
Quality and Economic Foundations for Successful Online Graduate Programs

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Today's Topics

1. Economic/Budgetary Aspects
2. Regulatory/Accreditation Issues
3. Assessing Student Learning
4. Faculty Development

Contexts for Viewing Distance Learning

Growth through access beyond campus, state, and national borders

Regulation/accreditation – national, state, regional and professional

Quality, cost and efficiency

Institutional mission, strategy and capacity

Innovation in learning and educational delivery

Career preparation - the medium is the message

Terminology

Online learning can include –

Instruction at a distance with no face-to-face contact

Instruction that is a blend or hybrid of in class and distance

Synchronous and/or asynchronous delivery

Increasingly robust array of internet, communication and digital tools to enhance learning

Selected Reports

Evaluation of Evidence-Based Practices in Online Learning:
A Meta-Analysis and Review of Online Learning Studies
U.S. Department of Education (2009)

Learning on Demand: Online Education in the United States
Sloan Consortium (2009)

The Path Forward: Graduate Education in the United States
CGS and ETS (2010)

Distance Graduate Education. CGS (2012 forthcoming by Joey
Benoit and Charles McClintock)

Selected Bibliographic Sources

Handbook of Online Learning. Rudestam & Schoenholtz-Read Eds. Sage (2010)

Cases on Distance Delivery and Learning Outcomes: Emerging Trends and Programs. Gearhart Ed. IGI Global (2010)

The Excellent Online Instructor: Strategies for Professional Development. Palloff and Pratt. Jossey-Bass (2011)

Change.edu: Rebooting For The New Talent Economy. Andrew S. Rosen (2011)

Selected Conference Resources

Jossey Bass Online Teaching and Learning Conference

Annual online three day event on online teaching and learning and includes interactive online sessions, discussions, hands-on learning, strategy swapping, and networking.

Wisconsin Distance Teaching and Learning Conference

A wide spectrum of professionals in distance education from all regions of the United States and other countries.

Sloan-C Conference on Asynchronous Learning Networks

Annual conference includes an online component brings together practitioners and researchers, administrators, instructional designers, faculty developers, library and support people, instructors, and students

Selected Online Academic Consortia

Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance

Founded in 1994 with resources of 11 major research universities to sponsor graduate coursework and programs in high-demand professional fields.

Instructional Technology Council

Focuses on best practices in learning technology primarily two and four year institutions but with resources that are relevant to graduate education.

Western Governor's University

An online university driven by a mission to expand access to higher education through Online degree programs in fields of health, business, education, information technology, serving almost 29,000 students from all 50 states.

Selected Online Learning Associations

US Distance Learning Associations

The Distance and Education Training Council (DETC) is a clearinghouse for the distance study/correspondence field.

United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) distance learning in higher education, continuing education, corporate training, and military and government training.

ADEC Distance Learning Consortium is an international consortium of state and land grant institutions providing economic distance education programs.

Federal Government Distributed Learning Association (FGDLA) focuses on education and training within the federal government.

State Distance Learning Associations – All states have distance education associations.

Most Common Degree Fields

Education

Business and Management

Health and Public Safety Professions

Information Technology

Psychology and Counseling

Public Policy and Administration

Law and Legal Studies

Other Social and Behavioral Sciences

What about -

Humanities

Physical & Natural Sciences, Engineering, Medicine where lab or practicum work is integral