DISTANCE EDUCATION

VERSES

CORRESPONDENCE EDUCATION

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REGULAR EFFECTIVE CONTACT

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California Title V
§53200 “10+1”

1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites.

2. Degree and certificate requirements.

3. Grading policies.

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11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon.
WHAT DO THE FEDS SAY

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34, Education §602.

Correspondence Education Means:

1. Education provided through one or more courses by an institution under which the institution provides instructional materials, by mail or electronic transmission, including examinations on the materials, to students who are separated from the instructor.

2. Interaction between the instructor and the student is limited, is not regular and substantive, and is primarily initiated by the student.

3. Correspondence courses are typically self-paced.

4. Correspondence education is not distance education.
WHAT DO THE FEDS SAY

- Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34, Education §602.
  - Distance education means:

  - Education that uses one or more of the technologies listed in paragraphs (1) through (4) of this definition to deliver instruction to students who are separated from the instructor and to support regular and substantive interaction between the students and the instructor, either synchronously or asynchronously. The technologies may include:

  1. The internet;
  2. One-way and two-way transmissions through open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, broadband lines, fiber optics, satellite, or wireless communications devices:
  3. Audio conferencing; or
  4. Video cassettes, DVDs, and CDROMs, if the cassettes, DVDs, or CDROMs are used in a course in conjunction with any of the technologies listed in paragraphs (1) through (3) of this definition.

- What do the Feds Say

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WHAT DOES THE ACCJC SAY

- Distance education is defined, for the purpose of accreditation review as a formal interaction which uses one or more technologies to deliver instruction to students who are separated from the instructor and which support regular and substantive interaction between the student and instructor...

WHAT DOES TITLE 5 SAY

§ 55204. Instructor Contact.

In addition to the requirements of section 55002 and any locally established requirements applicable to all courses, district governing boards shall ensure that:

(a) Any portion of a course conducted through distance education includes regular effective contact between instructor and students, through group or individual meetings, orientation and review sessions, supplemental seminar or study sessions, field trips, library workshops, telephone contact, correspondence, voice mail, e-mail, or other activities. Regular effective contact is an academic and professional matter pursuant to sections 53200 et seq.
An online course never* requires a meeting on campus but does require instructor initiated regular and substantive interaction with the students, either synchronously or asynchronously.

These courses are conducted entirely over the internet where course materials are posted on a course website.

*There can be local variation as to whether or not an online course may require on campus proctored testing.
A hybrid course combines online learning with scheduled face-to-face class sessions on campus with the instructor.

The campus sessions meet at the scheduled days, times, and defined location as indicated in the schedule of classes.
ONLINE, HYBRID, & CORRESPONDENT COURSES

A correspondence course provides instructional materials by mail or electronic transmission, including examinations and materials.

Interaction between the instructor and the students is limited, is not regular and substantive, and is primarily initiated by the student. These courses are usually self-paced.
REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE (PLUS EFFECTIVE) CONTACT

Now what?
What precisely does Regular and Substantive contact mean?

Who defines it?

**Hint:** Title 5 § 55204.

*Regular effective contact is an academic and professional matter pursuant to sections 53200 et seq.*
## METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: INSTRUCTOR/STUDENT CONTACT.

### A. INFORMATION DELIVERY

- **Procedural Announcements**
- **Course Materials/Modules**
- **Personalized Audio/Video Content**
- **Online Video Databases**
- **Internet Resources**
- **Library/Database Resources**
- **Electronic Databases**
- **Webcasts**
- **Podcasts**
- **Webinars**
- **Discussion Forums**
- **Listserv**

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11. **Discussion Forums**
12. **Listserv**
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: INSTRUCTOR/STUDENT CONTACT.

B. REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE CONTACT

- Reactive and Observational Announcements
- Chat Rooms
- E-mail
- Instant messaging
- Private Messages
- Responding to Bulletin Board/Public Message Forum
- Responding to Discussion boards
- E-Conferencing /Video Conferencing
- Internet library resources
- Timely Webcasts
- Timely Podcasts

California Title V §53200 “10+1”

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METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: INSTRUCTOR/STUDENT CONTACT.

C. HYBRID/IN-PERSON CONTACT

- Personal Orientation Sessions
- In-Person Group Meetings
- In-Person Review Sessions
- In-Person Examinations
- Other (please describe):
ACCESSIBILITY

- If webcasts, podcasts, or any audio/video content boxes are checked, explain how they will be made accessible and section 508 compliant.
SO YOU’VE GOT A DEFINITION

• Need A Process
  ◊ How are you verifying your courses meet your definition?
    ✫ Documentation
      ✳ COR or other approval process
    ✫ Training & Professional Development

• What does your process look like?

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REGULAR AND EFFECTIVE CONTACT:

- Online courses must have regular and substantive instructor/student contact and interaction initiated by the instructor.
- This includes but is not limited to examples that are listed under Letter B on Page 3 and/or
  - (a) themed discussions/interactions between instructor and students,
  - (b) interactive assignments between instructor and student, and
  - (c) instructor feedback and communication of course progress to students.
- After reading the statement above, is there any reason that regular and substantive contact cannot be maintained?
- If yes, briefly explain the problem and how that problem is resolved in the regular face-to-face class.
DISCUSSION

• Questions, Comments, Concerns?
• What do you do at your college?

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A PLACE TO START
(CLICK ON COLLEGE LOGO FOR THEIR POLICY)