



Distance Education

April 2011

This pathfinder will be useful in finding information about distance education programs in the United States.

For an introduction to the topic, see:

- About.com's webpage at <http://distancelearn.about.com>. There are many resources here for an introduction to distance learning, such as articles about how to find distance learning schools, distance learning frequently asked questions, and if distance learning is right for you.

Key Resources at a Glance:

- [*Guide to Distance Learning Programs*](#) by Peterson's. (378.175 GUI 2005) This book provides an excellent guide to programs around the globe. The following website complements this book:
- <http://www.petersons.com/distancelearning>

Reference Background

- [*Distance Learning: Information Access and Services for Virtual Users*](#) Editor Hemalata Iyer (025.524 DIS)

Resources

Books

- [*Bears' Guide to College Degrees by Mail & Internet*](#) by Bear and Bear (374.4 Col 2005)
- [*Bears' Guide to the Best Education Degrees by Distance Learning*](#) by Bear, Bear, Head & Nixon (378.175 Bea 2006)

Magazine Articles

- "What's It Like to Take an Online Class?" by Mary Alice Anderson. *Multimedia & Internet@Schools* (Nov/Dec 2010). Available through EBSCOHost
- "Online Colleges," by Diane Tsimekles, *Army Times* (July 3, 2006) Available through EBSCOHost

Search Aids

Search Terms

(Use for computer searches)

- Distance education
- Continuing education
- Internet courses
- Internet degrees
- Online courses
- Online degrees

Subject Headings

(Use in card catalogs and print indexes)

- Distance education
- Distance learning

Call Number

- 374 (Dewey Decimal)
- 378 (Dewey Decimal)

Indexes and Abstracts

- EBSCOHost
<http://search.ebscohost.com>
- FirstSearch
<http://firstsearch.oclc.org>

Library catalogs

- Urbandale Library Catalog
<http://www.urbandalelibrary.org>
- SILO-- (Iowa Locator) -- state-wide catalog
<http://z3950.silo.lib.ia.us/cgi-bin/zform.CGI?SILO>
- WorldCat-- world-wide catalog
<http://worldcat.org>

Web Pages and Web Portals

- Directory of Online Schools (<http://www.directoryofonlineschools.com>)
 - This website provides links to and information about online schools.
- E-Learners (<http://www.elearners.com>)
 - On this website you can search online programs by degree type, major programs, and program name. It also provides articles and resources for online learning.
- Iowa Learns (<http://www.iowalearns.org>)
 - On this website you can find online programs that are available from Iowa colleges and universities.

** You can evaluate other resources using criteria at:

<http://www.THEpathfinderproject.org/evaluate.html> **

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THE Pathfinder Project

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<http://www.THEpathfinderproject.org>