



Distance Education Instructor Certification Policy

Instructors assigned to teach online or hybrid classes as defined in the class schedule, will be required to complete the following training:

Phase 1: Before an instructor is assigned to teach a distance education class for the first time* they must complete training in the following areas:

- Course Management System (Bb) training
- New Technologies Training
- Online Teaching and Pedagogy
- Effective and Engaging Techniques
- Assessment Methods
- Capstone – Online Course Creation & Review (optional for blended courses)

Examples of satisfactory training include completion of one of the following:

- Santa Ana College's Online Instruction Certification
- Completion of the California Community College @One Online Teaching Certification (<http://www.onefortraining.org/certification/>) within the last three years.

Phase 2: After an instructor has started teaching a distance education course, it is strongly recommended that they complete the following:

- Mentoring from an experienced distance education instructor for at least the first semester and longer if deemed appropriate.
- Continue professional development in online teaching and new technology

Phase 2 can be accomplished through a variety of means including but not limited to:

- Presenting or participating in online learning multimedia courses and workshops offered during Santa Ana College Flex Week.
- Participation in conferences, webinars, listservs, forums or workshops related to online teaching.
- Mentoring new online instructors.

Continuing Evaluation

A critical component of maintaining the quality of online education is continued evaluation. Online classes should be evaluated as part of the normal instructor evaluation process. Online and traditional instruction are dissimilar, they require different skill sets for class preparation and delivery. If an instructor teaches both online and in the classroom, it is most strongly recommended that both venues be evaluated in a comprehensive instructional evaluation.

Adapted from Cuyamaca College

* Distance education instructors already teaching online/hybrid prior to the implementation of this policy will have one year in which to complete their training.