Nontraditional and Online Courses

Nontraditional courses are taught online or through distance learning, hybrid/blended, independent study, individualized instruction, correspondence or similar means.

Generally, for a nontraditional course to count as an NCAA-approved core course, it must meet all the following requirements:

» Course must meet all requirements for an NCAA-approved core course.

» All students in the course must have regular and ongoing instructor-led interaction for the purposes of instruction, evaluation and assistance for the duration of the course. For example, exchanging emails, online chats, phone calls, feedback on assignments and the opportunity for the teacher to engage the student in individual or group instruction.

» Course must have a defined time period for completion. For example, it should be clear how long students are required to be enrolled and working in the course and how long a school would permit a student to work on a single nontraditional course.

» Student work (e.g., exams, papers, assignments) must be available for evaluation and validation.

» The course should be clearly identified as nontraditional on the student’s official high school transcript.

A nontraditional course may not be approved for any of the following reasons:

» Does not have teacher-based instruction.

» Does not require regular and ongoing instructor-led interaction between the student and teacher.

» Does not require students to complete the entire course.

» Does not prepare students for four-year college class work.

» Does not have official student grade records.

» Does not meet NCAA core-course requirements.

When viewing your school/program’s list of NCAA-approved core courses you will find information about any nontraditional programs or courses in the “High School Information” or “District Information” box as seen below.

REMEMBER

Log in to your Eligibility Center account frequently to update your school information if you take courses from additional academic programs.

To find out if a nontraditional program or course is approved, search for the school/program on eligibilitycenter.org/courselist and review the “High School” or “District Information” box.

HIGH SCHOOL OR DISTRICT INFORMATION

Coursework from this school/program meets NCAA nontraditional core-course legislation.

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