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**Online College Degree – The Choice Of Today**

**By Joyce Jackson**

Online college degree programs are rapidly becoming the mode of learning education of choice

among teens and young adults. Empirical evidence would suggest that there are five principal reasons why this may be the case:

**Convenience** The Number 1 reason why teens and young adults are choosing to do online college degree programs is convenience. Here, in nearly all cases, respondents claim juggling their already busy lives with college means that an online college degree is their mode of choice when it comes to higher learning.

**Flexible** Aside from being extremely convenient, and in conjunction with the convenience factor, an online college degree permits teens and young adults the chance to take the online college degree at their own pace, and also more options when it comes to available courses to chose from.

**No on-campus presence** Combining convenience with flexibility for teens and young adults is the fact that many online college degree programs do not require on-campus presence, or minimal on-campus presence. To many online students, this is the best of both world's – home study with a recognized higher education certificate.

**Availability** Teens and young adults argue their claim to preferring to study for online college degree programs due to the fact that doing their studies online means they can study at a prestigious institution, without actually having to be physically present. Consequently, living on the East Coast no longer has mean that you have to study your college degree program on the east coast or else move to elsewhere. Now we live in the virtual world, you really can be in two places at once!

**Financial** Although tuition fees for an online college degree can be competitive when compared with traditional education fees, the fact that the online degree is both flexible and off-campus means teens and young adults (and their families) can arrange for the financing more easily and effectively – without having to make major sacrifices to their every day living.

All of the above make for good reasons to study for an online college degree. However, don't confuse the above as meaning an online college degree is easy. As with all forms of higher learning, it's not – it just provides you with an easier means of learning, not an easier learning program!

Joyce Jackson writes extensively on online education for anyone wanting to further their education, Her knowledge and invaluable resources fill her comprehensive website with information, resources links and advice.

<http://www.onlinedegreeguru.com>

### **Hanging Out Earning An Online College Degree**

**By Andy West**

Could you ever imagine hanging out at home by choice, and earning an online college degree in the process? Many people think that obtaining an online college degree is something that requires frequent trips to the computer lab and ongoing technical issues. It is anything but this way when you enroll in your choice of online college degree programs. The simple fact is that with a steady internet connection you can access the most powerful and effective programs. This sounds easy, but it does take effort. For the self-motivated, online programs are great ways to get an education.

The fact is that most online college degrees are based upon the self paced method that allows students to work at the time most convenient for them. Given that most self paced online programs are still in some way regimented by a timeframe, within this timeframe one can obtain an online college degree in a manner that suits the needs of the person and can still be somewhat flexible. This means that you will literally be able to login, and deal with every aspect of your online education, and your online college degree program specifically at a time suitable for you. This will allow you to meet your personal or professional needs while obtaining your degree.

Earning an online degree can be individually structured to meet your specific timetable. You will never have to take an online degree class at a time that is not going to work for you. Essentially, you will be earning your degree while allowing life's priorities to come first, and your education will fall into the place that is best suitable for you. This means that for most classes you will be able to work at night on your coursework if you have to work during the day, and vice versa if you have a night job. With the recent advancements in technology and broadband connections, one attending online degree programs can watch video and do coursework anytime in as much clarity as if it were being played on their television.

So what is the downside of being able to hang out and earn your online college degree at the time you prefer? The answer is that you still must do the work, which means that you must be self disciplined enough to deal with the intensity of being enrolled in college, and especially in a self paced online college degree program. This is not a great fit for everyone, as self paced does not mean no pace, and in order to earn your degree you must be prepared to work, and be prepared to make sacrifices, just as you would in any traditional college degree program

While earning an online degree is much different in scope and breadth than earning a traditional four-year degree, it is similar in the fact that both ventures require a considerable amount of work. This means that one must be prepared to give the online college degree as much effort on studies and the coursework as they would if enrolled in a traditional program. Taking advantage of the online college degree program's flexibility is the key.

Andy West is a freelance writer for Virginia College. Virginia College Online offers many online college degree programs. Please visit Virginia College Online at

<http://www.vconline.edu/index.cfm>

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