

DISTANCE LEARNING FIVE-YEAR VISION

The Distance Learning Department consists of faculty and staff dedicated to the delivery of Kirkwood Telecommunications System and Anytime/Anywhere courses that are of outstanding quality.

Shared Vision

- To be a national leader in the delivery of distance learning courses and programs.
- To develop new and revised alternative delivery courses and support services
- To recruit and develop quality faculty and informed students.

Major Initiatives

Continuous improvement and expansion of Distance Learning courses and services.

- Implement AT/AW course instructional design and assessment components
- Recruit more full-time/adjunct faculty to teach distance learning courses
- Improve scheduling flexibility for KTS courses
- Offer more WebCT enhanced KTS courses
- Expand marketing of distance learning courses/programs
 - Promote online degrees/programs/courses
 - Provide a balanced offering of KTS, internet and packet (correspondence) courses
- Make AT/AW course materials available in the bookstore
- Decrease paper dependency
- Encourage online testing

Promote comprehensive technology training for faculty, staff and students.

- Offer faculty training and promote use of:
 - Colleague
 - WebCT
 - Online testing
 - Faculty websites
 - E-pacs
 - Other technology
- Develop online orientation for AT/AW students
- Develop check lists for technology users
- Improve training/orientation for KTS and AT/AW faculty
- Effectively utilize resources from text book publishers
- Increase instructional design resources
- Encourage instructor websites and WebCT usage by adjuncts
- Develop a more comprehensive distance learning website
- Incorporate online forums, chat rooms & streaming video into distance learning courses
- Explore expanding course formats to include hybrid courses.

Improve AT/AW student success

- Require self assessments for AT/AW students prior to registrations
- Utilize a more consistent format for AT/AW courses
- Collaborate with other departments to provide a 24/7 student help desk
- Expand collection of student/faculty success data and research
- Develop Best Practices for AT/AW courses and support services
- Offer an orientation course for online students prior to registration
- Develop comprehensive AT/AW course assessments
- Present course syllabi online at registration time

Capacity

In order to provide the above stated initiatives, the Distance Learning Department will need to have access to the following resources:

1) Infrastructure

- Upgrade KTS technology- master control and classrooms
 - Convert Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS) to two-way video
 - Explore the need for additional KTS classrooms
- Digital technology

2) Personnel

- Recruit more full-time/adjunct faculty to teach in the department
- Expand curriculum and instructional design training
- Additional staff to support technology

Ownership

The team showed a strong sense of ownership during our visioning process. The distance learning team is committed to the delivery of quality programs, courses and services to our constituents.

Support

The team has committed itself to working together with the Instruction Branch, Off-Campus Centers, KTS Operations and Information Technology teams to achieve these initiatives.

Dashboard Indicators

- Number of AT/AW and KTS courses
- Credit hours generated by the department
- Student feedback from course assessments
- Reduced class interruptions due to technical problems
- Number of KTS courses that are two-way audio/video
- Average class size
- Number of internet courses that are WebCT based
- Percent of courses taught by full-time vs. adjunct faculty
- Student success rate (from grade distribution reports)