

OHIO STATE DISTANCE EDUCATION DEFINITIONS

The consistent use of labels with distance education programs, courses and students is critical for compliance requirements, accreditation reporting, and clear and effective consumer information.

Distance Education at Ohio State

Distance course: 75% or more of instruction is offered by distance

Ohio State defines distance courses by two instruction modes:

- Distance Learning (DL): 100% of instruction is offered by distance
- Distance Enhanced (DH): 75-99% of instruction is offered by distance

Distance program: 50% or more of the courses offered in a program are distance courses

Students in Ohio State Online programs are enrolled in the ONL (Online Learning) sub-plan.

NOTE: Ohio State interprets instruction as formalized instruction.

In order to serve a larger set of potential students and to meet university goals, ODEE advocates distance programs that comprise Distance Learning (DL) courses only.

Distance Course

A distance course is one where 75% or more of instruction (synchronous or asynchronous) uses one or more of the following technologies: the internet; one-way and two-way transmission through open broadcast, closed-circuit cable, microwave, broadband lines, fiber optics, satellite, or wireless communication devices; audio-conferencing; or videocassettes, DVDs, and CD-ROMs used in conjunction with any of the other technologies.

Distance Program

A distance program is a postsecondary educational program offered by an institution of higher education that leads to an academic or professional degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential.

NOTE: Ohio State does not include minors as a stand-alone educational credential for distance education.

eLearning

eLearning is broadly inclusive of all forms of educational technology in learning and teaching. eLearning occurs when learning opportunities are directed via electronic media, typically on the Internet. eLearning can occur in or out of the classroom and is particularly suited to distance learning and other technology-empowered learning models, such as Hybrid, Flipped, and HyFlex.

SIS Instruction Mode Labels

Instruction Mode	Description	Percentage of formalized instruction required to be completed at a distance	Percentage of formalized instruction required to be completed in person
DL	Distance Learning	100%	0%
DH	Distance Enhanced	75 to 99%	1 to 24%
HY	Hybrid Delivery	25 to 74%	25 to 74%
P	In Person	0% to 24%	75 to 100%

Class Delivery Method Labels (For DL and DH Instruction Modes only)

Class Attribute Value	Description	Use
WE	World Wide Web	Web is used to present course-related materials and links to supplementary sites; includes audio or video castings of material
OD	Other Technology	Other emerging technologies not covered in other defined areas

Considerations

FEES: Any student who is enrolled in *only* Distance Learning (DL) courses throughout a term is charged a \$100 distance education administration surcharge. A \$5 non-resident distance education fee will replace any applicable non-resident fees, and all university site-based fees will be waived. If a student has any Distance Enhanced (DH), Hybrid (HY), or In-Person (P) courses scheduled, all regular fees will be assessed.

DISTANCE EDUCATION FUNDING MODEL: The distance education funding model is student-centered. If a student is enrolled in an Ohio State Online program (identified by the ONL sub-plan), the distance education funding model will be applied to all Distance Learning (DL) and Distance Enhanced (DH) credit hours for that student.

NOTE: The distance education funding model is distinct from the distance education admin surcharge.

COURSE SECTIONS: Course instruction mode is determined one section at a time. Many courses have a lecture section and a recitation or lab section. It is entirely possible to have a course that comprises both a Distance Learning (DL) lecture section and an In Person (P) lab or recitation section.

DH vs. DL: For Distance Enhanced (DH) courses, consider opportunities for students to complete the in-person requirements at a distance so the course can be considered Distance Learning (DL), thus opening the course to a wider audience.

INSTRUCTION TIME: The Ohio Department of Higher Education defines one semester credit hour as a minimum of 750 minutes of formalized instruction, typically requiring students to work on out-of-class assignments an average of twice that amount of time.

The following chart may assist you in calculating percentages for the instruction mode:

Credit Hours	DL—Distance Learning; P—In Person	DH—Distance Enhanced	HY—Hybrid Delivery
	100% of instruction	75 to 99% of instruction	25 to 74% of instruction
1	750 mins	563 to 749 mins	188 to 562 mins
2	1,500 mins	1,125 to 1,499 mins	376 to 1,124 mins
3	2,250 mins*	1,688 to 2,249 mins	564 to 1,687 mins
4	3,000 mins	2,250 to 2,999 mins	752 to 2,249 mins
5	3,750 mins	2,813 to 3,749 mins	940 to 2,812 mins

*In order to fulfill the 2,250 minute requirement, a typical three-credit-hour course will meet either three times per week for 55 minutes or two times per week for 80 minutes.

