

Regional Campuses and Distance Education (RCDE)

Degrees, Minors, Endorsements, and Certificates

Complete degree and certificate programs can be earned entirely through Regional Campuses and Distance Education (RCDE). Courses offered online are asynchronous, allowing students to coordinate assignments around their schedules, and do not require meeting at a specific place or time. Interactive Broadcast courses are synchronous, meaning that although the instructor and students may be in different locations, they all meet together on a regular schedule, each at a USU Regional Campus, center, or site. Face-to-face courses are taught at regional campuses and selected centers by either faculty members or adjunct faculty members. **Note:** The degrees and programs listed below are *not offered at all sites and locations*. For more information, visit <http://campuses.usu.edu> or call the nearest center.

Associate Degrees

General Studies—AS
Office Systems Support—AAS
Ornamental Horticulture—AAS

Bachelor's Degrees

Agribusiness—BS
Biology—BS, BA
Business—BS, BA
Business (Entrepreneurship)—BS, BA (starting Fall Semester 2007)
Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education—
(second bachelor's, online)—BS, BA
Computer Science—BS, BA
Elementary Education—BS, BA
English—BS, BA
Family, Consumer, and Human Development—BS, BA
History—BS, BA
Interdisciplinary Studies—BS, BA
Psychology—BS, BA
Psychology—BS, BA (online)
Secondary Education—BS, BA
Sociology—BS, BA
Special Education (Early Childhood)—BS, BA
Special Education (Mild/Moderate)—BS, BA
Special Education (Mild/Moderate Alternative)—BS, BA
Special Education (Severe)—BS, BA

Master's Degrees

Agricultural Systems Technology—MS
Business Administration—MBA
Computer Science—MS, MCS
Electrical Engineering—MS, ME
Elementary Education—MS, MA, MEd
English (Technical Writing)—MS, MA (online)
Family and Human Development—MFHD
Health, Physical Education and Recreation—MS, MEd
Instructional Technology—MS, MEd
Psychology (licensure in school counseling)—MS
Rehabilitation Counseling—MRC
Secondary Education—MS, MA, MEd
Special Education—MS, MEd

Doctorate Degrees

Education (Distance)—EdD
Educational Specialist—EdS

Minors

Anthropology
English
Family and Human Development
History
Mathematics Education
Multimedia Development
Psychology
Sociology

Endorsements and Certificates

Administrative/Supervisory Endorsement
Dietetic Internship Certificate
Distance Education Certificate
Early Childhood Education Endorsement
English as a Second Language Endorsement
Gifted and Talented Endorsement
Linguistics Certificate (online)
Middle School Education Endorsement
NEPA Certificate
Ornamental Horticulture Certificate
Reading Endorsement
School Library Media Endorsement
Special Education (Early Childhood) Endorsement
Special Education (Mild/Moderate) Endorsement
Special Education (Mild/Moderate Alternative) Endorsement
Special Education (Severe) Endorsement

Regional Campuses and Distance Education

During the past two decades, University faculty and administration have strengthened service to residents through development and delivery of Distance Education academic programs in partnership with University departments. Distance Education provides opportunities for students to complete degrees and receive training that are time and place bound. This is accomplished through regional campuses and sites around the State of Utah and through Distance Education. Distance Education provides opportunities for professional and vocational learning in addition to providing lifelong enrichment through social and cultural programs. Persons in all situations and of all ages can access learning opportunities which will increase their knowledge and skills without disrupting their employment or lifestyles.

Admission: Admission to USU is not required for enrollment in Distance Education courses. Most Distance Education classes are taught on the semester system, and classes follow the on-campus calendar (except for summer semester). High school students may enroll in courses for college credit if they have completed their junior year, have a 3.0 minimum grade point average, and have a letter of approval from their parents. Under House Bill 60 (1977), Utah residents 62 years of age or older may audit any course, on a space-available basis, for \$10 per semester, **plus any course fees or special fees that may be attached to classes.**

Registration: Registration is held at the Regional Campuses and Distance Education Office, located in the Eccles Conference Center room 103, or at any USU Regional Campus and Distance Education Center. Students may also request registration for these courses via the Regional Campuses and Distance Education website: <http://distance.usu.edu>.

Books and Supplies: Utah State University students may now avoid the long lines associated with buying books. The Bookstore has a program called Express-A-Book available to all students. By using

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Express-A-Book, students may have their textbooks shipped directly to their door. To order course materials, students may call (800) 662-3950, (435) 797-3950, or FAX (435) 797-8261. Students may also order books online at <http://www.bookstore.usu.edu>. Students should receive their book orders within five working days, depending on stock availability and UPS delivery schedule. If a class is canceled, books may be returned for a full refund, provided no marks have been made in them. Books may be purchased with Visa, MasterCard, or Discover credit cards. Students who prefer to pay by check or money order should contact the Bookstore for the cost of the materials. Checks (payable to the USU Bookstore) should be sent to:

USU Bookstore
Attn: Express-A-Book
0200 Old Main Hill
Logan UT 84322-0200

Books may also be purchased from the Distance Education section, located at the back of the USU Bookstore, or from any other convenient source.

Late Fees: There are no late fees for Regional Campuses and Distance Education courses.

Withdrawals: Students who plan to withdraw from a class must notify the Regional Campuses and Distance Education Office and complete a drop form. An *F* grade is recorded on a student's transcript when classes are not properly dropped. Drops cannot be accepted after the specified date. A signature is required on drop/add forms. No drops can be accepted over the phone.

Exams: Most exams for online and print-based classes are proctored and must be taken at Regional Campuses and Distance Education Centers throughout Utah. Students who live in Cache Valley may come to the Regional Campuses and Distance Education testing center in room 108 of the Eccles Conference Center to take exams. Students who live outside of Utah or are not close to a Regional Campuses and Distance Education Center should make arrangements with a proctor at a university testing center, military education center, or public library. Proctors at off-campus sites must be approved in advance by the Regional Campuses and Distance Education office.

Interactive Broadcast Courses

In cooperation with the Utah Education Network (UEN), interactive broadcast courses are provided via satellite, EDNET, and emerging video-teleconferencing technologies to students throughout the state of Utah and surrounding areas. The technologies allow students at many locations to all be part of the same classroom and interact in real-time with their instructors and classmates. Classrooms at any one of 33 USU Regional Centers and Campuses, as well as at other cooperating sites, let students in every corner of the state attend classes close to home.

Programs and Courses: Eleven graduate and four bachelor's degrees, as well as certificates, endorsements, and minors, can be earned through participation in interactive broadcast courses. General education classes are also taught.

Broadcast Technologies: Most courses are broadcast over the UEN Satellite System, which provides high-quality one-way video and two-way audio. The system connects instructors who teach students in a classroom from USU's Logan campus (or other originating sites) with students in classrooms scattered all over the state. All participants can see the instructor and hear and talk with each other.

Courses in the educational doctorate, instructional technology, special education, school counseling, and public administration programs use video-teleconferencing and the EDNET system. In this setting, a camera in every classroom allows all participants at all sites to both see and hear each other.

The technologies used in distance learning classes also provide the instructor with innovative ways of presenting information, including the use of still graphics, electronic overhead, videotapes, computer slide shows, computer applications, and the Internet.

Class Experiences: Broadcast classes are not all high-tech gadgetry. Classes are close to what students would receive in any university setting. Class discussions, lectures, presentations, and assigned readings are used as in any other classroom. Equipment in distance learning classrooms includes television monitors, computers, and fax machines, as well as a statewide distribution system facilitating homework, tests, and other materials between distance learning students and the instructor.

Students at a distance are encouraged to interact, not just with the instructor, but with the students at their sites and other sites. Initially, equipment can be intimidating to students, but within a short time the hardware becomes fairly transparent.

Tuition: Tuition for interactive broadcast courses follows the same tuition scale as other USU courses, and credit hours are considered a part of the main campus student load.

Schedule: Courses are taught on the same schedule as main campus courses (with the exception of summer semester).

Semester-based Online Courses

Distance Education online courses are designed for access anytime day or night. Students complete homework assignments from their home computer or a computer at a local library or Regional Campuses and Distance Education center. Semester-based online courses begin and end on the same days as campus courses, and students register according to regular campus registration schedules. Students taking semester-based online courses must complete the courses during the semester.

Tuition: Tuition for semester-based online courses is \$188 per credit for undergraduate courses and \$240 per credit for graduate-level courses. Tuition for semester-based online courses is not transferable to campus or independent study courses. Tuition refunds are issued according to the campus refund schedule.

Independent Study Online Yearlong Courses

Students may register for Independent Study online courses at any time and have one year from the date of registration to complete courses. It is recommended that students consult with an academic advisor prior to registering for Independent Study courses.

Tuition: Tuition for Independent Study courses is \$188 per credit for undergraduate courses and \$240 per credit for graduate-level courses. Tuition refunds will be issued on the following scale:

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Tuition Refund Percentage Yearlong Online Courses	
100% less a \$10 per credit handling fee	Up to 3 weeks or 21 days
90% less a \$10 per credit handling fee	Up to 5 weeks or 35 days
70% less a \$10 per credit handling fee	Up to 8 weeks or 56 days
50% less a \$10 per credit handling fee	Up to 10 weeks or 70 days

Independent Study CD/Print-based Yearlong Courses

Students may register for Independent Study CD/Print-based courses at any time and have one year from the date of registration to complete courses. It is recommended that students consult with an academic advisor prior to registering for Independent Study courses.

Tuition: Tuition for Independent Study courses is \$188 per credit for undergraduate courses and \$240 per credit for graduate-level courses. Tuition refunds will be issued on the following scale:

Tuition Refund Percentage Yearlong CD/Print-based Courses	
100% less a \$10 per credit handling fee & \$10 per submitted assignment	Up to 3 weeks or 21 days
90% less a \$10 per credit handling fee & \$10 per submitted assignment	Up to 5 weeks or 35 days
70% less a \$10 per credit handling fee & \$10 per submitted assignment	Up to 8 weeks or 56 days
50% less a \$10 per credit handling fee & \$10 per submitted assignment	Up to 10 weeks or 70 days

For further information about Regional Campuses and Distance Education, see pages 90-92 of the *2007-2009 USU General Catalog*.