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# Lifelong Learning

<http://www.ohio.edu/lifelong/>

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**Lifelong Learning offers a variety of innovative and alternative educational opportunities and experiences for both traditional and nontraditional students. With its mission of outreach and access, it extends the services of Ohio University to learners of all ages throughout the world. Lifelong Learning is the home for all continuing education and professional development programs, independent and distance learning options (graduate and undergraduate), and summer sessions. It also offers a variety of learning options in unique formats through Ohio University Without Boundaries and OU On-Line. In addition, Lifelong Learning reaches a world-wide audience through its office of International Outreach.**

**Classes, independent learning courses, workshops, and seminars—both credit and noncredit, for personal and professional development—are offered in response to interests and needs. Some programs may lead to a degree. If you are interested in seeking an Ohio University degree, you must be admitted through normal University procedures. Participants in designated noncredit courses may earn continuing education units (CEUs).**

**Options for learning online are offered through all the programs in Lifelong Learning. These include credit courses in both term-based and independent learning formats as well as self-paced noncredit courses.**

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## Lifelong Learning

The Division of Lifelong Learning provides learners of all ages a variety of programs and services.

Each year it offers programs as diverse as regional, national, and international professional conferences sponsored by University faculty and departments and professional associations. Professional development opportunities are provided through online courses and certificates, and workshops and certificate programs. While these programs do not award academic or college credit, many qualify for professional relicensure and recertification. A full listing of educational opportunities and services is available at <http://www.ohio.edu/noncredit/>.

**Professional Development** programs include career and certificate programs that are taught by University and professional faculty. Professional development staff assists organizations and professions in determining learning needs and developing appropriate solutions to enhance workplace skill and technical development. Many organizations augment hands-on training with Web-based courses. Professional certificate programs in management, Web-design, legal assisting, and Law Enforcement training programs are also available. Many professional development offerings carry Continuing Education Units and some are approved for professional license renewal and recertification.

**Conference Management** provides complete conference services including program development

and management; Internet, mail, fax and telephone registration; on-site coordination, budgeting and financial management and reporting; marketing, site selection and contract negotiation, and educational meeting planning. These services are available to all University faculty and staff, as well as community, professional, governmental, religious, social, and fraternal organizations. During the summer the University has the capacity to host conference groups of up to 1,500 attendees. Lifelong Learning is the primary contact for organizations interested in the University as a conference site, or in conference management services.

**E-Learning**—Non-credit E-learning opportunities focus on new career and professional development courses and certificates. We offer several hundred non-credit, Web-based (Internet connection required) programs for adults desirous of increasing their marketable business, professional and technical skills, or who need to acquire new skills in order to become competitive in the business world.

E-learning offers individuals the opportunity to learn new skills at their own pace and on their own schedule. Many courses and all certificate programs provide Continuing Education Units upon successful completion. In addition, E-learning may be eligible for the Lifelong Tax Credit. A complete list of all non-credit E-learning programs can be found at <http://www.ohio.edu/noncredit/>.

Through its Office of Independent and Distance Learning (IDL) Lifelong

Learning offers distance courses in various modes of delivery as well as advising services for nontraditional students earning selected Ohio University degrees.

A complete list of IDL courses and programs is available at <http://www.ohio.edu/independent/>.

Courses completed through any of the Independent and Distance Learning options earn Ohio University resident credit, which can be applied to an Ohio University degree program or transferred to another institution (subject to its restrictions, if any).

**Courses are also offered by correspondence** and online, developed and graded by University faculty, are structured Independent Learning options. Most are presented in a printed course guide or on the Web; other media may include audiocassettes, videocassettes, CDs, and computer disks. Content is divided into lessons with submitted assignments at the end of each lesson, allowing students and faculty members to participate in a dialogue that may be conducted by postal mail, fax, or e-mail. Supervised examinations are generally required, although in some courses, a project or paper may be required instead. Students may arrange to take examinations at locations near them.

**Independent Study Projects** can sometimes be arranged in undergraduate courses not currently available as Independent and Distance Learning courses. These arrangements are made on an individual basis and are contingent upon the approval of the department in which the course

is offered and the availability of a qualified faculty member willing to direct the project. Students and faculty members agree upon the conditions that must be fulfilled for credit to be awarded. The work may include a variety of readings, papers, projects, and examinations. This option is most successfully used by experienced students.

**Course Credit by Examination** represents the least structured method of obtaining college credit through Independent and Distance Learning. Students enroll in a course and receive a brief syllabus that describes the nature of the course, the textbooks and other materials to study, and the type of examination. Students prepare for the examination without assistance from a faculty member. Letter grades, including failures, are recorded. Credit is awarded for a passing grade.

The **External Student Program** is for adults who are interested in a degree without residence on campus. The program provides help in evaluating previous college course work and in planning a degree program. Students can work on one of several associate degrees, the Bachelor of Specialized Studies, the Bachelor of Technical and Applied Studies, or the Bachelor of Criminal Justice by taking Independent and Distance Learning courses by correspondence, Course Credit by Examination, or various online options. Many students also take advantage of the Institutes for Adult Learners and portfolio-based assessment.

The **Experiential Learning Program**, or portfolio-based assessment, helps qualified adults document and receive credit for learning that has occurred through employment or volunteer activities. A maximum of 48 credits may be earned toward a four-year degree. EDCE 203, Credit for Work Experience: Portfolio Development, which focuses on the development of the learning portfolio and is required for the submission of a portfolio, is offered on the Athens and regional campuses and by correspondence.

The **Institutes for Adult Learners** allow adult students to come to the Athens campus for one to three weeks of intensive study. This award-winning program gives students the opportunity to earn college credit with other adults who are pursuing degrees.

The **College Program for the Incarcerated** serves incarcerated adults who wish to earn a degree or college credit. Students receive guidance in evaluating previous college work and planning a degree. The Bachelor of Specialized Studies and three associate degrees are available. Students may also transfer credit to other institutions.

Most credit is earned through Independent and Distance Learning courses, either by correspondence or Course Credit by Examination. Comprehensive fees make college-level study more accessible to incarcerated learners.

**The Lifelong Learning Office of Ohio University Without Boundaries** designs, develops, and delivers learning experiences that integrate life, work, and learning on a continual basis, regardless of physical location, for professional working people and other adult learners. Offerings include graduate-level degree programs for targeted professionals, executive or professional education and certificate programs for individuals or partner organizations, and online learning communities that provide enrichment opportunities featuring prominent faculty and alumni. Undergraduate course credit is also available through some programs.

Many programs are built upon a learning architecture that combines the convenience of online collaboration and content acquisition with the proven benefits of face-to-face interaction through a small number of high-intensity residencies. Interactive learning modules and enrichment opportunities are presented in a multimedia format, including video, animation, and sound as well as text.

Graduate program offerings include the Master's Program in Athletic Administration, Executive Master of Public Administration, Executive Ph.D. in Higher Education, and Master of Leadership in Educational Administration.

The **Real Estate Certificate program** consists of four undergraduate courses in Real Estate Technology. Completion of these courses qualifies students to apply for the Ohio Division of Real Estate state exam.

**Ohio University Degree Program in Hong Kong** was established in 1985, in cooperation with Hong Kong Baptist University School of Continuing Education. Ohio University in Hong Kong offers a variety of associate and baccalaureate programs. A listing of the courses and programs and additional information is available at <http://www.ohio.edu/hk/>.

Students can earn their bachelor's degree in four years by attending evening classes full-time or by attending part-time and taking as long as they need to complete their degree. Students can attend classes onsite in Hong Kong, study at any of the Ohio University campuses in Ohio, or complete coursework through several

Independent and Distance learning modes. Most students combine several of these options. The degree awarded in Hong Kong is the same degree awarded to students attending classes on campuses in Ohio. All course work can be completed without leaving Hong Kong.

The **Office of Summer Sessions** offers undergraduate and graduate courses, workshops, and special programs on the Athens and regional campuses and online to traditional, non-traditional, visiting, and high school students. Students experience a relaxed campus atmosphere, smaller classes, a friendly and diverse student body, unique and specialized classes and formats, and many extra-curricular events. Summer Sessions provide students with an extra quarter to begin a degree, earn a teaching certificate, learn a new language, update professional skills, or catch up on courses. For complete information about Summer Sessions, please visit <http://www.ohio.edu/summer/>.

This office also administers the Winter Intersession program, one that allows students an opportunity to complete required courses during the long holiday break in December. A variety of courses are available primarily to juniors and seniors.

**Ohio University Online** delivers into your home the same dynamic, hands-on instruction that characterizes the best on-campus classes. All lesson content for these term-based classes is on the Web, and all communication is by e-mail, including lesson submission and the instructor's responses. Also, we provide the support you need so you won't be left to "go it alone."

Ohio University Online means:

- Ignoring the clock. Come to the online class whenever it's convenient for you!
- Quality education without giving up quality time.
- Small class sizes with one-on-one instructor guidance and personalized communication.
- A large selection of online course options each quarter.

For complete information about Ohio University Online, please visit <http://www.ohio.edu/ouonline/>.

**For further information about any of these programs, contact**  
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