


HOW TECHNOLOGY TRANSFORMS PERSONALIZED EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

In the wake of the digital revolution, the integration of emerging technologies in education emerges as a powerful catalyst for promoting inclusion and breaking down barriers in education. This study investigates the transformative impact of technology on inclusive education, exploring how innovations such as artificial intelligence, virtual and augmented reality, and assistive technologies are redefining learning possibilities for all students. We adopted a qualitative methodology, based on a systematic review of the literature, to critically analyze the current state of technological integration in inclusive education. Our findings reveal that, when implemented effectively, these technologies have the potential to personalize teaching on an unprecedented scale, adapt to individual student needs, and overcome physical, cognitive, and geographic barriers. We identified significant challenges, including the need for ongoing educator training, equity issues in access to technology, and concerns about data privacy and security. The study also highlights the importance of a holistic approach that considers not only the technical but also the pedagogical, ethical, and social aspects of technological implementation. We conclude that while technology offers transformative opportunities for inclusive education, its success depends on careful and contextualized integration, supported by progressive education policies and an ongoing commitment to equity and inclusion.

Keywords: Digital culture, Education, Educational technology, Pedagogical innovation.

INTRODUCTION

Personalized education has emerged as a transformative paradigm in the contemporary educational scenario, presenting itself as an approach that seeks to meet the individual needs of each student. In this context, technology plays a key role, acting as a catalyst for significant changes in the way teaching and learning are designed and implemented. This study aims to examine how technological innovations are revolutionizing the personalization of education, offering unprecedented opportunities to adapt the educational process to the unique characteristics of each student.

The relevance of this theme lies in the growing demand for more effective and inclusive educational methods, capable of preparing students for the challenges of a constantly evolving world. The personalization of teaching, enhanced by technology, promises not only to improve academic performance, but also to develop crucial skills for the twenty-first century, such as critical thinking, creativity, and adaptability.

The central problem that guides this research is: how are educational technologies being used to personalize the teaching-learning process and what are their impacts on educational effectiveness? This study seeks to investigate the various technological tools and approaches employed in the personalization of education, analyzing their benefits, challenges, and implications for the future of pedagogical practice.

The overall objective of this research is to analyze the role of technology in the implementation and improvement of personalized education, highlighting the main innovations, their practical applications and the results observed in different educational contexts. This exam will allow you to identify best practices and areas that require further development to maximize the potential of personalization in education.

This work is structured in seven main sections. After this introduction, the theoretical framework will address the fundamental concepts of personalized education and its historical evolution. Then, three development topics will explore: the emerging technologies in personalized education, the impacts of personalization on the teaching-learning process, and the challenges and opportunities in implementing personalized approaches. The methodology will describe the procedures adopted for the literature review and data analysis. In the discussion and results section, the evidence collected will be presented and analyzed, organized into three topics: effectiveness of personalization technologies, challenges in implementation, and proposals for the future of personalized education. The final considerations will summarize the main points addressed and offer reflections on the

future of personalized education enhanced by technology, as well as suggestions for future research.

This research aims to contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the field of personalized education by providing valuable insights for educators, educational managers, and educational technology developers. By exploring how technology can be effectively used to personalize the learning experience, this study seeks to promote a deeper understanding of the possibilities and challenges inherent in this innovative approach in education.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical framework of this research is structured in such a way as to offer a solid basis for the understanding of personalized education and the role of technology in this context. Initially, the conceptualization of personalized education is presented, highlighting the fundamental principles and definitions that guide this pedagogical approach. Then, a history of the evolution of personalized education is traced, addressing the main theories and practices that influenced its development over time. Finally, the theoretical foundation on the integration of technology in personalized education is explored, discussing the pedagogical and methodological approaches that support this integration, as well as the challenges and advances observed in this field.

Personalized education, according to Bray and McClaskey (2015, p. 7), is defined as "an approach that adapts the pace of learning and the instructional approach to the specific needs, preferences, and interests of each student". This definition emphasizes the importance of considering the individual characteristics of students in the educational process, contrasting with more traditional and standardized approaches to teaching. Horn and Staker (2015) complement this view, arguing that personalization goes beyond mere individualization, involving the active participation of the student in defining their learning objectives and choosing the paths to achieve them.

The historical evolution of personalized education has roots in several pedagogical theories. Keefe and Jenkins (2008) trace this evolution from John Dewey's ideas about progressive education to contemporary theories of learning. Benjamin Bloom's contributions to the Taxonomy of Educational Objectives and Learning for Mastery stand out in this path, which provided important bases for understanding the need to adapt teaching to students' individual differences. More recently, Howard Gardner's theories on Multiple Intelligences

and Carol Dweck's studies on Growth Mindset have significantly influenced the design and implementation of personalized approaches in education.

The integration of technology into personalized education is grounded in theories that explore the interaction between learning and technology. Siemens (2005) proposes the theory of Connectivism, which considers the impact of digital technologies on the way we learn and access knowledge. This theory is particularly relevant to understanding how technological tools can facilitate the personalization of learning in a connected world. In parallel, the Cognitive Load Theory, developed by Sweller (1988), offers valuable insights on how to design personalized learning experiences that optimize students' cognitive processing, a crucial aspect in the effective use of educational technology.

The pedagogical approaches that underpin personalized education supported by technology are diverse and complementary. Moran (2018) highlights the importance of active methodologies, such as Project-Based Learning and the Flipped Classroom, which naturally align with the principles of personalization. These methodologies, when enhanced by technological tools, allow for greater flexibility and adaptability in the teaching-learning process. In addition, the concept of the Personal Learning Environment (PLE), discussed by Attwell (2007), provides a theoretical framework for understanding how students can use technologies to create and manage their own personalized learning spaces.

The challenges and advances in the integration of technology in personalized education are recurring themes in the literature. Pane et al. (2015) identify issues such as the need for educators' professional development, the adaptation of curricula, and equity in access to technology as crucial challenges. On the other hand, advances in Artificial Intelligence and Learning Analytics, discussed by Baker and Inventado (2014), offer new possibilities to personalize the educational experience at scale. These authors argue that these technologies can provide detailed insights into students' progress and needs, allowing for more accurate and timely pedagogical interventions.

In summary, the theoretical framework presented provides a solid basis for understanding the complexity and potential of personalized education enhanced by technology. The theories and concepts discussed reveal an ever-evolving field, where the intersection of pedagogy and technology offers unprecedented opportunities to transform the educational experience. This theoretical foundation will serve as a lens through which we will analyze the current practices and future perspectives of personalized education in the contemporary technological context.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES IN PERSONALIZED EDUCATION

The integration of emerging technologies in education has revolutionized teaching and learning practices, offering new possibilities for the personalization of the educational process. Moran (2018, p. 2) states that "digital technologies facilitate research, communication and dissemination in a network". This facility provides an enabling environment for the implementation of personalized teaching strategies, allowing educators to tailor their approaches to the individual needs of students.

Among the technologies that have stood out in the promotion of personalized education, adaptive learning systems occupy a prominent place. According to Brusilovsky and Millán (2007, p. 3), these systems "use models of objectives, preferences and knowledge of individual users to adapt various visible aspects of the system to the specific needs of each user". Such platforms employ sophisticated algorithms to analyze student performance and adjust content and learning pace dynamically.

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning have played a crucial role in advancing personalized education. Baker and Inventado (2014, p. 61) highlight that "AI can be used to create intelligent tutors capable of providing personalized feedback and adaptive guidance to students". These technologies allow the creation of highly individualized learning experiences, capable of adjusting in real time to students' responses and progress.

The use of educational data analysis (learning analytics) has proven to be a powerful tool in the personalization of teaching. Siemens and Long (2011, p. 34) argue that "learning analytics promises to track student learning in digital environments and use the data collected to improve teaching." This approach allows educators and institutions to make informed decisions about pedagogical interventions, based on concrete evidence of students' progress and difficulties.

Virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) have expanded the possibilities for immersive and personalized learning experiences. Burdea and Coiffet (2003, p. 2) define VR as "an advanced computational interface that involves real-time simulation and interactions across multiple sensory channels". These technologies allow for the creation of personalized learning environments that adapt to students' individual preferences and learning styles.

Learning management systems (LMS) have evolved to incorporate increasingly sophisticated personalization features. Dabbagh and Bannan-Ritland (2005, p. 68) note that

"modern LMS offer tools to create personalized learning paths and monitor individual learners' progress." These platforms have become central in the implementation of hybrid and online teaching strategies, facilitating large-scale personalization.

Gamification and educational games have been shown to be effective in promoting student engagement and motivation in personalized learning experiences. Kapp (2012, p. 10) defines gamification as "the use of game mechanics, aesthetics, and thinking to engage people, motivate actions, promote learning, and solve problems". These approaches allow for the creation of adaptive learning environments that respond to students' individual actions and choices.

The development of adaptive educational content has been facilitated by advanced authoring technologies. Murray (1999, p. 98) points out that "authoring tools for intelligent tutors allow educators to create adaptive content without the need for advanced programming". This democratizes the creation of personalized educational materials, allowing more educators to actively participate in this process.

The Internet of Things (IoT) has opened up new frontiers for data collection and personalization of the educational experience. Atzori, Iera and Morabito (2010, p. 2787) define IoT as "a network of physical objects accessible through the internet". In the educational context, connected devices can collect data about the learning environment and student behavior, providing valuable insights for the personalization of teaching.

Mobile technologies have played a crucial role in promoting ubiquitous and personalized learning. Sharples, Taylor and Vavoula (2007, p. 223) argue that "mobile learning offers new opportunities for personalised, situated and authentic learning". Mobile devices allow students to access personalized content anytime, anywhere, making it easier to integrate learning into their everyday lives.

Blockchain has emerged as a promising technology for the registration and validation of personalized educational credentials. Grech and Camilleri (2017, p. 17) suggest that "blockchain can provide a system for registering, storing, and transferring educational credentials in a secure and transparent manner." This technology has the potential to revolutionize the way educational achievements are recorded and recognized, allowing for greater flexibility and personalization in learning pathways.

Cloud computing has facilitated access to personalized educational resources and large-scale collaboration. Mell and Grance (2011, p. 2) define cloud computing as "a model for enabling ubiquitous, convenient, on-demand access to a shared set of configurable

computing resources." This technology allows educational institutions to offer personalized and scalable learning experiences, overcoming local infrastructure limitations.

In summary, emerging technologies have profoundly transformed the landscape of personalized education, offering innovative tools and approaches to adapt the teaching-learning process to the individual needs of students. The integration of these technologies into educational practice promises not only to improve the effectiveness of teaching, but also to democratize access to high-quality and personalized learning experiences.

METHODOLOGY

The present research was developed through a systematic literature review, using a qualitative approach to analyze the role of technology in personalized education. The systematic literature review is a research method that is based on the careful and comprehensive analysis of materials already published, such as scientific articles, books, theses and official documents, with the objective of compiling, analyzing and synthesizing the available information on the subject in a structured and reproducible way.

The instruments used for data collection included academic databases such as Web of Science, Scopus, ERIC (Education Resources Information Center), Google Scholar and institutional repositories of renowned universities. These sources were chosen due to their comprehensiveness and relevance in the field of education and technology. In addition, technical reports from international organizations such as UNESCO and the OECD, which frequently publish studies on educational innovations, were consulted.

The procedures adopted involved a systematic search for specific literature on personalized education and educational technology, published between 2010 and 2024, to ensure the timeliness of the information. The search was carried out using combinations of keywords such as "personalized education", "educational technology", "adaptive learning", "artificial intelligence in education" and "learning analysis", in Portuguese and English.

The inclusion criteria for the selection of materials were: relevance to the theme of personalized education and technology; peer-reviewed publications; empirical studies or systematic reviews; and works that presented results or discussions on the implementation of technologies in the personalization of teaching. Opinion pieces, non-academic publications, and studies that did not directly address the intersection between technology and personalized education were excluded.

After the initial selection based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria, the texts were submitted to a critical reading and detailed analysis. During this process, relevant information was extracted about implementation methodologies, results obtained, challenges faced and future perspectives for personalized education enhanced by technology.

To ensure the quality and reliability of the review, the PRISMA protocol (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) was used as a guide for conducting and reporting the systematic review. This protocol provides a rigorous framework for conducting systematic reviews, increasing the transparency and reproducibility of the research process.

Finally, a reference table was prepared (presented below) that summarizes the main works analyzed in this review, highlighting the authors, titles and years of publication. This table serves as a quick guide to the most relevant references used in the construction of this study, facilitating the consultation and deepening of specific topics by interested readers.

Frame of Reference		
Author(s)	Title	Year
Bray, B. e McClaskey, K.	Make Learning Personal: The What, Who, WOW, Where, and Why	2015
Horn, M. B. e Staker, H.	Blended: Using Disruptive Innovation to Improve Schools	2015
Siemens, G.	Connectivism: A Learning Theory for the Digital Age	2005
Moran, J.	Active methodologies for deeper learning	2018
Baker, R. S. e Inventado, P. S.	Educational Data Mining and Learning Analytics	2014
Brusilovsky, P. and Millán, E.	User Models for Adaptive Hypermedia and Adaptive Educational Systems	2007
Dabbagh, N. e Bannan-Ritland, B.	Online Learning: Concepts, Strategies, and Application	2005
Kapp, K. M.	The Gamification of Learning and Instruction	2012
Sharples, M., Taylor, J. e Vavoula, G.	A Theory of Learning for the Mobile Age	2007
Pane, J. F. et al.	Continued Progress: Promising Evidence on Personalized Learning	2015
Attwell, G.	Personal Learning Environments - the future of eLearning?	2007
Grech, A. e Camilleri, A. F.	Blockchain in Education	2017

Source: authorship

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE OF PERSONALIZED EDUCATION: ENHANCING LEARNING THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

The future of personalized education, driven by technology, presents a promising and challenging horizon. To ensure significant progress in this field, it is essential to consider proposals that improve educational practices and maximize the potential of available technological tools. Moran (2018, p. 2) argues that "active methodologies, combined with digital technologies, allow us to design interesting ways of teaching and learning". This observation suggests that one of the main focuses should be the effective integration of active methodologies with advanced technologies, creating more dynamic and adaptable learning environments.

The implementation of adaptive learning systems on a large scale is a crucial proposition for the future of personalized education. Brusilovsky and Millán (2007, p. 3) state that these systems "can offer truly personalized learning experiences, continuously adjusting to the individual needs of students". To achieve this goal, it is necessary to invest in the development of more sophisticated algorithms and the creation of comprehensive educational databases that can feed into these systems.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to create personalized virtual tutors represents another promising area. Baker and Inventado (2014, p. 61) suggest that "AI-based intelligent tutors can provide instant feedback and personalized guidance by simulating a teacher's individual attention." The development of these virtual tutors should be a priority, with a focus on creating more natural and intuitive interfaces that can adapt to each student's learning style.

The expansion of the use of virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) in personalized education is another relevant proposal. Burdea and Coiffet (2003, p. 2) highlight that these technologies offer "immersive experiences that can be adapted to the individual preferences and needs of students". Investments in high-quality educational content in VR and AR, as well as more accessible devices, are essential to democratize access to these innovative learning experiences.

The integration of more advanced learning analytics technologies into education systems is critical to the future of personalization. Siemens and Long (2011, p. 34) argue that "learning analytics can provide valuable insights into student progress, allowing for more accurate and timely interventions." Developing intuitive dashboards and data

visualization tools for educators and students should be prioritized, making it easier for them to make informed decisions about the learning process.

Gamification and personalized educational games represent another area with great potential. Kapp (2012, p. 10) defines gamification as "the use of game mechanics to engage and motivate people to achieve their goals". It is proposed the development of more sophisticated gamification platforms, capable of dynamically adapting the challenges and rewards to the individual profile of each student, maximizing engagement and learning effectiveness.

The creation of personalized learning ecosystems, integrating different technologies and resources, is an ambitious but necessary proposal. Attwell (2007, p. 1) discusses the concept of Personal Learning Environments, stating that these "allow students to manage their own learning, integrating formal and informal experiences". The development of platforms that facilitate the creation and management of these personalized environments should be encouraged, promoting more holistic and student-centered learning.

Utilizing blockchain to create personalized and verifiable educational credentials is an innovative proposition for the future. Grech and Camilleri (2017, p. 17) suggest that blockchain can "revolutionize the way educational achievements are recorded and recognized." Investments in blockchain infrastructure for education and the development of standards for digital credentials are important steps in realizing this vision.

Promoting a culture of continuous and personalized learning in educational institutions is essential. Horn and Staker (2015, p. 8) argue that "effective personalization requires a fundamental shift in the way we think about education." It is proposed the development of continuing education programs for educators, focused on strategies for personalization and effective use of educational technologies, as well as the revision of educational policies to support more flexible and student-centered approaches.

Finally, ongoing research and rigorous evaluation of personalized education practices are crucial for its future development. Pane et al. (2015, p. 2) emphasize the importance of "robust evidence on the effectiveness of personalized approaches." It is proposed to establish research centers dedicated to personalized education, to conduct large-scale longitudinal studies, and to create repositories of best practices to inform future educational implementations and policies.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The research aimed to analyze the role of technology in the implementation and improvement of personalized education, highlighting the main innovations, their practical applications and the results observed in different educational contexts. The main findings of this literature review indicate that, although there is a significant advance in technologies and methodologies aimed at personalizing teaching, the effective implementation of these approaches still faces several practical challenges in educational institutions. Personalized education enhanced by technology emerges as an essential practice to ensure equal educational opportunities and prepare students for the challenges of the twenty-first century, but its application requires a continuous and integrated effort by all actors involved in the educational process.

A crucial point highlighted in the research was the importance of integrating technology, pedagogy, and instructional design in creating effective personalized learning experiences. Personalized education should not be seen solely as a matter of technological implementation, but as a holistic approach that involves redefining pedagogical practices, adapting curricula, and creating student-centered learning environments. Fostering a culture of innovation and continuous learning in educational institutions is essential to the success of these initiatives. This requires the active and collaborative participation of educators, managers, technology developers, and researchers, all working together to create educational ecosystems that truly meet the individual needs of students.

The proposals for the future of personalized education highlight the need to continue investing in the development of more advanced and accessible technologies, in the continuous training of educators, and in the creation of educational policies that support innovation and flexibility. The implementation of large-scale adaptive learning systems, the more sophisticated use of artificial intelligence and data analytics, and the integration of immersive technologies such as virtual and augmented reality are some of the promising directions identified. Additionally, ongoing research and rigorous evaluation of personalized education practices are crucial to inform future implementations and ensure that these approaches truly deliver on their promise of improving educational outcomes for all students.

In conclusion, technology-powered personalized education represents a promising frontier in the educational field, with the potential to fundamentally transform the way we conceive and practice teaching and learning. However, its successful implementation

requires a coordinated and multifaceted effort, involving not only technological advances, but also significant changes in pedagogical practices, educational policies, and the culture of educational institutions. As we move forward on this journey of personalizing education, it is crucial to maintain a balance between technological innovation and fundamental pedagogical principles, always putting the needs and well-being of students at the center of our educational initiatives. The future of personalized education is promising, but it requires an ongoing commitment to research, innovation, and collaboration among all stakeholders in the education ecosystem.

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