What is E-learning?  
First and foremost, e-Learning refers to formal and non-formal education that uses electronic delivery methods such as internet-based learning delivery packages, CD-ROM, online video conferencing, websites or email to manage the relationship between teacher and learners. Also, it is a term covering a wide set of applications and processes, such as web-based learning, computer-based learning, virtual classrooms, and digital collaboration. It includes the delivery of content via Internet, intranet/extranet (LAN/WAN), audio- and videotape, satellite broadcast, interactive TV, CD-ROM, and more.

(Cited from <http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/series/2531/54560/2> and <http://www.uen.org/core/edtech/glossary.shtml>)

Who use E-learning?

You might wonder if you're an anomaly when it comes to choosing online education and training to further your skills, earn a degree, get some continuing professional education, or simply learn something new. In fact, you're part of a growing trend among learners who are turning to the internet to for all of these things. Both men and women use online education and training and they come from all age groups, but especially older adults, according to a study done by Les Burr, deputy director of student services at Charles Sturt University (CSU), a university in New South Wales, Australia. Burr found that as people age, they tend to use the internet more as a source of education. People in the over 50 age group participated more than others, while women were more apt to participate in online discussion groups, regardless of whether they live in an urban or rural environment. The under-20 set is heavily engaged in full-time education now and the trend is growing. International Data Corporation reports that enrollments in online courses are growing at 33 percent a year and will continue to climb. Another study by the same company indicates that corporate America is turning to e-learning evermore as a major source of education and training. So you're not alone - in fact you're part of a growing family of learners worldwide that see e-learning as a viable, attractive way to get the education they need.. In summary, students, teachers, parents, administrators or as long as you have a electronic device with internet connection, the person probably use the E-learning.

(Cited from <http://www.worldwidelearn.com/education-articles/who-uses-online-learning.htm>)

Why use E-learning?

Technology can help your students learn more effectively and can improve your efficiency.  This website’s aim is to help support you in your use of e-learning at the College. Many students will already be used to accessing information via mobile phones and the web.  At school they will have been taught using interactive whiteboards and games. E-learning engages younger students and can help you meet the needs of your students’ varied learning styles. However, e-learning is not just for the young. Mature students also benefit from e-learning. The use of it can help them fit studying into their busy work and family lives and will allow them to work at their own pace. For students with disabilities, e-learning can be particularly beneficial and liberating. With a bit of forethought it is relatively simple to ensure that e-resources can be made accessible to students with visual impairments, dyslexia and motor injuries.

(Cited from <http://www.don.ac.uk/mini_sites/e-learning/e-learning_support/why_use_e-learning.aspx>)

What are the advantages and disadvantages of using E-learning?

Advantages of e-Learning

* Class work can be scheduled around personal and professional work
* Reduces travel cost and time to and from school
* Learners may have the option to select learning materials that meets their level of knowledge and interest
* Learners can study wherever they have access to a computer and Internet
* Self-paced learning modules allow learners to work at their own pace
* Flexibility to join discussions in the bulletin board threaded discussion areas at any hour, or visit with classmates and instructors remotely in chat rooms
* Different learning styles are addressed and facilitation of learning occurs through varied activities
* Development of computer and Internet skills that are transferable to other facets of learner's lives
* Successfully completing online or computer-based courses builds self-knowledge and self-confidence and encourages students to take responsibility for their learning

Disadvantages of e-Learning

* Unmotivated learners or those with poor study habits may fall behind
* Lack of familiar structure and routine may take getting used to
* Students may feel isolated or miss social interaction
* Instructor may not always be available on demand
* Slow or unreliable Internet connections can be frustrating
* Managing learning software can involve a learning curve
* Some courses such as traditional hands-on courses can be difficult to simulate

Knowing e-learning advantages and disadvantages helps with learning software selection as well as online distance learning programs structure and selection. It is important to know the merits and demerits of e-learning to make a decision..

(Cited from <http://www.about-elearning.com/e-learning-advantages-and-disadvantages.html>)

When to use E-learning?

As the technology gets more affordable and readily available, educational options will continue to expand. For those looking for flexibility due to family and work commitments, e-learning and m-learning may be an option to consider. For organizations and institutions looking to train employees without having to trade-off on productivity, time, cost, or hiring a consultant, this is also an option to consider.

(Cited from <http://ezinearticles.com/?Distance-Education-and-E-Learning---Past,-Present-and-Future&id=792394>)

Where to use E-learning?

**Where Will We Get Content?** If you already face headcount challenges in your organization, you can easily get quality e-learning material from outside your organization. Some colleges and universities can help you integrate their existing classes and curricula into your e-learning initiative. With such high demand for professional development, many solo entrepreneurs and specialty businesses now offer highly customized learning content that can be delivered by videoconference, telephone, or online chat.

**Where Will the Learning Take Place?** When your team members work on their own computers, you can easily integrate e-learning into their daily routines using intranets, e-mail, chat, and other familiar tools. Otherwise, you might consider setting aside a space in your facility where workers can participate in conferences, complete assignments, or hold discussions.

(Cited from <http://www.worldwidelearn.com/elearning-industry/trends.htm>)

How to use E-learning?

**Governments deploy e-learning at all levels.** In addition to the obvious business uses for e-learning, governments around the world have discovered that e-learning programs can dramatically improve the quality of life for citizens while reducing the financial burden on taxpayers. Local schools in underserved rural areas or dangerous urban neighborhoods can rely on e-learning to offset the lack of skilled teachers in their districts. State university systems can keep talented students from crossing borders by importing highly specialized programs from other schools. Governments in developing countries have invested heavily in e-learning programs to build eager, talented, work forces.

(Cited from <http://www.worldwidelearn.com/elearning-industry/trends.htm>)