DISTANCE EDUCATION AND LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

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Memorial University of Newfoundland's Distance Education and Learning Technologies (DELT) is responsible for the design, development and delivery of credit courses and degree programs via distance; advancement and support of e-learning throughout the University; and support for students and faculty in the effective use and application of technologies for effective teaching and learning. Through its activities DELT connects students across the province, the country and the world, who have limited educational opportunities due to time and location, to higher education through its distance education program. It also works to enhance, promote and support an e-learning vision throughout the institution and strives to provide faculties and departments with the e-learning expertise and knowledge needed to progress the University's mandate in expanding and improving its distance education delivery. A Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Education's, Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation (CDLI), who deliver distance education to K-12 students, allows DELT to share knowledge and information across all sectors and prepare for the incoming university student.

1 Distance Education

Distance Education and Learning Technologies (DELT) offers approximately 360 courses – half of which are web-based – to approximately 13,000 course registrants annually. Courses are available in 26 disciplines in 10 faculties and schools with complete undergraduate and graduate degrees available via distance including bachelors' degrees in business (Bachelor of Business Administration), maritime studies (Bachelor of Maritime Studies), nursing (Bachelor of Nursing (Post RN)), and technology (Bachelor of Technology); Masters' degrees are offered in education (Master of Education, Information Technology) and nursing (Master of Nursing). Courses are delivered mainly via the World Wide Web, however, some courses include print materials (i.e. manual, readings, textbooks), CD/Video/DVD programs and teleconference sessions.

2 Student Service and Delivery

DELT's Student Service and Delivery model utilizes a 1-1-1 approach; one response to one inquiry by one staff representative. This model incorporates a hands-on one-on-one service counter with a self-service website which provides the self-directed distance student with access to relevant and important information during off-peak hours. This system effectively places specific information, such as course materials, in the hands of students thereby reducing wait times and allowing for effective communications with students on specific matters.

Further information on distance education programs may be obtained by telephone to (709) 737-8700, or toll free to (866) 435-1396, or by fax to (709) 737-4070, or by e-mail to distance@mun.ca, or through the website at www.distance.mun.ca.

3 Course Development (Design, Development and Delivery)

DELT combines the expertise of specialists including Instructional Designers, Multi-media specialists, Video Producers, Publications Specialists etc. to work closely with academic units and professors to develop, manage and deliver the University's distance education programs in a manner conducive to instruction via distance. All functions encourage and support innovative teaching practices through the application of instructional technologies in both on-campus teaching and distance education.

Within this function, DELT provides a wide range of professional media development, production, post-production, and distribution services. Video services include broadcast-quality studio and mobile facilities, and production services such as digital cameras, AVID non-linear editing, digitization, international standards conversion, tape and DVD production, distribution and the Internet. Multimedia specialties include print layout and design, illustration, television graphics and animation, 3D visualization, and design for the World Wide Web. Technical staff offer consultation, design, installation, and maintenance services for multimedia teaching facilities.

Classroom Support Services provides multimedia and audiovisual support for teaching on-campus as well as the design of smart classrooms and/or the implementation of technologies in the classroom.

Further information on media production services may be obtained by telephone to (709) 737-7575 or by fax to (709) 737-4635.

4 Instructional Development Office

The Instructional Development Office provides support to the University's faculty members and graduate students in the enhancement of their teaching knowledge and skills. The Office espouses a collaborative, responsive, and pragmatic approach to developing services and programs related to teaching and learning.

Among the services provided are professional development workshops and seminars, programs for the teaching development of graduate students, and individual and small group consultations. Support is given for awards applications and other activities and initiatives that recognize the importance of university teaching. *The News*, a faculty newsletter about teaching and learning, is published three times a year and a resource centre offers a collection of books, journals, newsletters, and video programs about instruction.

Further information on instructional development services may be obtained by telephone to (709) 737-3028, or by fax to (709) 737-4635, or by e-mail to instrdev@mun.ca.