

PORTERVILLE COLLEGE
PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

Name of Program: Distance Education

Division/Operational Area: N.A.

Contact Person: Sarah Phinney

Submission Date: May 2011

[Note: The information in this area will repeat on all pages.]

Porterville College Mission Statement:

With students as our focus, Porterville College provides our local and diverse communities an excellent educational experience that fosters intellectual curiosity and growth, lifelong learning, and prepares our students for personal and academic success.

In support of our values and philosophy, Porterville College will:

1. Provide quality academic programs to all students who are capable of benefiting from community college instruction.
2. Provide comprehensive support services to help students achieve their personal, vocational and academic potential.
3. Prepare students for transfer and success at four-year institutions.
4. Provide courses and training to prepare students for employment or to enhance skills within their current careers.
5. Provide developmental education to students who need to enhance their knowledge and understanding of basic skills.
6. Recognize student achievement through awarding degrees, certificates, grants, and scholarships.

Distance Education Program Mission Statement, Vision and Values:

Mission Statement:

The Distance Education Program at Porterville College provides educational offerings that are as effective as traditional course offerings, but are offered in an alternative format to accommodate an ever changing student population.

Vision:

The vision of the Distance Education program at Porterville College is to increase course offerings in distance education formats, to boost student retention in distance education courses, and to improve student success in distance education courses.

Core Values:

- To provide high quality instruction and instructional services to learners enrolled in distance education classes.
- To promote adoption of instructional best practices by faculty involved in teaching distance education classes.
- To foster an atmosphere of professional growth and exploration into quality innovative approaches to teaching and learning in distance education classes.

Student Outcomes:

Students will:

- Have access to online and hybrid courses. (measure: data showing number of online courses.)
- Have a positive and effective learning experience in their online and hybrid courses. (measure: data showing success rates of online and hybrid courses)

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- Have adequate knowledge about the online or hybrid course, prior to enrolling in them. (measure: survey students)
- Have appropriate access to technical assistance while taking an online or hybrid class, and know how to access it. (measure: documentation of where the resources are, and when the services were provided & survey students)
- Experience regular and effective contact with the instructor and classmates, while being enrolled in an online or hybrid class. (measure: survey students)
- Be guided by an instructor who adequately prepared for developing and managing the online or hybrid course. (measure: survey faculty and students)
- Experience a trouble free interaction with the course management system. (measure: survey)

Analysis of Current Performance:

The number of online and hybrid (distance education) courses being offered by Porterville College, along with student enrollment in these courses has been steadily increasing over the last few years. The retention and success rates have not necessarily followed this positive trend. There have been mixed results with retention and success of online courses. There was a solid increase in both, from the '06-'07 academic year to the following '07-'08 year. However, in the next two years, which cannot be compared to the prior years, because of a discrepancy in how the data was calculated, there was a slight increase in retention from '08-'09 to '09-'10, but the success rate fell in that same period.

	2006-'07	2007-'08	2008-'09	2009-'10
# Online Courses	18	31	36	36
# Online Sections	39	84	92	89
Online Enrollment (duplicated)	1,278	2,455	2,944	3,028

	*2006-'07	*2007-'08	2008-'09	2009-'10
Online Retention	78.7%	81.4%	78.0%	79.6%
Online Success	56.2%	61.6%	57.6%	53.9%

* In the years prior to the 2008-2009 year, a different formula was being used to calculate the retention and success rates. In the prior years, the grade designation of "Dr" was not being included in the in the denominator of the calculations. In the years from 2008-2009 and later "Dr" has been added to the other grades in the denominator of the calculations. Due to this change, comparisons of retention and success for before and after summer 2008 are not useful

These are the calculation methods used prior to 2008-2009:

Retention = (A, B, C, Cr, D, F, I, Nc, Np, P) / (A, B, C, Cr, D, F, I, Nc, Np, P, W)

Success = (A, B, C, Cr, P) / (A, B, C, Cr, D, F, I, Nc, Np, P, W)

These are the calculations being used from fall 2008 to the current year:

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Retention = (A, B, C, Cr, D, F, I, Nc, Np, P) / (A, B, C, Cr, D, Dr, F, I, Nc, Np, P, W) Success = (A, B, C, Cr, P) / (A, B, C, Cr, D, Dr, F, I, Nc, Np, P, W)

Program Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Some of the strengths of the Distance Education Program include the existence of a core group of faculty who have been teaching online for several years and can serve as mentors to new online instructors. Another asset of the program is the recent move of all the colleges within the district to a single course management system for all online courses. This continuity of technology across the college and the district, will help to streamline support for faculty and students.

The program needs to take a closer look at the data regarding online course retention and success, in order to be able to understand where efforts to improve these statistics can be most effective. Another area where the program can make progress is in the establishment of quality metrics, for which there are currently none that have been formally adopted by the program or the college.

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<u>Goals</u>			
Goal(s)	Timetable for Completion	Needed resources	Obstacles to completion (if any)
1. Increase online course offerings by 4 courses.	2007	Faculty	Faculty time.
Which of the numbered items under the Mission Statement (see page 1 of this document) will be furthered if this goal is completed? (select all that apply)			
Item 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Item 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Item 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Item 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Item 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Item 6 <input type="checkbox"/>			
Progress on Goal: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed (Date AY 2007-2008) Comments: Achieved and exceeded the goal of increasing online course offerings.			
Goal(s)	Timetable for Completion	Needed resources	Obstacles to completion (if any)
2. Increase retention rate by 1%	August 2007		
Which of the numbered items under the Mission Statement (see page 1 of this document) will be furthered if this goal is completed? (select all that apply)			
Item 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Item 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Item 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Item 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Item 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Item 6 <input type="checkbox"/>			
Progress on Goal: <input type="checkbox"/> Completed (Date AY 2007-2008) Comments: The goal was achieved in the target year. However, in subsequent years after ('07-'08) we do not know if the retention rates dropped or not, since the method for calculating retention rates has been changed.			
Goal(s)	Timetable for Completion	Needed resources	Obstacles to completion (if any)
3. Increase success rate to 56% from 53.9% in '09-'10..	2012 – 2013		Involvement of faculty to institute intervention measures, and student participation in the intervention measures.
Which of the numbered items under the Mission Statement (see page 1 of this document) will be			

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furthered if this goal is completed? (select all that apply)

Item 1___ Item 2___ Item 3_X__ Item 4___ Item 5___ Item 6___

Progress on Goal:

___Completed (Date)
 ___Revised (Date)

Comments:

Goal(s)	Timetable for Completion	Needed resources	Obstacles to completion (if any)
4. Establish online course quality guidelines.	Fall 2011	Faculty time	Faculty willingness to establish guidelines.

Which of the numbered items under the Mission Statement (see page 1 of this document) will be furthered if this goal is completed? (select all that apply)

Item 1_X__ Item 2___ Item 3___ Item 4___ Item 5___ Item 6___

Progress on Goal:

___Completed (Date)
 ___Revised (Date)

Comments:

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STAFFING REQUEST

Staff Resources:				
Current Staffing Levels				
<u>Full-time Staff (FTE)</u>		<u>Part-time Staff (FTE)</u>		
Faculty	0	Faculty	0	
Temporary	0	Temporary	0	
Classified	1	Classified	0	
Management	0	Management	0	
<u>Request for New/Replacement Staff</u> None: Staffing is adequate at this time.				
	Title of Position	Classification (Faculty, Classified, or Management)	Full or Part Time	New or Replacement
Position 1				
Position 2				
Position 3				
Justification:				

BUDGET REQUEST

	Current Budget	Amount of Increase	Revised Total
2000 (Student)	0.00		
4000	0.00	630.49	
5000	0.00		
Other	0.00		
Justification: \$630.49 is the total cost of the following hardware software upgrades. New <i>Creative Live Cam Socialize</i> web-cam with software (Amazon \$60.07), latest version of Techsmith Camtasia (Creation Engine 201.29), latest version of Pinnacle Studio (Creation Engine 119.02), Flip video camera with tripod, and tripod for existing mini-DV camcorder (Office Depot 250.11).			