to compare male and female postgraduate students' attitudes toward the digital library repositories for research (see **Table 3**). Data collected reveals that there was a significant difference between male and female postgraduate students' attitudes toward the utilization of digital library repositories for research. This is reflected in the findings of the hypothesis tested; $df (373) t = 3.384, p\text{-value} = 0.001 < 0.05$. Thus, it is inferred that the null hypothesis which states that "there is no significant difference between male and female postgraduate students' attitude towards the digital library repositories for research" was rejected.

Table 3. T-test analysis of gender difference in postgraduate students' attitudes towards the digital library repositories for research.

Gender	N	\bar{X}	SD	df	T	Sig. (2-tailed)	Remark
Male	242	2.97	0.36	373	3.384	0.001	Rejected
Female	133	2.84	0.37				
Total	375						

Table 4 reveals that there is no significant difference in postgraduate students' attitudes toward the digital library repositories for research based on institutional ownership. The null hypothesis was accepted as $F (2,372) = 5.500$ and $p\text{-value} = 0.004$. Since the $p\text{-value}$ of 0.004 was less than the significance value of 0.05, the hypothesis was rejected. Therefore, it can be deduced that there was variation in postgraduate students' attitudes toward the utilization of digital library repositories for research based on institutional ownership.

Table 4. Analysis of variance on means scores of postgraduate students' attitude towards the digital library repositories for research based on institutional ownership.

	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.469	2	0.734	5.500	.004
Within Groups	49.675	372	0.134		
Total	51.144	374			

The findings of this study revealed that the majority of postgraduate students had a positive attitude toward the digital library repositories for research. The lack of access is the major reason behind less utilization by students of electronic information resources in academic libraries, as it was noticed that postgraduate students with access, majority utilize electronic journals and digital library databases for writing term papers and carrying out research (Purnomo *et al.*, 2022).

The investigation of the difference between male and female postgraduates' attitudes toward the utilization of digital library repositories for research revealed a significant difference. The result of the t-test established in hypothesis one revealed that there is a significant difference between male and female attitudes toward the digital library repositories for research. This finding disagreed with the study of Ahmed, (2015) and Bamidele and Adekambi, (2019) who revealed that there exists no statistical difference between males and females using library electronic resources as a provision of equal opportunities to both sexes negate any bias.

The study also examined the difference in postgraduate student attitudes toward digital library repositories for research based on institutional ownership. The result of ANOVA established in hypothesis two revealed that there is a significant difference in postgraduate students' attitudes towards the digital library repositories for research based on institutional ownership. This finding supports the findings of [Rasul and Singh, \(2011\)](#) who posited that postgraduate students' access to electronic materials provided in the digital library repositories in their various institutions has increased their research and teaching abilities.

4. CONCLUSION

In line with the findings of this study, the result obtained from the data gathered and analyzed indicated that postgraduate students have a positive attitude towards digital library repositories for research, the utilization of digital library repositories would help postgraduate students in self-paced learning and access to more research materials. It would also supplement the teaching and learning method, more use of digital library repositories among postgraduate students would improve their postgraduate studies and the quality of conducted research. Therefore, the study concluded that the majority of postgraduate students have a positive attitude toward the digital library repositories for research in Kwara state.

5. AUTHORS' NOTE

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article. Authors confirmed that the paper was free of plagiarism.

6. REFERENCES

- Abanikannda, M. O., and Ajani, A. H. (2019). Mobile learning technology for national development: Enhancing blended learning among engaged pre-service teachers in Osun State. *African Research Journal of Education and Social Sciences*, 6(1), 48-58.
- Abubakar, M. B. (2011). Academic libraries in Nigeria in the 21st century. *Library Philosophy and Practice*, 1(135), 1-6.
- Adeoye, M. A. (2023). Management information system: Tools for achieving administrative effectiveness in private universities. *Indonesian Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*, 3(1), 65-72.
- Ahmed, H. M. (2015). Gender differences in students' utilization of electronic information resources in ramat library, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria. *Journal of Information and Knowledge Management*, 6(1), 61-71.
- Anh, D. H. M. (2022). Factors affecting satisfaction on online education on students digital teaching page in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. *Indonesian Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*, 2(1), 179-186.
- Ardies, J., DeMaeyer, S., and Gijbels, D. (2013). Reconstructing the pupils attitude towards technology-survey. *Design and Technology Education: An International Journal*, 18(1), 8-19.

- Bamidele, O., and Adekambi, O. (2019). Influence of gender differences on usage patterns of electronic information resources among students of selected universities in Nigeria. *International Journal of Library Science*, 8(2), 27-33
- Bolaji, H. O., and Ibrahim. B. F. (2023). Accessibility and usability of information and technology communication: Application for record-keeping among secondary school administrators. *Indonesian Journal of Educational Research and Technology*, 3(3), 191-202.
- Dewiyanti, D., Puspasari, A. M., Kamil, F. S. A., and Ningtyas, B. K. (2021). Exploratory Study of Visual Enhancement to Display Smart Apps on Android Phones for Selasar Imaji Library. *International Journal of Design (INJUDES)*, 1, 17-26.
- Fadillah, P. Nandiyanto, A. B. D., Kurniawan T., and Bilad, M. R. (2022). Internet literature: Increasing information competence in the learning process of students of class 7 middle school. *Indonesian Journal of Educational Research and Technology*, 2(2), 81-86.
- Frankin, P., Hossain, R., and Coren, E. (2016). Social media and young peoples involvement social work education. *Social Work Education the International Journal*, 35(11), 344-356.
- Ljubojevic, Vaskovic, Stankovic, and Vaskovic. (2014). Using supplementary video in multimedia instruction as a teaching tool to increase efficiency of learning and quality of experience. *International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning*. 15(3). 275-291.
- Maulid, M. N., and Sakti, A. W. (2022). The effectiveness of learning videos as a source of digital literacy on poster learning in elementary schools. *Indonesian Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*, 2(1), 51-56.
- Naqvi, T. (2014). Awareness, use, and impact of electronic information services on the UG and PG students at JNMC library, services on the UG and PG students at JNMC library. *World Digital Libraries*, 7(2), 107-122.
- Nuhu, K. M., Abdulfatai, D. A., and Onojah, A. O., (2021). Undergraduate awareness and perception on the use of digital collaborative tools in facilitating learning in selected universities within the ilorin metropolis. *Indonesian Journal of Educational Research and Technology*, 1(3), 95-104.
- Ohei, K. N., and Brink, R. (2019). A framework development for the adoption of information and communication technology web technologies in higher education systems. *South African Journal of Information Management*, 21(1), 1-12.
- Okiki, O. C., and Asiru, S. M. (2011). Use of electronic information sources by postgraduate students in Nigeria: Influencing factors. *Library philosophy and practice*, 12(5), 1-10.
- Owusu-Ansah, C. M., Rodrigues, A., and Van der Walt, T. (2018). Factors influencing the use of digital libraries in distance education in Ghana. *International Journal of Libraries and Information Studies (libri)*, 68(2), 125-135.
- Purnomo, G. W. Pratiwi, Y., and Putri, K. H. (2022). Analysis usage behavior for information system of university library. *Indonesian Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*, 2(2), 421-428.

- Rasul, A., and Singh, D. (2011). The role of academic libraries in facilitating postgraduate student research. *Malaysian Journal of Library and Information Science*, 15(3), 75-84.
- Risnandar, R., and Sakti, A.W. (2022). Optimizing instagram in sociology materials to improve digital literacy for junior high school students. *ASEAN Journal of Educational Research and Technology*, 1(1), 39-46.
- Salubi, O. G., Ondari-Okemwa, E., and Nekhwevha, F. (2018). Utilisation of library information resources among generation z students: Facts and fiction. *Multi-Disciplinary Publishing Institute Open Access Journal*, 6(2), 1-12.
- Sudaryat, M. R., Firdaus, M. F. Y., Salsabila, A. A., Romlah, S., Mardiatunnisa, M., and Praja, W. N. (2022). Utilization of electronic community library as a localhost-based digital library in optimizing learning resources. *Indonesian Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*, 2(2), 291-298.