

DISTANCE LEARNING MCC utilizes instructional technology tools to develop alternative distance learning programming to increase access to education, to provide flexibility in scheduling to accommodate diverse needs, and to expose students to many different ways to pursue lifelong learning.

APPLICABILITY Faculty and students.

DEFINITIONS Definitions from the *Higher Learning Commission*.

- Distance-delivered courses are those in which 75% or more of the instruction and interaction occurs via electronic communication, correspondence, or equivalent mechanisms, with the faculty and students physically separated from each other.
- Distance-delivered programs are those certificate or degree programs in which 50% or more of the required courses may be taken as distance-delivered courses.
- Distance education is that which uses one or more of the technologies listed below to deliver instruction to students who are separated from the instructor and to support regular and substantive interaction between the students and the instructor, either synchronously or asynchronously. The technologies may include:
 1. The internet.
 2. One-way and two-way transmissions through open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, broadband lines, fiber optics, satellite or wireless communications devices.
 3. Audio conferencing.
 4. Video cassettes, DVDs and CD-ROMs, if the cassettes, DVDs or CD-ROMs are used in a course in conjunction with any of the technologies listed above.
- Hybrid courses combine online content, activities and interaction with in-person classes. Online instructional activities and interaction comprise 50% of the course, and in-person 50% of range may deviate between 25% and 75% for pedagogical reasons. (Note: These percentages are exclusive of the normal classwork/homework assigned in traditional classes.)
- Correspondence education is not distance education. Correspondence education is that which is provided through one or more courses by an institution under

which the institution provides instructional materials by mail or electronic transmission, including examinations on the materials, to students who are separated from the instructor. Interaction between the instructor and the student is limited, is not regular and substantive, and is primarily initiated by the student. Correspondence courses are typically self-paced. MCC is not accredited to offer correspondence education.

STANDARDS

MCC will adhere to the standards for offering distance learning programs and courses adopted by the Higher Learning Commission and Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education. Distance learning programs and courses will fulfill the same objectives, meet the same outcomes, and be assessed with the same rigor as comparable traditional programs and courses.

POLICY
MODIFICATIONS

This policy may be modified or revoked at any time at the sole discretion of MCC's Board of Trustees.

REFERENCE

6.10070 DP Distance Learning