

OLIT eLearning Master's Degree Completion Advisement Packet University of New Mexico

Overview

The Organizational Learning and Instructional Technology (OLIT) Program offers an online Master's Degree with a focus on eLearning which addresses the foundations of eLearning and distance education, the distance learner, media and technologies for eLearning, eLearning design, cultural issues and global e-learning, development of online learning communities, faculty development, e-mentoring, learner support, assessment methods, and eLearning program planning, implementation, evaluation, and management.

OLIT students can expect to develop a diverse skill set that will help them hit the ground running when they enter the workforce. They will be able to design, teach, tutor, mentor, support, evaluate, lead, and manage eLearning programs for diverse audiences. Interdisciplinary coursework includes eLearning and other areas such as foundations of organizational learning and instructional technology, principles of knowledge management, multimedia design, cross-cultural issues in learning, and program evaluation.

OLIT courses require students to apply their learning in real world contexts. Not only do OLIT graduates have the flexibility to choose where they work, they also enjoy diverse and rewarding employment options in eLearning and Distance Education, Instructional Design, Teaching, Organizational Development, Training and Development, Project Management, and much more.

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University of New Mexico

Taking Online Classes

Learners access primary content and instruction from WebCT using a variety of tools including email, chat, discussion boards, web pages, and multimedia technologies. Specific technologies employed will vary by course and instructor.

Depending on the teaching style of the instructor and the course content, instruction can take place synchronously (all participants in the course log in at the same time) or asynchronously (participants log in and participate as their schedule permits), or some combination of the above.

Please check online course listings for specific information at <http://online.unm.edu>.

Online Courses Follow the Regular UNM Course Schedule

UNM online courses are not open-ended and have set start- and end-dates. Most follow 8- and 16-week formats with learning activities scheduled on a weekly basis. All UNM admission and registration deadlines, policies, and procedures apply to students who participate in online courses. Online courses appear on your transcript in the same way as campus-based courses.

Applying to the OLIT Master of Arts Program

- ✓ Explore the OLIT Web site at <http://www.unm.edu/~olit> for detailed information and requirements and for the 3 year schedule of online offerings.
- ✓ Contact Dr. Lani Gunawardena, Professor, at lanig@unm.edu if you would like to discuss the program.
- ✓ Contact Loretta Brown, Program Specialist, at loribrwn@unm.edu for an application packet and to open an application file.

OLIT eLearning Master's Degree Completion Advisement Packet
University of New Mexico

Admission and Registration Information

You will need to be admitted to UNM to register for online classes. There are several admission options depending on whether you are in a degree program or interested in non-degree status.

Please review UNM's Website for admissions information page at:

http://www.unm.edu/preview/bf_reqs.html

Students register via LoboPhone at 505-246-2020 or LoboWeb at *<http://my.unm.edu>*. For help registering online see *http://webctinfo.unm.edu/student/how_to_register.html*. International and non-resident online students can pay resident tuition fees if they enroll in no more than six credit hours per semester.

Contact Information

OLIT Program Questions:

Dr. Charlotte N. (Lani) Gunawardena, Professor

- Email: lanigun@unm.edu
- Web site: *<http://www.unm.edu/~olit>*

Online Program Office:

Kerry Renshaw, Online Distance Learning Coordinator

- Email: online@unm.edu
- Phone: 505-277-8128
- Toll-free: 1-866-869-6040
- Fax: 505-277-8590 Web site: *<http://online.unm.edu>*

OLIT eLearning Master's Degree Completion Advisement Packet
University of New Mexico

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (24 core course credits)

PLAN I: 36 credits for Professional Portfolio Option
or
PLAN II: 39 credits for Thesis Option

REQUIRED CORE COURSES: 24 Credits
ELECTIVES: 9 Credits

plus
PLAN I: Professional Portfolio Option (3 credits)
or
PLAN II: Thesis Option (6 credits)

Course Descriptions (*S = spring semester • F = fall semester • 3 = credit hours*)

OLIT 501: Instructional Design (3 F)

Application of instructional design principles used in the development of instructional materials. Students work individually on course exercises and collaboratively on two course projects.

OLIT 561: The Adult Learner (3 F)

or

LEAD 529: The Adult Learner (3 F)

Examines the teaching and learning transaction with adults. Specific attention is on adult life stage development, relevant learning theories and approaches, and learning style issues of cross-cultural populations.

OLIT 535: Theory and Practice of Distance Learning (3 F)

Analyzes theoretical approaches to distance education and their practical applications. Examines characteristics and needs of distance learners, learner support, distance teaching, course design, delivery system selection, evaluation, policy, organization, and administration of distance education.

OLIT eLearning Master's Degree Completion Advisement Packet
University of New Mexico

Course Descriptions

(continued)

OLIT 537: Culture and Global eLearning (Offered as OLIT 593 in Fall 2008) (3 F)

As an online learning community, participants explore the sociocultural dimensions of eLearning and the ways in which culture influences communication and the social environment. They address issues and challenges in international eLearning, study eLearning systems from around the world, and examine how eLearning can be used to understand and solve global issues.

OLIT 505: Contemporary Instructional Technologies (3 S)

An overview of contemporary instructional technologies and how they can be utilized to improve the effectiveness of instruction. Students will gain expertise in selecting and using appropriate instructional technologies supporting the achievement of performance-based objectives.

OLIT 507: Designing Knowledge Management Solutions (3 F)

Focused on the application of general principles and techniques for designing technology supported knowledge management solutions.

OLIT 514: Theory and Practice of Organizational Learning (3 S)

This course focuses on the theories and applications of organizational learning strategies and process. The relationship between individual and team learning to organizational learning will be addressed throughout the course.

OLIT 508: Program Evaluation (3 F)

Provides the student with a basic understanding of the evaluation process, the application of evaluations in determining the effectiveness and/or value of a learning experience both in the classroom and in the workplace.

OLIT eLearning Master's Degree Completion Advisement Packet
University of New Mexico

ELECTIVE COURSES (9 credits)

Students choose courses to strengthen their preparation in specific areas of their choosing. Six of these 9 credits should be from the OLIT program.

A 3-credit graduate online course in a related field may be selected with the permission of the student's advisor. Such a course might be from another department in the College of Education or in business, public administration, communications, sociology, or psychology.

Recommended Electives

OLIT 538: eLearning Course Design (3 S)

Explores new paradigms based on constructivist and sociocultural learning theories for designing distance learning. Focuses on online learning design and evaluation, and networked learning communities. Analyzes print, audio, and video for designing hybrid learning environments.

OLIT 528: Management of Learning Systems (3 S)

Focuses on management strategies and key elements of modern systems. Discusses program planning and management, funding and budget management, technology selection and implementation, marketing, quality control and evaluation.

OLIT 536: Instructional Television: Principles and Applications (3 F)

(offered via ITV to receive sites in NM only) This course explores the rationale, procedures, and techniques for designing and developing video formats (videotape, CD-ROM, DVD, video broadcast, interactive videoconferencing, desktop videoconferencing, streaming video, mobile video, and hybrid formats) for distance education.

OLIT eLearning Master's Degree Completion Advisement Packet
University of New Mexico

Other Electives

OLIT 509: Collaborative Knowledge Creation (3 S)

Focused on designing technology-supported collaboration solutions that support the collective intelligence of organizational members in the creation of knowledge.

OLIT 511: Knowledge Dissemination and Application (3 F)

Focused on designing organizational portals for managing and disseminating documents, instruction, best practices, and expert advice.

OLIT 593: The Role of Wisdom in Adult Learning and Cultures (3 F)

This course explores the role of wisdom from the point of view of various cultural traditions and academic disciplines.

PROFESSIONAL PORTFOLIO OR THESIS OPTIONS

Professional Portfolio Option:

Students must register for OLIT 596 (3 credits). Under the professional portfolio option students complete an internship and prepare a dossier showing work products which demonstrate their capabilities in OLIT fields of study.

Thesis Option:

Students must register for OLIT 599 master's thesis for two semesters (6 credits). Under the thesis option students plan, conduct, and report on original research conducted to address a research problem in an area related to their study in the OLIT program. OLIT students selecting the thesis option are encouraged to take EdPsy 500 Survey of Research Methods in Education, EdPsy 511 Introductory Educational Statistics, and/or LLSS 502 Naturalistic Inquiry under their electives for the OLIT master's degree program.