E-Learning Definitions: The University of Maine

COURSE-LEVEL DEFINITIONS

Mode of Instruction

1. **In-Person Course** (mode is coded as On Site Classroom) - Course activity is organized around scheduled class meetings and is delivered in a classroom or other in-person environment.

2. **Video Conference Course** (mode is coded as On Site Classroom if the course is originating from UMaine; mode is coded as VC for all receive sites) - Course activity is organized around scheduled class meetings, but class sessions are delivered via VC. Students are required to go to a particular physical location to access the course.

3. **Blended Course** (mode is coded as Blended[Online & On Site]) - Online activity is mixed with classroom meetings, replacing at least 20 percent, but not all required in-person meetings (online activity replaces 20-99% of class meetings).
   a. MS must detail when students are expected to be live in the classroom.

4. **Online Course** (mode is coded as Online) - All course activity is done online; there are no required in-person meetings within the course and no requirements for on-campus activity.
   a. Courses that use synchronous web conferencing technology such as Google Hangouts or Adobe Connect may still be considered “online” courses as long as there is no requirement for students to be physically present at a particular location.

Time Options

1. **Asynchronous** - Students and faculty do not interact with one another simultaneously in time. Asynchronous courses are generally at least partially self-paced and can be entirely self-paced.

2. **Synchronous** - Students and faculty interact with one another simultaneously in time. Synchronous courses have set times when the students and instructors come together in either an online or in-person meeting.
   a. All synchronous meetings for both on campus and online courses should be listed in MaineStreet as soon as possible (ideally before student registration begins). For in person courses, synchronous meetings are listed under Days & Times. For online courses, synchronous meetings are most generally listed under Class Notes.

3. **Hybrid** - A mix of asynchronous and synchronous interactions.
1. **Traditional Classroom Program** - The program may include a mix of in-person, blended, or online courses. However, the majority of courses in the program are offered in-person, and the primary audience for these programs are on-site students.

2. **Blended Program** - A significant percentage, but not all of the credits required for program completion are offered online. Typically, up to 50 percent of the curriculum may be offered as in-person or blended. Blended programs are *created with a specific access goal and target audience in mind*. An example of a blended program would include those with a low-residency requirement.

3. **Online Program** - All credits required to complete the program are offered as online courses. Students can complete the program completely at a distance, with no required in-person meetings. Online synchronous meetings are acceptable, but not in-person synchronous meetings.