Advanced Distance Learning Network (ADLN)

Distance Learning Program
In 1979, WPI’s commitment to active, lifelong learning prompted the creation of the ADLN, a partnership between several academic departments and WPI’s Academic Technology Center. ADLN programs enable working professionals to continue to grow within their chosen field without having to attend any classes at the WPI campus. Persons electing to take courses via ADLN with the intention of completing a degree or certificate apply for admission to WPI utilizing the same processes and services as campus-based students. Once admitted to WPI, students may take any ADLN course that is appropriate to their WPI program. All students can take ADLN courses and, within a given program’s requirements, can combine on-campus and ADLN classes.

Delivery Media
ADLN courses consist of the same content and materials as on-campus class meetings. Many courses originate in one of WPI’s classrooms, depending on the delivery format most suited to each course. ADLN delivers courses via interactive compressed video, express mail videotapes or the World Wide Web. Materials such as books, handouts and supplemental readings are sent by express mail, fax, e-mail or are posted on the World Wide Web. An e-mail account, access to the World Wide Web and minimal technical requirements found at http://www/wpi.edu/ADLN are required for participation in an ADLN course.

Programs of Study
By taking courses through the Advance Distance Learning Network, students can complete a master of business administration (M.B.A.), or a master of science (M.S.) in environmental engineering or fire protection engineering. In addition, students may elect to take courses via ADLN to earn a graduate or advanced certificate in these disciplines and in wireless communications and networking.

Credit Options
The M.B.A program allows 18 foundation-level credits to be waived for those with appropriate academic backgrounds, either via straight waivers for those with appropriate course work completed within the past six years with a grade of B or better, or via waiver exams. The M.B.A. program, the M.S. in fire protection engineering, and the M.S. in civil and environmental engineering allow students to transfer up to 9 credits from graduate-level course work at other schools. Graduate and advanced certificate programs require all credits to come from WPI.

Special Programs
ADLN and appropriate academic personnel are always willing to consider the addition of new programs when there is sufficient interest.

Student Services
Academic advisors are assigned upon admission. On-line library services are free, and reference services are available by telephone and e-mail. Dial-up UNIX accounts (for e-mail, etc.) and career placement and counseling are available for matriculated students. Books may be ordered toll-free from the WPI bookstore (888-WPI-BOOKS) and are typically delivered one to three days after ordering.

Faculty
Management has 26 full-time members and 10 part-time members, 24 of whom have Ph.D. degrees. Fire protection engineering has 6 full-time faculty members, all with Ph.D. degrees, and 2 part-time professors. Civil and environmental engineering has 13 full-time faculty, all with Ph.D. degrees, and 8 part-time professors.

Tuition and Fees
Tuition is $796 per semester hour for all programs in the 2002-2003 academic year. This is 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. See page 17 for audit information.

Financial Aid
Loan-based aid is available only through special arrangements. Students must be registered on a half-time basis (two courses per semester) or greater. See page 15-16 for loan information.

Contact and Information
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