## Research Exercise (13 points) Objectives 5, 7, and 8

Identify a specific graduate degree program in instructional technology, distance education, or both, that is offered *entirely or primarily via distance education*. Identify just one program at one university. Answer the following questions:

Part I: The institution and its programs (1 point each, unless otherwise indicated)

- 1. List the name, mailing address, and website URL of the institution. [.5 point] University of Central Florida, 4000 Central Florida Blvd, Orlando Florida 32816, ucf.edu/online
- 2. What degrees and majors are offered in the identified program? For instance, NSU offers an EdD in instructional technology and distance education. University of Central Florida offers an MA in instructional Design and Technology with a track in Educational Technology. [.5 point]
- 3. For how long has the institution been offering the identified program at a distance? This information is not available online but, based on personal information, it has been at least several years. Their website says at least "20 years" of online teaching experience. According to one professor who was working when they started the program, Dr. Hartshorne, (I called and left a message) said it has been in existence for 18 years.
- 4. What course delivery technologies are used? Be specific: general terms such as "Web-based" are insufficient. Also, be inclusive, bearing in mind that many programs use a variety of technologies in addition to a course management system. Delivery programs includes Canvas and similar software programs that the University uploads content to. There are several instructional designers who work with the faculty to provide content digitally, and the professors can pull assignments and view work of students using Canvas. Grades, too, can be submitted and viewed through the Canvas or similar software, such as ARC/Studio tied to Canvas, audacity and Camtasia and Web/video conferencing.
- 5. Is there a face-to-face component of instruction? If so, where is it conducted, and for what duration? Some classes include face-to-face components, some do not. This degree program however offers both. One of the news articles featured on the UCF website stated that some students have earned the degree with never physically visiting campus. Some live-lecture or live- delivery sessions include the option for students to visit the class face-to-face and meet with the professor individually or live. However, they are not mandatory. This particular degree offers online and hybrid courses, designed for working students. It enables students to complete courses in traditional, web and what they call mix mode one face to face every other week.
- 6. How long does it take to earn a degree in the identified program? (Indicate either the briefest amount of time required or the amount of time most students require.)

- This degree can be finished in two years to obtain a MA in Instructional Technology and Design with a track in Educational Technology. The MA requires credit 36 hours.
- 7. *Is the institution accredited? If so, by what organization?* [.5 point] UCF holds numerous accreditations, including numerous national, federal, state, and regional accreditations. One specific accreditation is Southern Association of Colleges.
- 8. *Is the institution public or private? If private, is it for-profit or not-for-profit?* [.5 point] UCF is a public, Florida State School.
- 9. What is the total enrollment of the institution? How many students are enrolled in the identified distance-delivered program? There are approximately 2,900 students in the Community Innovation & Education college with Instructional Design & Technology being within that school. UCF has 59,000 students overall.
- 10. What is the tuition (per course or per year)? The cost per in-state credit hour is \$327.32 according to <a href="https://www.ucf.edu/online/degree/instructional-design-technology-m-a/">https://www.ucf.edu/online/degree/instructional-design-technology-m-a/</a> Therefore, a 39 credit hour degree would cost at least \$12,765.

**Part II:** The institution's website (1 point each), Critique the institution's (or program's) website, answering the following questions:

11. How would you rate the visual appeal of the site? What elements are visually appealing, and which aspects are less so? Include screen shot(s) to illustrate. The website is visually clean, with plenty of white space. Basic, general information is highlighted with a request for more information to get students to begin the process. A video is included for more information, as well as lot of links about the University, the school, and the program.

Learning Sciences and Educational Research

Careers

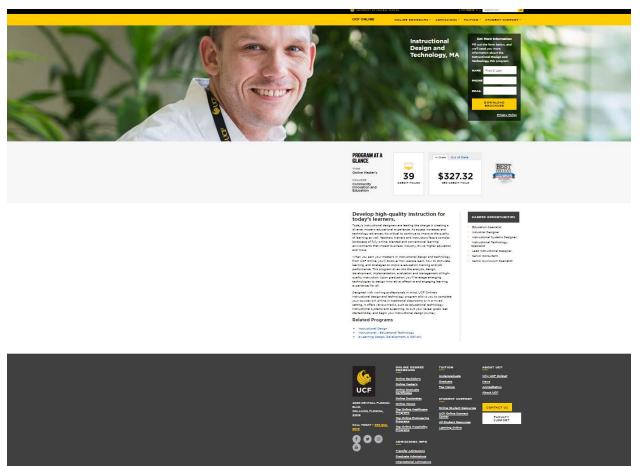
Instructional Design & Technology

Descriptions of the process of the pro

https://ccie.ucf.edu/lser/instructional-design-and-technology/careers/

Advanced preparation through a graduate program in Instructional Design & Technology prepares individuals for practice and leadership in the following areas and careers:

E-Learning



1. Is the site easily navigable and well organized? Provide examples. Yes. All of the links work and include a search bar in the upper right hand corner of every page. Search results are returned within a UCF page and can be previewed, accessed, and organized within the page. The links are all directing the visitor to other UCF information and can include highlighted information about the search itself

# SEARCH UCF

number of degrees

Results About 32,600 results (0.26 seconds)

Sort by:

Relevance +

#### UCF Facts 2018-19 | University of Central Florida - Orlando, FL

https://www.ucf.edu/about-ucf/facts/

All about UCF: Campus Information, Carnegie Classification, degrees offered, ... and the number of incoming National Merit Scholars ranked UCF among the top ...

#### Burnett School Awards Highest Number Of Graduate Degrees

 $\label{lem:https://med.ucf.edu/.../burnett-school-to-award-highest-{\bf number}-of-graduate-{\bf \ degrees}-on-saturdav/$ 

Burnett School Awards Highest **Number** Of Graduate **Degrees**. Released on 08.01.2019. A record **number** of graduate students from the Burnett School of ...

#### University of Central Florida Academics & Degree Programs

https://www.ucf.edu/academics/

UCF has more than 200 college **degrees** to choose from. Whatever your passion may be, UCF has the graduate or undergraduate **degree** program you're ...

#### Facts About UCF | Campus info, stats, and degree information

https://www.ucf.edu/about-ucf/facts-2016-2017/

In fall 2016, the freshman class had an average SAT two-score of 1262, The Burnett Honors College enrolled nearly 1,700 students, and the **number** of incoming ...

#### UCF to Offer New Doctoral Degree in Strategic Communication ...

https://www.ucf.edu/.../ucf-offer-new-doctoral-degree-strategic- communication/

Jan 2, 2019 ... That will bring to 225 the **number of degrees** offered at the university, including 30 doctorates. The program is offered through the Nicholson ...

### UCF **Degrees** Awarded

- 3. Does the site contain sufficient information to answer questions 1-10? If not, provide details. Yes. Information is very easy to access and clear basic information with lots of resources to get additional information.
- 4. What is the most positive aspect of the website? The most positive aspect of the website is its ease of use. Links relate to additional content, and additional information is presented in multiple ways. The cover pages/landing pages include more in-depth information to get a brochure for more information. Visitors can drill-down into specific course content and catalogues
- 5. What aspect of the site is most in need of improvement? There are not links to specific jobs related to the program. For example, the website says that on the job real-world experience is encouraged but examples of business partners or more companies that use

UCF graduates is not provided. In other words, the relationship and connection between the specific degree program and career/work is not highlighted.

Submit completed paper in Canvas. Please give the document a descriptive title, such as your name plus "research exercise."