DL Course Evaluation Summaries for Spring 2005

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. Students appreciate the autonomy of the online format.
2. Course was well organized and easy to follow. This helped students adjust to online course.
3. Convenience and flexibility to access course anywhere.
4. Students able to interact with each other.
5. Flexibility- not having to drive to class.
6. The delivery with or without audio.
7. Availability of material, easy access and delivery of material in a timely fashion.
8. The Wimba room went well because they could ask questions.

What was problematic or should be improved

1. Instruct students to review grading criteria before submitting assignments.
2. WebCT- too cumbersome and requires too many “clicks”.
3. Students- need better study habits.
4. Students had problems using the chat room feature.
5. Students- did not like the chat sessions every week made class less flexible.
6. Students are confused about distance learning. They need to be aware of what they are registering for.
7. Miss face-to-face interaction with other students and instructor especially group members.
8. Everyone not having the same computer programs-especially in a group setting.
10. Volume of the class there was too much work.
11. The 48 hour rule- check-in at least every 48 hours. Some students say physically impossible.
12. Student thought projects needed a rubric.

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

1. Supplement some face-to-face interaction. Make the face-to-face sessions optional.
2. Increase use of the Bulletin Board and chat sessions.
3. Put more details in the project instructions along with examples.
4. Use more audio and video clips.
5. More practical assignments will be given.
6. More individual feedback in a more timely fashion.
7. Make sure students know that chats are optional.
8. Break down the course down into more manageable sections.
11. Stress the fact that students can call the distance office for technical support.
12. Provide more examples of projects for students.
13. Students- found it difficult to stay disciplined and regularly check the course.
14. Increase contact time between students and instructor. Give feedback quicker.
15. Implementation of deadlines and peer group reviews.

**Biggest adjustments required for distance instructors**

1. Requires a lot of time setting up the course.
2. Checking e-mail and bulletin Board frequently.
3. You have to continually enhance your technical skills.
4. Lack of personal interaction between instructor and students.

**Level of student services, DDEC, and instructor support**

1. Support staff is helpful and prompt in responding to needs.
2. The support is outstanding and exceptional.
3. Students were very pleased with the support received by the distance people.