Course Delivery Methods

Central Methodist University delivers course content using different methods, thereby offering students a variety of learning environments.

Delivery Definitions

The following definitions of educational delivery methods are based on the Sloan Consortium's (2010) course classification system. For the purposes of these definitions, synchronous is defined as class instruction and student learning occurring at the same time (for example, in the classroom from 9-9:50 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays); asynchronous is defined as class instruction and student learning occurring at different times (viewing a recorded lecture for the first time three days after it is conducted, for example). Please note that these definitions pertain to the delivery method and not to course content.

- **Traditional course:** 0% of course content delivered online. No online technology is used. Course content is delivered in the classroom. Instructor and student interactions occur face-to-face in the classroom.
- **Web-Facilitated course:** 1-29% of course content delivered online. Web-based technology is used to enhance a face-to-face course. Course materials (handouts, assignments, lecture notes, syllabi) are stored and available to students online in the Learning Management System. Instructor and student interactions occur face-to-face in the classroom.
- **Hybrid/Blended course:** 30-79% of course content delivered online. Instructor and student interactions occur both in the classroom and online. The number of classroom meetings is reduced to a minimum of two meetings for an eight-week course and a minimum of four meetings for a sixteen-week course. All classroom meetings are synchronous.
- **Online course:** 80+% of course content is delivered online. Instructor and student interactions occur online through: discussion, chat, web conferencing, and other activities. Asynchronous class meetings may be conducted using Elluminate; however, there is no requirement for a minimum number of meetings. Students are able to interact with one another and the instructor through the online Learning Management System.

**NOTE:** Online courses are offered through the College of Graduate and Extended Studies. Fayette (CLAS) students who wish to enroll in an online course must obtain the permission of his or her academic advisor and of the Provost. Students should contact their academic advisors for further details. In most cases, CGES undergraduate tuition applies for any CGES undergraduate courses (see current CGES catalog for undergraduate tuition per credit hour). The Provost might waive CGES tuition if a required CLAS course is unavailable on ground in Fayette, if a CGES course alleviates an unavoidable CLAS schedule conflict, and/or if a CGES course is needed for timely graduation. For CLAS Special Education majors, CGES courses are counted in load (as part of the CLAS tuition) since Special Education courses are available only online for both colleges. If the student's Fayette (on-ground CLAS) hours do not total more than 12 hours and if the Provost does not waive a student's CGES tuition for the online course(s), the student will be considered a part-time Fayette (CLAS) student, which will affect the student's financial assistance and athletic/ performance eligibility.

Assessment

Assessment for Central Methodist University's online degree programs happens in a variety of ways. Some course instructors have their tests proctored by an approved person while other instructors use less structured evaluation methods.

Assignments, quality discussion postings and research papers are a large part of most online coursework at Central Methodist University and will most directly affect a student's final grade in any given course.

Proctored Exam Information

A proctored exam is one that is taken under supervision. According to Central Methodist's policy, a proctored exam must be taken at one of our CMU locations or by a pre-approved professional.

Check your online course syllabus to see if your class requires proctored exams.