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Should I Get An Online Degree?

By Fred DiUlus

Is An Online Degree Worth It?

A very real debate rages over the validity of online education and whether students working totally online acquire an education equal to one exclusively acquired from a brick and mortar classroom. Considering that in a generation most higher education of any consequence to the general public will be simultaneously or totally offered and available online, the debate is basically dead. Over the next 30 years the landscape will be completely reversed. The largest and most sought after universities will be those available exclusively online, in many languages, worldwide.

Many of today's mainstream academics, perhaps soon to be known as the dinosaurs of higher education, continue to offer faulty and questionable research that allegedly supports their contention that an online education is neither good or valid, nor rigorous as that with a traditional teacher in a classroom. argue that the issue is one of `process' versus `content'. In effect, they believe online courses have no content enrichment simply because they are offered online. They are in denial and not unlike the educators in the Middle Ages who thought that the introduction of the blackboard would destroy higher education.

The value of any education, regardless of where it is acquired, is ultimately based on the knowledge imparted and learned. It should be very apparent that the value of how good or well endowed financially the school or its contacts (network) are perceived, it can be totally duplicated in an online environment with few exceptions.

Perhaps we should actually consider the notion that what really ought to validate the value of a degree is the nature and credibility of those teaching the subject not how it is delivered. In the range of choices of what a student and professor can do together, online delivery is clearly superior to the traditional classroom. In effect, a professor's name and their credentials ought to be on every university student's transcript. This would demonstrate to the whole world the student has studied under and passed satisfactorily all work undertaken under this or that academic guru. Who does this? No one.

Fred DiUlus is the author of the e-Book "Best & Worst Online College Degree Programs", based on a comprehensive Five Point Rating System. It can be downloaded FREE anytime by going to:

www.GlobalAcademyOnline.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

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

to select

the online program that is right for you.



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