

Catalog: Undergraduate Catalog 2017-2018 [Archived Catalog]

Title: Liberty University Online

Liberty University Online

MISSION

The mission of Liberty University Online is to provide Liberty University courses and programs through non-traditional delivery systems. While Liberty University Online and residential course offerings may differ due to distinctions in student profiles and methodologies of instruction, the residential and Liberty University Online courses and programs are comparable in range, goals and purpose.

HISTORY

Founded in 1985 as the Liberty University School of Lifelong Learning (LUSLL), the distance learning program was designed to bring an accredited University program to non-traditional learners at home, military personnel, and Christian school teachers seeking certification from the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). The courses were adapted from those offered on the University campus and the initial programs offered were the A.A. in Religion, B.S. in Church Ministries, and M.A. in Counseling.

The initial goal to provide quality Christian education to students around the world has remained intact. Currently, Liberty University Online services over 90,000 students across the globe in degree programs ranging from certificate programs, diploma programs in Biblical Studies to doctoral programs in Business, Counseling, Education and Divinity.

Using innovative methods, students can take classes without having to relocate. The same quality courses that are offered on the Lynchburg campus are made available to our Liberty University Online students in the convenience of their own homes. Courses are also offered in an [intensive format](#) a number of times throughout the year.

INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY METHODS

Liberty University Online offers its courses through several delivery methods. The University has adopted Blackboard®, an online software platform, as its primary delivery method. Students can access individual lessons, have interaction with other students taking the same course, utilize links to online resources, view supplemental streaming video clips, and receive direct feedback from their professors using this innovative means of delivery. Students may also be required to purchase DVDs for select courses. Video, printed, and online learning tools help ensure that students have a learning opportunity available to them that equals or surpasses the traditional classroom model.

STRUCTURE

Currently, Liberty University Online offers courses in an eight-week format with multiple entry dates throughout the year (see academic calendar). Some courses are offered in a 14- to 17-week format (with one entry date per semester) in which students may enroll at the beginning of each term. Students will need to show consistent progress throughout their coursework in order to maintain good academic standing. Liberty provides students with tools for success. However,

students must manage their time and resources to take advantage of these tools.

DEGREE PROGRAM FORMAT

With the online delivery format [distance education] courses in a program are delivered in a virtual classroom experience that is flexible, personal and challenging. Through the online format a student can earn a degree entirely online. Some programs require that a minimum number of courses be taken face-to-face on campus.

TESTING

Liberty University Online students take timed tests online and receive immediate feedback and test results. Essay exams and papers are also submitted online, graded by the course instructor and returned to the student. Portions of assigned work are used to facilitate student-to-student interaction. The interaction is often included as an element in student grading.

COURSE MATERIALS

Students are strongly encouraged to purchase all course materials from MBS Direct. Purchases can be made online by accessing the web page at <http://www.mbsdirect.net/liberty> or by calling 1-800-325-3252. Students should purchase materials after registration but prior to the sub-term start date (course activation). Liberty does not guarantee that required course materials will be available after the sub-term start date.

Course materials may be charged to the student's account by means of the [online book voucher system](#), if the student has a credit on their student account. Tuition does not cover the cost of course materials.

BASIC REGULATIONS

The Administration and Faculty have committed Liberty to the highest standards of moral and ethical conduct. No one will become spiritual merely by observing rules; nonetheless, the spiritual student will desire to abide by the rules, regulations, and policies. The student who is not prepared to accept instruction will never be prepared to give instruction. Liberty holds as one of its foremost goals the development of men and women of strong character. Firm moral conviction and dependable self-discipline are as important as academic competence.

All students enrolled in Liberty University Online are subject to the Liberty University Online Code of Honor and Personal Code of Honor. Please see the Academic Information and Policies – Online Programs section of this Catalog for more information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING LICENSURE-BASED DEGREE PROGRAMS, INTERNSHIPS AND CLINICAL PLACEMENTS

Students who are pursuing degrees leading to application for professional licensure or certification, and/or who will be participating in clinical placements, internships, or practica through their Liberty University program, should be aware that a criminal background check, finger printing, or drug screening may be required by Liberty University and/or the host facility.

Internships, Practica, and Clinical Placements

In such situations, each student is responsible for obtaining and paying for the background check or other screening process and for delivering required

documentation to the facility. Although the university will make reasonable efforts to place admitted students in field experiences and internship, it will be up to the host facility to determine whether a student will be allowed to work at that facility.

Licensure-Based Degree Programs

Students in licensure-based degree programs are responsible for understanding the requirements of the program by becoming thoroughly familiar with the Degree Completion Plan (DCP) and the academic school's web page that outlines degree requirements.

Students should further be aware that a criminal record may jeopardize licensure by the State certification body. Students seeking licensure are urged to contact the relevant licensing agency to determine the licensing requirements for the jurisdiction. Successful completion of a program of study at Liberty University does not guarantee licensure, certification, or employment in the relevant occupation.