

Distance Learning Criteria: Increasing Online Course Design Standards



Minimum Standards ¹ Quality Standards (next step in ladder, not currently assessed) are grayed out				
General Standard	Specific Standard	Met Y/N	Description of Standard	
GS1, Course Overview and Introduction	1.1	Quality	Instructions make clear how to get started and where to find various course components.	
	1.2	Quality	Learners are introduced to the purpose and structure of the course.	
GS2, Learning Objectives	2.1		The course learning objectives, outcomes, or course/program competencies are measurable.	
	2.2		The module/unit learning objectives or competencies describe outcomes that are measurable and consistent with the course-level objectives or competencies.	
	2.5	Quality	The learning objectives or competencies are suited to the level of the course.	
GS3, Assessment and Measurement	3.1		Assessment of learning supports course objectives/outcomes/competencies.	
	3.2		A course grading policy is stated clearly.	

¹ Course design is comparable in rigor to that of a face-to-face section, if applicable. Assignments and activities need not be identical; they should have comparable levels of difficulty and interaction.

GS4, Instructional Materials	4.1		The instructional materials support the achievement of the stated course and module/unit learning objectives or competencies.	
GS5, Learning Activities and Learner Interaction	5.1		The learning activities promote the achievement of the stated course and module/unit level learning objectives or competencies.	
	5.2		Learning activities provide opportunities for interaction (learner-instructor, learner-learner, learner-content)	
GS6, Course Technology	6.1	Quality	The tools used in the course support the learning objectives and competencies.	
GS7, Learner Support	7.1	Quality	The course instructions articulate or link to a clear description of the technical support offered and how to obtain it.	
GS8, Accessibility and Usability	7.2	Quality	Course instructions articulate or link the institution's accessibility policies and services.	
	8.1	Quality	Course navigation facilitates ease of use.	
	8.2	Quality	Information is provided about the accessibility of all technologies required in the course.	
Y Minimum Standards are met. Good work! N Minimum Standards, effective Fall 2022, have not been met.				

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