

## **About Online Learning**

Since 1998, Delaware County Community College has offered online courses through the Internet. We now offer over 100 online courses within both full and accelerated semester formats. Students can start taking online courses throughout the year in Fall, Spring, Summer I, II and Winter. Courses run in 15, 7, 6, and 5 week formats. When registering, make sure you look for when your courses start and end!

## **Applying & Registering**

Students can sign up for online courses as they would for any other college courses, through [delaGATE](#). New students, or students who have not taken a course with the college for over one year will need to [apply or reapply](#). Visiting students simply looking to take a course or two can click [here](#) for more information about applying.

## **Getting Ready**

After you sign up for an online course, you will automatically receive an email to your DCCC email address. You can access your DCCC email through delaGATE (from the upper right icon menu). The email will remind you to pay your tuition bill and/or make sure your financial aid is in place and let you know how and when you can access your online course.

Once you register for an online course, you should purchase your textbook as soon as possible. To find out which books you need please visit our [online bookstore](#).

## **What to Expect - A Complete Student Experience**

Online courses are very similar to classroom courses. Just like in the classroom, you will be able to interact and communicate with your instructors and classmates, as you will have access to your course materials anytime, anywhere. Rather than showing up to a physical classroom, our faculty will deliver the course to you through Canvas, a simple to use course management system where neatly arranged lesson plans will be ready for you to follow and complete. We have a [how-to tutorial video](#) available to all students to help explain Canvas, which shows you how to maneuver through the online learning environment.



A typical online course contain some or all of the following:

- A syllabus outlining requirements & expectations
- Class discussions
- Assignments & papers
- Tests and quizzes
- Lecture notes
- Study guides
- Slides and presentations
- Reinforcement exercises
- Audio or video lectures
- Streaming videos

Most online courses are presented in weekly formats and may include any combination of the above. Students then concentrate their efforts to fulfill the requirements for that week. **Remember**, online courses vary from instructor to instructor and so will your work load! While there are NO MANDATORY login times, optional participation is ALWAYS beneficial to the student! You will be expected to meet due dates and deadlines throughout all of your online courses.

While most courses are 100% online, a few courses may require in person testing at one of our campuses or at an institution that is closer to your home or office. Some online courses may have field requirements such as interviewing someone in law enforcement (ADJ 101), or a visit to a museum or exhibit (ART 110/111), etc. Please look at the course footnotes in banner when registering for this information.

### **Student Success Strategies**

Students who typically do well in online courses are able to dedicate consistent study days and times throughout the course. Instead of spending three hours in the classroom each week, students should be dedicating the same time to their online courses.

Accelerated courses will demand more time per week because of their shorter, quicker format. Do not procrastinate! In fact, read and plan ahead whenever you can. Falling behind in an online course is difficult to recover from, so do not let issues go unresolved. Please reach out for support and we look forward to working with you!