Distance Learning at WPI

For more than thirty years, WPI has delivered high-quality distance education to graduate students around the world. Our first distance programs were available on videotape; the Internet now provides access to course work, professors, and fellow students. Distance students apply for admission to the WPI program of their choice as there is no differentiation between campus and online programs. Once admitted to WPI, students may take any distance course that is appropriate to their WPI program. All students can take distance courses and, within a given program’s requirements, can combine on campus and distance courses.

Online Programs and Courses

Via the Web, WPI delivers the same courses, content and material that you receive on campus. The online and campus programs are not separate programs, but the same program. WPI offers a selected number of online courses each semester, so students located outside of Worcester can further their education via the Internet. Online students have 24/7 access to their courses and are expected to maintain a weekly presence in the WPI course website. Regular access to a high speed Internet access via a PC based computer is the only technical requirement.

Programs of Study

By taking courses through the Advanced Distance Learning Network, students can complete graduate degrees and graduate certificates. The specific programs that are available online are listed at www.online.wpi.edu.

Student Services

Online students have access to the same services as students located on campus. WPI’s Distance Learning Office provides students with personalized assistance and acts as a conduit to all other university offices. Among the University services available are academic advising, technical helpdesk, library services, bookstore, and career placement and counseling for degree seeking students. Contact can be made through the web, by phone, and by email.

Faculty

The professors teaching distance courses are the same highly qualified faculty who teach in WPI’s campus-based programs.

Tuition and Fees

Distance learning courses carry the same rate as on-campus courses. Students wishing to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) instead of graduate credit may opt to audit courses at half tuition.

Financial Aid

Loan-based aid is available. Students must be registered on a half-time basis (two courses per semester) or greater for federal loan programs. See page 16 for loan information. Other loans for 3-credit courses are available.

Contact and Information

Pamela Shelley, Assistant Director, Advanced Distance Learning Network
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
100 Institute Road
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-2280
U.S.A.
508-831-6789 (voice)
508-831-5717 (fax)
online@wpi.edu
www.online.wpi.edu