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
Through ADLN, WPI delivers the same courses, content and material that you would receive on campus. Faculty, working with an instructional design team, determine the best technologies to use in the delivery of their distance courses. This approach to distance learning ensures that courses are kept current and the latest technologies are used. An e-mail account, access to the World Wide Web and the 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.

Credit Options
The M.B.A. program allows up to 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. Library services are on-line, and reference services are available by telephone and e-mail. All students establish a WPI UNIX account for on-line course access and e-mail. Technical help desk is available by e-mail or phone. 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. Books may be ordered toll-free from the WPI Bookstore (888-WPI-Books) or from the web (www.wpibooks.com) and are typically delivered one to four days after ordering.

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

Tuition and Fees
Tuition is $897 per semester hour for all programs in the 2004 - 2005 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 21 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 for federal loan programs. See pages 16 and 17 for loan information. Other loans for 3-credit courses may be 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.
508-831-5220 (voice)
508-831-5881 (fax)
adln@wpi.edu
http://www.wpi.edu/+ADLN