

West Virginia University

President: Dr. James P. Clements

Location: Morgantown, WV

Url: <http://www.wvu.edu>

Character: Public, land-grant institution, founded in 1867

Research Classification: Research University (High Research Activity) as classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; Faculty conduct \$177.7 million annually in sponsored contracts and research grants.

Enrollment: Fall 2010 29,306\*

Accreditation: The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and dozens of specialized accrediting agencies.

Academic Excellence: WVU ranks nationally for prestigious scholarships - 25 Rhodes Scholars, 21 Truman Scholars, 33 Goldwater Scholars, two Morris K. Udall Scholars, and two British Marshall Scholars, six *U.S.A. Today* ALL-USA College Academic First Team Members (and 11 academic team honorees), six Boren Scholars, two Gilman Scholars and one Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholar.

Academics: 13 colleges and schools offering 193 bachelor's, master's, doctoral, and professional degree programs in the arts and sciences; business and economics; creative arts; engineering and mineral resources; human resources and education; journalism; law; agriculture, natural resources and design; dentistry; medicine; nursing; pharmacy; physical activity and sport sciences; plus the WVU Honors College, programs at Potomac State College and West Virginia University Institute of Technology. Visit: <http://www.wvu.edu/Academics/>

Distance Learning: WVU Extended Learning offers 11 online graduate degrees, 7 graduate blended degrees, 3 online undergraduate degree completion programs, 6 online graduate certificates as well as continuing and professional education courses. As a participant in the Southern Regional Electronic Campus, sponsored by the Southern Regional Education Board, nearly half of WVU's graduate degree programs and undergraduate minors are available at a resident tuition rate. <http://elearn.wvu.edu/>

Faculty use Blackboard's Learning Management System, called eCampus and Wimba Live Classroom for the majority of online instruction (<https://eCampus.wvu.edu>). Students access courses through an individualized identification log-in that is validated through the Student Information System.

WVU's Instructional Technology Resource Center provides technical and pedagogical support in the development of online courses. From resources such as the Sloan pillars, University of Maryland's Quality Matters and Best Practices in Electronically Delivered Programs, WVU has developed a standards checklist for key components in online design, development and delivery. Faculty Development Workshops are available frequently and as needed. Tools such as Turnitin, Respondus Lockdown Browser, Wimba Classroom, Smarthinking and iWebfolio are available to faculty and students, see <https://ecampus.wvu.edu/about/software-and-services>.

## **West Virginia University Distance Education Programs**

### **Programs in which some physical presence required in student's state of residence:**

Nursing – Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), post MSN certificate program, and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) All courses are delivered online through synchronous video streaming and asynchronous interactive content. These programs require site based preceptors in the student's home community for clinical practica. The MSN program and the post MSN certificate program prepare nurse practitioners, and include 10 credit hours of clinical practica (600 clock hours over 2 semesters) in one of the specialty preparation areas, including family practice, pediatrics, neonatal care, women's health, and geriatrics. The DNP program prepares advanced practice nurses who will practice at the highest, specialized level of practice, and includes a minimum of 7 credit hours to a maximum of 15 credit hours of clinical practica (400-1000 clock hours over 2-3 semesters) in a specialty area. Campus based faculty provide online and periodic on campus (WVU) oversight, and use various modalities to visit the students and preceptors in clinical sites. The MSN and DNP programs are accredited by the Council on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and meet all accreditation standards. Preceptors meet School of Nursing standards for education and practice experience. A signed affiliation agreement with the preceptor's organization is in place prior to student practica experiences. Details for these programs are available at  
MSN - [http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son/academicPrograms\\_msn.aspx](http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son/academicPrograms_msn.aspx)  
DNP- [http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son/academicPrograms\\_dnp.aspx](http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son/academicPrograms_dnp.aspx)

Special Education – Master of Arts in Special Education. Courses are offered online using a combination of live webinar and asynchronous content available through the learning management system. The special education program offers 6 different programs leading to the Master's degree in Special Education and/or teaching certification in some area of specialization within that discipline. Students who intend to seek certification in another state are advised to consult with the state education agency in that state for confirmation that the WVU program will satisfy state requirements BEFORE they enroll and the program coordinator can submit documentation such as syllabi if needed for review by state certification personnel. Nearly all courses require some field experiences in a public school to complete required assignments. Programs leading to certification require a semester long culminating clinical experience in the public schools at the end of the program. Applicants are advised that they may need to submit a criminal background check and documentation of health status to be permitted to have contact with students in schools. Individuals are not admitted to the program unless their application includes a completed Field Experiences Permission Form signed by a representative of a public school system in the home community agreeing to allow access to schools for field and clinical experiences. Working teachers may complete field and clinical experiences in their job setting with colleague supervision, while other students must be placed in a school program where they are supervised by a certified master teacher. Students work individually with the local school system to arrange placements for each course with guidance from the instructors throughout the program. When all courses are completed, students submit an application for culminating practicum that verifies they earned a grade of A or B on all courses and passing scores on all Praxis Content Tests for the area of

specialization. The application includes forms signed by the district representative, the building principal, and the cooperating teacher granting permission to conduct the clinical experiences in the public schools. The practicum coordinator is available to respond to school personnel if questions or concerns arise during the application process or in the conduct of the field or clinical experiences. All direct supervision of field and clinical experiences is accomplished by personnel in the local schools with guidance provided only online by university personnel.

The Master of Arts in Special Education has earned specialized accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and holds professional recognition by the Council of Exceptional Children as meeting the 10 national professional standards for special educators. This Masters degree offers programs in six areas: Autism Spectrum Disorders, Early Intervention, Gifted Education, Low Vision/Blindness, Multicategorical Special Education, and Severe Multiple Disabilities. Details for the Master of Arts in Special Education by specialization are available at [http://hre.wvu.edu/academics/graduate\\_programs/master\\_s\\_degrees/special\\_education](http://hre.wvu.edu/academics/graduate_programs/master_s_degrees/special_education).

**The following graduate degrees, baccalaureate degree completion programs and certificates are offered entirely online:**

Digital Marketing Communication – Graduate Certificate. Digital Marketing Communication is a strategic practice that uses interactive channels to build community around a brand or organization. Students will gain the knowledge and skills to communicate and create dialogue with today’s modern audience. This online certificate requires five courses, 15 credit hours. <http://www.digital.wvu.edu/about/index.html>

Elementary Education – Master of Arts in Elementary Education. The online Elementary program provides opportunities for graduate study and research leading to the degree of Master of Arts (M.A.) for educators and other professionals with educational responsibilities. The Elementary Education program is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and meets all accreditation standards. This online degree consists of 36 credit hours. (SREC) <http://depts.hre.wvu.edu/c&ils/online/elemedu.html>

Emergency Medicine – Graduate Certificate. This unique program utilizes need-to-know information critical to the Emergency Room medical team. Through podcasts, video and annotated web links, the information is delivered in reusable formats. This online certificate consists of 18 credit hours. (SREC) <http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/som/EM/Education/EMCP/Default.aspx>

Instructional Design and Technology – Master of Arts in Instructional Design and Technology. The growth in online learning both in education and corporate training has created a need for people who can design, develop, implement and evaluate educational courses. This online degree, consisting of 36 credit hours, is open to many disciplines. [http://tlc.wvu.edu/academics/idt/idt\\_ma\\_program/online\\_idt\\_ma\\_program](http://tlc.wvu.edu/academics/idt/idt_ma_program/online_idt_ma_program)

Integrated Marketing Communications – Master of Integrated Marketing Communications. Both the Masters degree and twelve hour Certificate are offered entirely online. This is only one of two programs available online in the nation and is a participant in SREC. The explosion of new marketing technologies has created a need for a new type of degree that trains professionals to see the world the way the consumer sees them. This online program offers 39 credit hours in nine-week sessions over a two-year period. (SREC) <http://imc.wvu.edu/>

Legal Studies – Master of Legal Studies. For those who work with the legal system, this degree can give them a better understanding of the law. Many of the graduates work in human services, criminal justice, court administration, etc. The 36 credit hours are offered online. (SREC) <http://elearn.wvu.edu/Degrees/LegalStudies/index.php>

Multidisciplinary Studies – Bachelor of Arts. The MDS program is comprised of three related minors. A minor must include at least 15 hours of coursework, with a minimum of nine (9) hours at the upper division level (course numbers 300 or above). The program does not limit students to courses of study in a particular area, but rather stresses the importance of breadth of knowledge and cross disciplinary communication. MDS emphasizes flexibility and combines specialized knowledge from individual disciplines with a unique ability to approach problems from divergent perspectives. Students learn to apply their minors to real world problems through a capstone project. The 128 credit hours can be completed online. <http://elearn.wvu.edu/Degrees/MDS>

Nonprofit Management – Graduate Certificate. The Division of Social Work, in cooperation with the other units of the School of Applied Social Sciences, offers a 15 credit hour online graduate certificate in nonprofit management. The program consists of two required 3 credit hour courses, 6 credit hours of electives, and a 3 credit hour capstone project. [http://socialwork.wvu.edu/certificates/nonprofit\\_management\\_certificate\\_program](http://socialwork.wvu.edu/certificates/nonprofit_management_certificate_program)

Nursing—RN-BSN. The online BSN completion program is offered completely online and provides opportunities for registered nurses to complete the baccalaureate degree in nursing (BSN). This program is accredited by the Council on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Details for the RN-BSN program are available at [http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son/academicPrograms\\_rn\\_bsn.aspx](http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son/academicPrograms_rn_bsn.aspx)

Public Health – Master of Public Health. This online public health degree educates professionals in their efforts to improve the well-being of their communities, especially in rural areas. Students can develop skills to help them develop and assess healthcare policies, a critical 21st century issue. The program is accredited by The Council on Education for Public Health. The degree requires 42 credit hours. <http://elearn.wvu.edu/Degrees/PublicHealth/index.php>

Regents - Bachelor of Arts. This degree is an innovative degree designed for adult students. The basic principle underlying the degree is that credit is awarded for what students know regardless of how that knowledge was attained. The program differs from other bachelor degrees in that Regents students may earn “college equivalent credit” for selected work and life experiences which can be equated to college courses. Areas of Emphasis are an optional feature of the RBA degree. In some curriculum areas, departments have identified a set of upper division courses that constitute an Area of Emphasis (AOEs). All AOEs require a minimum of 15 hours of upper division (300 level or above) course work. In some cases lower division prerequisites may also be required. Some

departments specify all the courses for the AOE; other departments allow students to select courses. Required courses completed with a "C" or

better will count toward the AOE. Earned AOE's are noted on the student's transcript. This degree requires 128 credit hours. <http://rba.wvu.edu>

School Health Education – Master of Science in School Health. This online degree provides certified teachers with the knowledge to teach students about health and well-being. This degree requires 30 credit hours. (SREC) <http://elearn.wvu.edu/Degrees/SchoolHealthEd/index.php>

Secondary Education – Master of Arts in Secondary Education (Science Emphasis). This online degree is for science teachers. The coursework provides academic experiences to increase their skills in curriculum development and science education. The program is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The degree requires 36 credit hours. (SREC)  
[http://hre.wvu.edu/academics/graduate\\_programs/master\\_s\\_degrees/secondary\\_education](http://hre.wvu.edu/academics/graduate_programs/master_s_degrees/secondary_education)

Secondary Education – Master of Arts in Secondary Education (Social Studies Emphasis). Social Studies teachers who seek a master's degree that helps build their curriculum development skills will benefit from this online master's degree. The Secondary Education program is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Electives in the 36 credit hours are aligned with the needs of the individual. (SREC)  
[http://hre.wvu.edu/academics/graduate\\_programs/master\\_s\\_degrees/secondary\\_education](http://hre.wvu.edu/academics/graduate_programs/master_s_degrees/secondary_education)

Software Engineering – Master of Science in Software Engineering and Certificate of Software Engineering. Professionals in the information technology industry will develop graduate level expertise with this online Software Engineering degree. Courses are offered one night a week via the Internet. Students begin with 15 credits which can be applied to a graduate certificate and then complete the final 18 hours for the master's. The degree requires 33 credit hours. (SREC)  
<http://www.lcsee.cemr.wvu.edu/grad/degree-info.php?degree=msse>

### The following graduate degrees are offered online with a residence on the WVU campus:

Athletic Coaching – Master of Science in Athletic Coaching. The Athletic Coaching degree prepares students to coach in an educational setting. Students take 36 hours over a two-year period. The program is offered online during the academic year and students come to campus for two weeks in two summers. (SREC)  
[http://cpass.wvu.edu/academic\\_programs/masters/athletic\\_coaching\\_education/online\\_information](http://cpass.wvu.edu/academic_programs/masters/athletic_coaching_education/online_information)

Executive M.B.A. – Master of Business Administration. This program combines online learning with four on-site residencies to create a well-rounded experience for business professionals. One of the residencies is in Washington, D.C. International travel is also an option. This degree requires 48 credit hours. The Executive M.B.A. program is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB.) <http://elearn.wvu.edu/Degrees/EMBA/index.php>

Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation – Certificate. The West Virginia University College of Business and Economics is now offering the Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation graduate certificate online with two required 3-day residencies on campus in Morgantown, W.Va. The certificate requires 12 credit hours of course work.

<http://elearn.wvu.edu/Degrees/FAFI/index.php>

Nursing—PhD—Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing. Courses in the PhD program are offered on campus over 4 summers (23 credit hours) and online over 4 semesters during the academic year (15 credit hours). Faculty guided research for the dissertation (9 credits) may occur in the student's home state; the dissertation chair will hold approved graduate faculty member status at WVU. Student selected cognate courses (9 credits) may be taken at any accredited institution of higher learning. Students obtain appropriate institutional and human subjects protection approvals prior to carrying out dissertation research. This program is accredited by the Council on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Details for this program are found at

[http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son/academicPrograms\\_phd.aspx](http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son/academicPrograms_phd.aspx)

Physical Education Teacher Education – Master of Science in Physical Education Teacher Education. Online classes during the academic year along with a two-week residency in the summer allows certified teachers to earn their master's degree while balancing their afterschool coaching responsibilities. The 36 credit hours can be completed in two years. (SREC)

[http://cpass.wvu.edu/academic\\_programs/masters/pete/pete](http://cpass.wvu.edu/academic_programs/masters/pete/pete)

Rehabilitation Counseling – Master of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling. The online Rehabilitation Counseling degree prepares students to help people overcome disadvantages, physical disabilities, substance abuse disorders, and mental illness enabling them to become more productive members of society. Students come on campus for an orientation and in two successive summers for a week and 3 days respectively. The degree requires 51 credit hours. (SREC)

<http://elearn.wvu.edu/Degrees/rehabcounseling/index.php>

Sport Management – Master of Science in Sport Management. This degree is designed for the sport management professional. The courses are taught online during the academic year, and students come to Morgantown for two weeks in the summer. They'll develop skills in the management of large-scale events, fundraising, marketing, and resource development. The 36 credit hours can be completed in two years. (SREC)

<http://elearn.wvu.edu/Degrees/SportManagement/index.php>