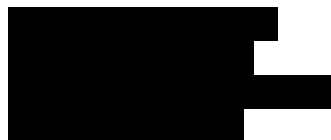


## The Role of Distance Education in the Creation of Social Capital and the Presentation of an Appropriate Model for Its Development in Higher Education



### Abstract:

This study aims to identify the role of distance education in the creation of social capital and the presentation of an appropriate model for its promotion in the Iranian higher education. The method of study is quantitative and descriptive correlation. The study's statistical population includes all faculty members of Payam-e-noor University in the academic year 90-91; the sampling method is multistage cluster with proportional distribution. The sample size was considered based on Kerjisy-Morgan table, taking the error  $\alpha = 5\%$  and with 280 subjects as samples. 249 questioners were used to collect the data. The first questioners for testing distance education components and the second one for measurement of social capital are compiled. The content validity of questioners was confirmed by experts. The constancy of the questioner regarding the distance education component was calculated using Cronbach,  $\alpha = 87\%$ . And for social capital, questioner was calculated  $95\%$ . In addition to descriptive statistics, inferential statistical of the mean difference test, analysis of one-way variance, Pierson correlation, multiple regression, path analysis and structural equation were used. The results showed that social capital of faculty members of distance education is far from satisfactory situation and distance education system is not functioning properly and interactively, communicative space in the formation of social capital can be more explanatory compared with other variables.

**Keywords:** distance education, planning education, social capital, university management and communication structural space

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