

# **A Comparative Fit-Gap Analysis of E-Business Curricula vs. Industry Need**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Today, the world economy is marking a quick recovery from Dot-com burst and year-2000 crisis. Many organizations commence to relocate their ICT (information and communication technology) resource to key business functions and try to lever their existing ICT assets. For instance, introducing supply chain management and enterprise resource planning systems to tightly connect the suppliers and consumers. Adopting EAI (Enterprise Application Integration) for integrate distributed systems and developing mobile commerce to touch the end customer, electronic business (e-business) is changing the fundamental ways of how organizations operate.

After the dot-com burst, some researcher found e-business programs has been declining and were challenged as old wine in new bottles. Hence, we can no longer use the same skills and do the same tasks in the new economy. E-business is here to stay, the demand for e-business *ategories, e-business skills.*

professionals in industries seems still insatiable.

This study investigates the top business schools in the United States, and top e-business programs in Taiwan to understand the supplies of e-business professionals. On the other hand, it searches the popular job placement sites in the United States and Taiwan to identify the demands for e-business professionals. We then compare our findings with previously researches to discover the rise or fall of e-business programs and the changing skill requirements.

Our findings indicate that the e-skills (e-business skills) become more and more critical regardless of industry types. We also suggest a series of courses to bridge the gaps between the industry and the academia.

*Keywords: E-business curriculum, e-business education, e-business job c*