Foundations of Teaching and Learning at a Distance

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ALEC 611

Class Format

♦ 5 Modules – 2-5 lessons in each
♦ Presentation of Content
♦ Textbook Readings
♦ Supplemental Readings
♦ Assignments

Firm Foundation

♦ Forming a Philosophy of Teaching
♦ Competencies for the Distance Education Professional
Distance Education

- Two-way communication between those who are separated by geographical distance & use technology for facilitating & supporting the educational process.

A Question of Quality

♦ “No Significant Difference Phenomenon” (Russell, 1999)

Compilation of 355 studies shows specific medium does not matter
www.nosignificantdifference.org/

“Students learning at a distance have the potential to learn just as much and as well as students taught traditionally”
(Schlosser & Anderson, 1994).
“Creating lessons and courses for distance learning is not a trivial activity, and it is not merely a matter of applying distance learning technologies to a successful traditional classroom lesson” (Schrum, 1996).

Who Are Distant Ed Students?

- Students who are:
  - 25 & older
  - Full & Part-time workers
  - In rural areas
  - Individuals with family
  - Unable to afford full-time study
  - Physically handicapped
  - Military personnel

Source:  http://www.learner.org/content/ed/stratAnnenberg/CPB Project

Assignment

- Look over the links under writing a teaching philosophy
- Write a philosophy of teaching and submit via WebCT assignments