DL Course Evaluation Summaries for Fall 2006

Overall analysis of student course evaluation summaries as prepared by faculty teaching distance courses. The results were presented to DL Steering Committee members for discussion of distance program improvements, and action as needed.

What went well in Distance Learning Classes

1. Discussions and chat were thought-provoking, engaging and entertaining.
2. Students like the flexible approach. Access from home and other locations with no time constraints.

What was problematic or should be improved

1. Workload in the course.
2. Confusing layout of the course.
3. Some concepts are difficult to grasp without face-to-face sessions.
4. The amount and size of quizzes and assignments.
5. Students need to be more self-disciplined and motivated.
6. Make postings simpler for students sometimes confusing.
7. Personal internet problems.
8. Getting assignments graded and feedback back in a timely manner.
9. Transition from WebCT to WebCT vista.
10. Students needed an orientation session.

Planned changes for future delivery of course, based on students' feedback

1. Add podcast discussions with students.
2. Add live virtual chats with outside experts.
3. Make course objectives more efficient and user-friendly.
4. More discussion board postings.
5. Voice recorded PowerPoint’s.
6. Clearer instructions on the course.
7. Assignments graded more quickly.
8. Post pics and bios of students in the course.

Biggest adjustments required for distance instructors

1. The amount of time involved in teaching online.
2. Constant checking of discussions and e-mail questions.
3. Getting to know the students personally.
4. Checking participation on WebCT.
5. Learning new software and working with new elements in it.

Level of student services, DDEC, and instructor support

1. UWG has an amazing support network for our distance education.
2. Support is excellent students have a positive attitude toward support.
3. Level of support is phenomenal but students need to take advantage of this.
4. Adequate but can always be improved.