

Future-Focused Digital Transformation in Higher Education Leadership

21 – 25 December 2026
Lisbon (Portugal)

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Introduction

This course explores the evolving role of leadership in higher education amidst the rapid pace of digital transformation. Participants will learn how to leverage digital transformation strategies to drive institutional growth, innovation, and academic excellence. The course covers key digital transformation solutions, including modern digital tools that enhance student experiences, faculty development, and operational efficiency. Leaders will gain insights into fostering a digital culture, implementing effective change management, and staying ahead of emerging technological trends. By the end, participants will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to lead their institutions through a successful digital transformation process.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand digital transformation in higher education: Explore the significance of digital transformation strategies in academic institutions and the digital transformation process.
- Leverage emerging technologies: Learn how to incorporate technologies such as AI, data analytics, and cloud computing to enhance education and institutional operations.
- Develop digital leadership skills: Gain the leadership abilities needed to lead digital change initiatives effectively in higher education leadership.
- Foster a digital culture: Learn strategies to create an environment of innovation and collaboration within educational institutions.
- Enhance the student experience: Discover how to use digital transformation technologies to improve student engagement, learning outcomes, and overall experiences.
- Optimize faculty development: Understand how to support faculty with digital tools and platforms for teaching and research.
- Drive institutional growth: Learn how to use digital transformation strategies to enhance institutional reputation, reach, and competitiveness.
- Implement change management: Develop strategies for managing the challenges and opportunities of digital transformation within higher education leadership.
- Ensure data-driven decision-making: Learn how to use data analytics to guide strategic decisions and improve institutional performance.
- Stay ahead of trends: Stay updated on emerging trends in technology and education to maintain a competitive edge in the digital age.

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces (a king, a queen, a rook, and a pawn) positioned on it. The board is white and black, and the pieces are gold and silver.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Introduction to Digital Transformation in Higher Education

- Understand the concept of digital transformation and its relevance to higher education leadership.
- Explore how digital transformation technologies are reshaping teaching, learning, and institutional operations.
- Learn about the role of leadership in driving and managing successful digital transformation.
- Analyze case studies of successful digital transformation solutions in leading academic institutions.
- Discuss the challenges and opportunities of integrating new technologies into academia.

Day 2: Leveraging Emerging Technologies in Higher Education

- Learn how AI can revolutionize student services and administrative functions.
- Explore the impact of cloud computing on learning management systems and institutional infrastructure.
- Understand how big data analytics can be used to inform decision-making and improve academic outcomes.
- Discover the role of Virtual Reality VR and Augmented Reality AR in enhancing immersive learning experiences.
- Examine the use of blockchain technology in education for secure, transparent credentialing and data storage.

Day 3: Leading Change and Innovation in Higher Education

- Learn change management strategies for implementing digital transformation initiatives.
- Develop skills to lead cross-functional teams in technology-driven academic environments.
- Understand the importance of fostering a culture of innovation, collaboration, and continuous improvement.
- Explore leadership frameworks that support digital initiatives in higher education leadership roles.
- Discover strategies to overcome resistance to change and ensure stakeholder buy-in.

Day 4: Enhancing the Student Experience through Digital Transformation

- Learn how digital transformation technologies can personalize learning experiences for students.
- Explore how virtual learning environments VLEs and learning management systems LMS can enhance student engagement.
- Discuss strategies for improving student support services using technology, such as chatbots and AI-based advisors.
- Understand the role of mobile learning and gamification in improving student participation and outcomes.
- Study the impact of digital communication channels social media, apps, etc. on student engagement and institutional branding.

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Day 5: Data-Driven Decision-Making and Future Trends in Higher Education

- Learn how to utilize data analytics for improving institutional decision-making and performance.
- Explore how to use data to measure academic success, student retention, and faculty effectiveness.
- Stay informed about emerging trends such as adaptive learning, AI-driven tutoring systems, and e-assessment tools.
- Discuss how to maintain data privacy and security in the age of digital transformation.
- Plan for the future of higher education with a focus on digital transformation technologies that foster sustained growth and competitiveness.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- **Gain Leadership Expertise:** Learn how to lead digital transformation initiatives in higher education.
- **Stay Ahead of Trends:** Understand emerging technologies shaping the future of academia.
- **Drive Innovation:** Learn how to foster a culture of innovation and continuous improvement.
- **Enhance Student Experience:** Discover ways to improve learning and engagement through digital transformation solutions.
- **Improve Institutional Efficiency:** Learn strategies to streamline operations and increase productivity through digital transformation services.
- **Make Data-Driven Decisions:** Master the use of data analytics to inform strategic decisions and enhance outcomes.
- **Boost Institutional Reputation:** Lead your institution to success in an increasingly digital educational landscape.
- **Build Collaborative Teams:** Learn how to lead teams through change and foster cross-departmental cooperation.
- **Develop Future-Proof Skills:** Gain the tools needed to navigate the ongoing digital evolution in higher education.

Conclusion

This course will equip you with the skills, knowledge, and insights necessary to lead digital transformation in higher education. By attending, you'll be prepared to leverage emerging technologies, foster innovation, and enhance both student and faculty experiences. You will also gain the confidence to navigate the challenges and opportunities of the digital age, ensuring your institution thrives in an increasingly competitive and technology-driven academic environment.

Don't miss the opportunity to position yourself and your institution for future success in the evolving digital landscape!

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A graphic illustration of a chessboard with several chess pieces. A large gold king piece is prominent in the foreground, with a silver pawn and a gold pawn nearby. The background features concentric circles and a checkered pattern, suggesting a strategic or competitive environment.