

Houston Community College System - Distance Education Mission Statement & Strategic Goals

Mission Statement

The mission of the Distance Education Department of Houston Community College System is to collaborate with colleges and system offices to provide students with a comprehensive array of credit and non-credit courses, programs, and associated services. These are delivered via technology, maximizing accessibility by removing the barriers of location and time. Distance Education courses and services of the highest quality must be delivered in a timely, customer-oriented, and cost-efficient manner.

Strategic Goals

	System-Related Goals
Related Element in “Building a Learning College, HCCS Strategic Plan for 2000-2003”	
Mission Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mission of the Distance Education Department and its activities must be consistent with the mission and strategic plan of Houston Community College System.
Obj. 4.1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will serve all colleges of the System equitably with all services offered.
Mission State. #1 Obj. 2.4 Obj. 4.1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will encourage and support the development and use of distance education throughout the colleges and system.
Outcome #2 Outcome #6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will foster the growth of revenue streams to the HCCS colleges and the departments within those colleges participating in distance education course delivery.
Obj. 2.4.3 Obj. 2.4.5 Obj. 2.4.6 Obj. 2.4.9, Obj. 2.4.10 Obj. 4.1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will maintain a comprehensive student services component delivered through dedicated services specifically designed to address the needs of distance education students.
Goal 3.3 Obj. 1.1.1 Obj. 1.1.3 Obj. 1.3.1 Obj. 1.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will promote the evaluation of courses from both within and outside the System to improve the quality of HCCS Distance Education programs and services.
Obj. 5.1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will implement short- and long-term marketing plans to increase student enrollment.

See <i>Note</i> below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will comply with SACS (section 4.7 of the Criteria for Accreditation of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges) and THE-CB guidelines for distance education programs.
Obj. 4.2 Obj. 3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will participate in the continual upgrade of the technological infrastructure of HCCS.
Obj. 3.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will assess contributions to the HCCS institutional effectiveness and quality efforts by conducting a comprehensive program review every 4 years. This process will identify strengths, weaknesses, and plans for improvement.
Obj. 3.4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will support professional development and continuing education of Distance Education and HCCS staff, faculty, and associated community partners.
Obj. 3.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will maintain close working relationships with the academic, workforce, and student services deans, department chairs, and discipline committees of HCCS.
Obj. 3.4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will recruit HCCS faculty to participate in distance education course development and delivery.
	<p><i>Note: The Distance Education Department successfully completed the THE-CB Review in February, 2001. Distance Education was noted as being especially effective, with special note made of the Online Orientation Program.</i></p> <p>Department-Related Goals</p>
Related Element in “Building a Learning College, HCCS Strategic Plan for 2000-2003”	
Obj. 3.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will maintain an Advisory Committee for Distance Education that represents a cross-section of HCCS areas and interests.
Obj. 3.1 Obj. 3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will support the development, maintenance, and growth of the number and variety of courses, certificate, and degree programs in the academic, workforce, and contract training/continuing education areas.
Obj. 4.2.2 Obj. 4.2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will use distance education technologies that remove the barriers imposed by location, time, and limited access.
Obj. 4.4.1 Vision Statement, Item #3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will establish and maintain professional business relationships, partnerships, and consortia with other colleges, universities, schools, and companies to deliver and receive distance education products and services.
Obj. 3.4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will stay abreast of and advise on copyright, fair use, and intellectual property issues that apply to distance education.
Obj. 3.4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department will establish and maintain a leadership role in professional associations and consortia to increase the visibility and prestige of the HCCS Distance Education program.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When appropriate, the Department will review, evaluate, and revise the strategic goals and plans of distance education at HCCS.