

DRAFT

OFF CAMPUS SITES AND DISTANCE LEARNING

Mesa College assures the quality of its programs offered at off-campus sites and centers as well as distance learning efforts by applying the same standards, criteria and processes used for its on-campus programs. The largest off-campus offering is the Accelerated College Program (ACP) at fifteen (15) San Diego high schools. High school students may enroll in college-level political science and/or calculus classes. These students may earn up to 15 semester units of transferrable college credit without leaving their high school campuses.

As reported throughout Standard IIA, Instructional Programs, Mesa College has criteria in place to assure the quality of instruction regardless of type, delivery mode or location. Like its on-campus counterparts, the Accelerated College Program addresses the mission of the institution. The curriculum offered at the high schools is of the same rigor and content required by Title 5 so student can successfully transfer to universities. Mesa College faculty members, experts in their fields of knowledge, teach these courses using appropriate delivery modes. It is critical to note that all curriculum is the same as taught on-campus and by faculty in the program that carry the same credentials as other Mesa faculty. Furthermore, ACP professors also teach those same courses on campus. Faculty evaluation is done using the same process and instrument.

ACP faculty have developed student learning outcomes and use the same approach and methodology as their on-campus colleagues. They perform program review using the same instrument and engage in the planning process. Our enrollment of approximately 800 students provides evidence of the continued need in our community for high quality college-credit courses provided by academic specialists to accelerated students in San Diego's high schools.

Off-site courses offered by the School of Health Sciences and Public Services in Medical Assisting and Child Development and those offered by the School of Physical Education, Health Education and Athletics assure quality in the same manner as described above.

As for distance learning, the same requirements must be met. Online faculty members are subject to the same standards and scrutiny in hiring and evaluation as all other faculty at Mesa College and must also demonstrate that they are adequately prepared to teach using this delivery system. Because online courses are approved and administered with the same standards as face-to-face instruction, they meet the same standards articulated in Standard IIA including SLO identification and assessment. Approval by the Accrediting Commission of the 2007 Mesa's Substantive Change Proposal for Distance Learning provides evidence of this quality.