DL Course Evaluation Summaries for Summer 2004

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. Convenience of working on their own schedule.
2. Flexibility-saves money on gas and time.
3. Attitude toward online courses increased.
4. Setting aside time to discuss with groups individually.
5. Students loved the variety of instructional materials.
6. Course offers interactive activities that meet various learning styles.
7. Students felt independence.

What was problematic or should be improved

1. Students- not reading or accessing syllabus.
2. Missed face-to-face interaction.
3. Chats were confusing- seemed too many conversations going on at one time.
4. More focus on helpline availability for WebCT assistance.
5. Group work problematic trying to coordinate time for members.
6. More organization by the instructor.
7. Set up chats with the instructor from time-to-time instead of just e-mail.
8. Provide information on how to use chat room.
9. Students had a feeling of disconnection from instructor.
10. Worried about their dial-up connection. Personal technical problems.
11. Having to check several places for updates.
12. Students felt too much course work.
13. Links often did not work properly.
14. Make sure that syllabus and online instructions match.
15. Home and school computer compatibility.

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

1. More chats but break them into smaller groups for less confusion.
2. Have students respond to other students postings.
3. Add a “back-pack” tool for additional directions for assignments.
5. Basic instruction on WebCT use.
6. Get more organized.
7. Revise syllabus after every semester.
8. Have a student question section on WebCT like FAQ’s.
9. Give more instruction to students about online learning.
10. Post students and instructors pictures.
11. Add up to date information as needed.

Biggest adjustments required for distance instructors

1. The amount of grading.
2. Setting aside time to check e-mail and WebCT - for a quick response.
3. Answering a ton of e-mails in a timely manner.
4. Dealing with student hardware needs.
5. Process of creating online tutorials took a long time.

Level of student services, DDEC, and instructor support

1. Support at all levels great.
2. Level of support is fine- students tend not to use support.
3. Excellent support.
4. Need more information on financial aid.