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ABOUT THE DIGITAL CAMPUS

Distance learning at the University of Minnesota has a rich history. Since the early 1900s, when members of the Agricultural Extension Service traveled by train to rural areas to disseminate new practices and correspondence courses were offered via U.S. mail, the University has reached out to citizens well beyond its geographical locations.

The University of Minnesota's first online course was offered in 1996. With over 1,422 online courses offered from the U of M campuses in 2012-2013, online learning has become an important way for students to learn at the University.

In 2008, then President Robert Bruininks launched the Digital Campus, saying, "From offering correspondence courses by mail in 1909, to courses on the radio in the 1930s and television in the 1960s, to the digital campus of today, the University of Minnesota has been using technology to improve access and advance learning for generations." At the time of the Digital Campus launch, the University offered 18 degrees that could be earned solely online.

Four years later, online learning at the University has grown tremendously. Colleges and campuses offer thirty fully-online degree programs and certificates at the undergraduate and graduate levels and over twenty blended programs with a significant online component. Online course enrollments grew to over 36,000 in the 2012-2013 academic year.

Technology-enhanced learning occurs at all levels of the University, beyond courses and programs that are fully online. From active learning classrooms to unique online educational resources to engaging, interactive eTextbooks, technology is being used to enhance curriculum and engage students more deeply with their learning.

Digital Campus Support Center

Phone: 1-800-991-8636

Mon-Fri, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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