

The Digital Future of Education: The “Cloud” or “*The Matrix*”

Across the next 10 to 15 years, education, especially instructional pedagogies, and curriculum design, will be deeply impacted, as will all global society, by emerging technology. The most intense component of this emerging technology will be “the cloud.” An evolving and self-sustaining digital entity, “the cloud” provides a ubiquitous access to resources and relationships via the Internet that will change the nature of education and the role of educators. Technology will become more and more decentralized - the global network of information will be in “the cloud” profoundly affecting the way people learn, think, work, collaborate, and maintain a sense of “well-being.” That is the bright side. “The cloud” will hold information about everyone, their day-to-day activities, their thoughts, attitudes, and given the power for surveillance and analysis, even their future conduct can be foretold. That is the dark side -*The Matrix*.