

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Distance Education?

Distance Education courses are designed for the student who desires flexibility and convenience in scheduling their studies.

What is the difference between online and hybrid courses?

Online courses deliver all course activities over the Internet and can be accessed from a computer with a Web browser (ex. Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox). Hybrid courses require weekly class meetings; in addition to, course activities delivered through a course management system via the internet and can be accessed from a computer with a Web browser (ex. Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox).

How will I interact with my instructor?

Students in online courses communicate with their instructor and classmates electronically via a **course management system** via the internet and email.

Will I be required to attend class meetings on campus?

Some Distance Education courses require class meetings (orientations). Please check your MyECC email account for information sent by the instructor. Hybrid courses require regular class meetings

The first class meeting conflicts with another course I want to take, what should I do?

Orientations are not mandatory; however, you must contact your instructor via email to receive course information. You must attend the first class meeting if you are enrolled in an online hybrid course. Hybrid courses require weekly class meetings.

Where can I find the instructor's contact information?

Instructor's contact information is located on the Distance Education webpage.

<http://www.compton.edu/academics/distance-ed/index.aspx>

What equipment do I need?

A computer or laptop and high speed internet access. It is recommended that you have a backup source. The campus has computers in the library, learning center and labs.

I don't have a computer at home. Can I still take an online course?

Yes, as long as you're sure you'll have regular access to a computer that's connected to the Internet.

What software do I need?

You will need a web browser, and some courses may require the use of software that allows you to create documents, spreadsheets and/or presentations such as MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Adobe Flash Player, etc.

What kind of computer skills should I have?

In order to succeed in this type of course, you must be computer literate and have experience in computer communication.

What other skills do I need to be successful?

Other skills to be successful in an online course includes a student to be self-reliant, self-motivated, self-disciplined and the ability to read carefully and to follow written instruction. Time management is critical in completing weekly coursework. Do not attempt to procrastinate.

How are examinations administered?

Exams are given on the course management system via the internet; however, there are some courses that require you to come on campus to take an exam. Please read your syllabus.

Will I have to be online at a particular time?

Course Management Systems are open 24/7; however, you must adhere to deadlines for completing assignments, exams, etc.

Will I have to buy books for the course?

Yes, the textbook information will be on the syllabus or on the course management system that the instructor is using.

Do Distance Education courses transfer to other schools?

We advise you to check with a counselor at the school you plan to transfer to so you are sure the course will be accepted. Most college and universities accept our courses as they are part of our curriculum.

What if I find I can't continue in my course? Can I withdraw from it?

Yes, check the schedule for deadlines or you may contact the Admissions and Records office.

What do I do if I need help?

It's very important that you get in touch with your instructor as soon as possible by email. If you find you need further assistance, you may visit the Distance Education Office located in G-36B or call 310.900.1600, extension 2450/2137.

What do I do if I can't access my course online?

Contact the instructor or the Distance Education office.

I have more questions! Who can I talk to?

Contact the Distance Education Office located in the Vocational Technology Building, Office 140 or call 310.900.1600, extension 2137, Email: distanceEd-cec@elcamino.edu