

Western Kentucky University  
College of Education and Behavioral Sciences  
Instructional Design Program

**ID 585 Distance Education Opportunities and Challenges  
Summer 2022 (7/5 – 7/29)**

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**Note: All times indicated in this syllabus and the course site refer to Central Time Zone.**

### **Course Web Site**

This is a web-based course supported by WKU’s Blackboard course management system. Login with your NetID and password at <https://blackboard.wku.edu>. ID 585 will show in your course list.

### **Course Description**

This course is important for learning about the opportunities and challenges in distance education. This course is relevant to your development as an instructional designer in distance environments given the increasing demand for quality distance education opportunities.

### **Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify various synchronous and asynchronous distance education technologies and distance learning models and their appropriate application within various settings.
- Identify major characteristics, concepts, trends, and issues of distance education.
- Synthesize the use of various technologies used in distance education historically and currently.
- Utilize professional journals and resources in the area of distance education in order to remain current with emerging trends and technologies.
- Evaluate distance education programs and distance delivery systems both from a learner standpoint and from that of an institution or distance education provider.

## **Class Activities**

In the class activities and discussions, we will apply the theories and concepts covered in the readings to practical situations or expand on them with examples. You are expected to have read required requirements prior to or while participating in the required class discussions and activities. Your active participation is essential for facilitating your own understanding of the course material and for building an effective learning community in class.

## **Materials and Technology Requirements**

### **Required textbook**

Simonson, M., Smaldino, S., Albright, M., & Zvacek, S. (2014). Teaching and learning at a distance: Foundations of distance education. 6<sup>th</sup> ed., Allyn & Bacon/Pearson.

### **Additional readings**

will be provided online in the course site.

## **Course Requirements**

You are expected to complete and reflect upon the required readings, attend and participate in class on a daily basis. Your grade will be based on a variety of assessments. Specific details for each assignment will be posted electronically to Blackboard.

## **Grading Scale**

Grading is based on points earned. The following scale represents how points will be allocated towards a letter grade.

A=90-100%
B= 80-89%
C= 70-70%
D= 60-69%
F= < 60%

Don't start assignments the night before they're due- leave time to ask questions in case they arise. Also leave time to deal with unexpected technology problems. They happen. Should you have a problem, such as a personal emergency, that will affect your ability to turn in an assignment, please contact the instructor ASAP. Communication is important.

## **Professionalism**

Your professionalism will be evaluated based on your preparation/participation in the class and collaboration with your peers. Make sure you read the assigned chapters and materials, submit your assignments on time, and be professional in your communication with the instructor and peer students. Grades for work submitted late, without an instructor-approved excuse, will be lowered by 5% per day for each day late.

## Emailing your Instructor

Email is a timely way to communicate. I usually check my e-mail daily (excluding weekends) and will respond if possible within 24 hours. When you email me, please:

1. Use the following format in the subject line: **ID585, LastName, Topic**.
2. Make sure that when you reply to any message, it will include the original message. This helps us to see our ongoing conversations.
3. Some questions cannot be best answered in an e-mail, please in that case schedule an office appointment or make a phone call.

## Course Disposition Statements:

(Disposition means natural tendency, emotional constitution of the mind, inclination, or propensity.) These are the WKU College of Education and Behavioral Science's new disposition statements.

Level 1		Level 2	
Indicator	Description of Target Level 5	Indicator	Description of Target Level 5
<b>a. Values learning: Attendance</b>	Consistently attends class and is on time. Usually notifies instructor in advance and arranges to meet instructor following a missed class. Usually gives reason for planned absence.	<b>g. Values diversity</b>	Willingly works with others from different ability, race, gender, or ethnic groups. Welcomes feedback and interaction with others. Listens carefully to others and respects the views of those perceived as different from self.
<b>b. Values learning: Class participation</b>	Actively engaged and interested in the class activities. Volunteers to respond to questions. Participates in discussions.	<b>h. Values collaboration</b>	Actively seeks out and incorporates ideas of others. Willingly works with others to improve the overall environment. Regularly shares information and ideas.
<b>c. Values learning: Class preparation</b>	Work is completed with attention to detail, is sequential, and is logical. Shows evidence of thoughtful analysis of the assignment. Work shows that adequate time and planning were allocated. Consistently comes to class well prepared.	<b>i. Values professionalism: Respect for school rules, policies, and norms</b>	Knows school rules and policies. Follows them consistently. Understands the purpose of regulations and respects their intent. Accepts responsibility for personally following them in patterns of dress, behavior, etc.
<b>d. Values learning: Communication</b>	Uses correct grammar in oral and/or written communication. Communication is free of offensive or inappropriate language. Uses language to express ideas very effectively regardless of the age of the listener.	<b>j. Values professionalism: Commitment to self-reflection and growth</b>	Recognizes personal limitations and strengths and uses them to best professional advantage. Actively seeks suggestions and constructive criticism. Regularly practices critical thinking. Regularly engages in learning through self-reflection.
<b>e. Values personal integrity: Emotional control</b>	Displays steady emotional temperament. Is receptive to viewpoints of others and their suggestions. Holds self accountable for emotions and behaviors. Displays a sense of humor and/or willingness to get along with others.	<b>k. Values professionalism: Professional development and involvement</b>	Regularly and actively participates in professional activities or events that promote professional development. Makes use of information from professional organizations, professional publications, and educational resources.
<b>f. Values personal integrity: Ethical behavior</b>	Is honest in dealing with others. Puts truth above personal need or advantage. Always dependable in terms of keeping personal and professional confidences. Can be counted on to follow through and keep word. Shows self to be a person of strong character.	<b>l. Values professionalism: Professional responsibility</b>	Accepts responsibility for own actions and for helping all students learn and actively seeks self-improvement. Consistently holds high expectations for the success of all students. Consistently looks to explain and remedy student lack of success by factors within the control of self.

## Academic Integrity

To represent work for course assignments or projects taken from another source (**INCLUDING WEB SOURCES**) as one's own is Plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense at WKU. The academic work of a student must give an author credit for borrowed sources material from his/her material. TO life content directly from a source [**INCLUDING THE INTERNET**] without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism. **Plagiarism also includes submission for the same assignment for more than one class.** Student work may be checked by plagiarism detection software. Plagiarism could result in a grade of an "F" for the assignment and/or the course.

## Technology

If you have difficulties accessing Blackboard you should contact WKU Technical Support at 270-745-7000 or go to <http://www.wku.edu/it/helpdesk/> to submit an online help request.

## Disability Accommodations Statement

"Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustment and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, Room 445, Potter hall. The Office for Student Disability Services (OFSDS) telephone number is 270-745-5004. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the OFSDS."

## Writing Center Assistance

The Writing Center is located in Cherry Hall 123 on the Bowling Green campus and also offers online consultations for students who live at a distance or who cannot visit during the operating hours. The writing tutors have been trained to provide helpful feedback to students at all phases of a writing project: they can help you brainstorm ideas, structure your essay, clarify your purpose, strengthen your support, and edit for clarity and correctness. But they will not revise or edit the paper for you. See instructions of the website [www.wku.edu/writingcenter](http://www.wku.edu/writingcenter) for making online or face-to-face appointments. Or call (270) 745-5719 during the operating hours for help scheduling an appointment.

## WKU Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement

*Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and*

*Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at [https://wku.edu/policies/hr\\_policies/2040\\_discrimination\\_harassment\\_policy.pdf](https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf).*

*Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment*

*and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.*

*Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.*

### **WKU ADA Accommodation Statement**

*In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at [sarc.connect@wku.edu](mailto:sarc.connect@wku.edu) . Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.*

### **Special Notes**

More details about the course will be provided at the start of the class. The instructor reserves the right to modify the course as deemed appropriate or necessary.

### **Acknowledgement**

The structure and content of this course was based on a similar course taught by Dr. Allan Jeong at Florida State University. My sincere thanks to Dr. Jeong for his willingness to share his course content.