



U.S. INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Serving students since 2001

Owned and Operated by Teachers

with 25 years of experience in Teaching and Administration

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Distance Education

As the school's mission states: "Our distance education program provides the distance learning opportunity for students to achieve their academic goals and educational experience, of equal quality to traditional face-to-face setting, via distance learning".

U,S, International Christian Academy Distance Educational Program is designed and aimed to deliver quality education to students who are not physically "on site" in a traditional brick-and-mortar classroom setting. The Distance Learning program has been described as "a process to create and provide access to learning when the source of information and the learners are separated by time and distance". Our distance learning program provides the distance learning opportunity for students to achieve their academic goals and an educational experience, of equal quality to traditional face-to-face setting, via distance learning. The Distance Learning modality allows a study curriculum for the learner to fulfill their student needs outside the classroom. U. S. International Christian Academy provides Hybrid Distance Education courses requiring a combination of online materials and teleconferencing and online teaching to interact with faculty and advisor. The students learn at their own pace with personalized attention meeting their special needs and learning style. Instructors are also able to send feedback to the student using the internal messaging system, email, coursesite or through the Grade book itself. In this manner, students are up to date with their progress in each course.

The students are able to access all the resources they need for their individual courses. Textbook are provided by the school for each course as well as access codes and passwords. The students also have access to the schools Electronic Library System through the schools website.

The teachers are able to upload video, audio clips, Power Point presentations, films, teleconferencing and other educational resources to enhance their course content.

PowerPoint presentations are used to enhance lectures, virtual labs are used in science courses to illustrate and show detailed information, numerous video and audio clips are used for all courses, as well as illustrative presentations that enable the teacher to communicate more effectively and enhance the teaching objectives being covered in the course. Specific lecture notes are also provided to cover each topic.

Benefits of Distance Education

Distance learning can expand access to education all students. Its flexible scheduling structure lessens the effects of the many time-constraints imposed by personal responsibilities and commitments. There is the potential for increased access to more experts in the field and to other students from diverse geographical, social, cultural, economic, and experiential backgrounds.

Distance education can also provide a broader method of communication within the realm of education. With the many tools and programs that technological advancements have to offer, communication appears to increase in distance education among students and their professors, as well as students and their classmates. The distance educational increase in communication, particularly communication among students and their classmates, is an improvement that has been made to provide distance education students with as many of the opportunities as possible as they would receive in in-person education. The improvement being made in distance education is growing in tandem with the constant technological advancements. By having the opportunity to be involved in global institutions via distance education, a diverse array of thought is presented to students through communication with their classmates. This is beneficial because students have the opportunity to "combine new opinions with their own, and develop a solid foundation for learning.

U.S. International Christian Academy Distance Education may be an alternative in order to provide some relief. Distance education has been a more cost-effective form of learning, and can sometimes save students a significant amount of money as opposed to traditional education. Distance education may be able to help to save students a considerable amount financially by removing the cost of transportation. In addition, distance education may be able to save students from the economic burden of high-priced course textbooks. Many textbooks are now available as electronic textbooks, known as e-textbooks, which can offer digital textbooks for a reduced price in comparison to traditional textbooks.

At U.S. International Christian Academy the students are able to learn in ways that traditional classrooms would not be able to provide. It is able to promote good learning experiences and therefore, allow students to obtain higher satisfaction with their online learning. For example, students can review their lessons more than once according to their need. Students can then manipulate the coursework to fit their learning by focusing more on their weaker topics while breezing through concepts that they already have or can easily grasp. When course design and the learning environment are at their optimal conditions, distance education can lead students to higher satisfaction with their learning experiences. Studies have shown that high satisfaction correlates to increased

learning. Students who are enrolled in distance education with high satisfaction in their online coursework are then motivated intrinsically to learn, which often means that their performance in class will improve. This also may contribute to the students feeling a greater sense of support, since they have ongoing and regular access to their instructors and other students.

Distance learning may enable students who are unable to attend a traditional school setting, due to disability or illness such as decreased mobility. Distance education may provide equal access regardless of socioeconomic status or income, area of residence, gender, race, age, or cost per student. Applying universal design strategies to distance learning courses as they are being developed can increase the accessibility of such courses to students with a range of abilities, disabilities, learning styles, and native languages.

Distance Learning may also offer a final opportunity for adolescences that are no longer permitted in the General Education population due to behavior disorders. Instead of these students having no other academic opportunities, they may continue their education from their homes and earn their diplomas, offering them another chance to be an integral part of society.

PURPOSE DISTANCE EDUCATION

Distance Education and Off-Campus Instructional Sites at U.S. International Christian Academy Purpose is committed to provide quality education to students in all modalities.

Students in enrolled in distance education courses, programs, and/or off-site instruction have access to support services and resources needed to successfully complete their education

Definitions

U.S. International Christian Academy is responsible for the approval of the Distance Education curriculum and has the authority to approve the use and allocation of resources that support these academic functions.

Online course: Credit bearing course where 100% of required course content, activities, and assessments occur online. These courses are conducted via web-based instruction and collaboration.

Organizational Structure:

Academic affairs holds the administrative responsibility for the quality of distance learning programs.