



## eLearning Newsletter



Issue # 18, Fall 2013

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### eLearning Team

It is our goal to provide the best educational experience possible. Educational need should be the driver for the implementation of technology. When looking to introduce new/different technologies, your collective opinion is our starting point.

Last semester's newsletter was on web-conferencing. The questions and your responses are as follows:

1. *As a student, do you have the expectation that web-conferencing should be available?* Out of 202 responses, 62% (125) said yes while 38% (77) said no.
2. *Would having the ability to web-conference with your instructor/fellow students enhance your online learning experience?* From the 200 responses, 76% (152) believed it would, while 24% (48) did not.
3. *Do you have any comments on web-conferencing (past experiences, favorite platforms, potential uses, etc.)?* 51 responded to this wide-open question. The most common web-conferencing tools students reported using included WebEx, Go To Meeting, Adobe Connect, Skype, and Google Hangouts. Nine respondents looked forward to a web conferencing system being implemented, while five were not as enthused at the prospect. Four reported technical problems with web conferencing in the past.

This semester's survey is on proctored exams. Please take a few moments to give us your thoughts.

[Proctored Exam Survey](#)

The eLearning Team would like to wish you and yours a very Happy Holiday Season!

*Darren Crone, Ed.D., Director, Educational Technology Services*

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### Featured Online Students

The eLearning Team invites you to meet our students by viewing different student profiles in each newsletter. This semester's featured students are Paulina Jesionek and Andy Castaneda.



**Paulina Jesionek**

*Where do you work?*

Arthur Gallagher

**What is your position?**

Sales Intern

**How long have you been there?**

I have been employed at Arthur Gallagher since June 2013.

**What do you want to do after you finish your degree?**

I graduated with a Global Business and Marketing double major in December and I have already started the fast track program towards a Masters in Healthcare Management. I have received a full time offer from Arthur J. Gallagher as an Insurance Broker.

**How many online courses have you taken?**

I have taken 3 online courses at UTD, and will take 2 more in the fall.

**Why did you decide to take online courses?**

Some courses were only offered online, and some were just convenient to take online.

**How is the online experience different from the traditional classroom?**

There are pros and cons to the online experience. It's nice not having to actually go to a physical classroom, but you have to be pretty responsible and hold yourself accountable to getting things done on time. In the spring 2013 semester, I took a fast track marketing class online and I had to finish a project during spring break because we didn't have class time to do it.

**What makes an online course effective?**

For people who are working fulltime, online classes are a blessing because they let you plan out your own schedule. Most of the people who take online classes are extremely busy, so groups are efficient, proactive and successful at completing things on time."

**Who was your favorite professor and why?**

Professor Abhijit Biswas who taught graduate Brand Management was my favorite professor. He made the class incredibly interesting and had fascinating and informative lectures. He was also very good at responding to his students in a timely manner and gave very helpful and constructive criticism.

**Is there any advice you can give to other online students?**

Do not procrastinate!! Deadlines will sneak up on you so don't just put things off. Also, be sure to create a schedule for yourself and stick to it.



Andy Castaneda

**Where do you work?**

Interceramic, Inc.

**What is your position?**

Sales & Marketing Coordinator

**How long have you been there?**

1 year, 3 months

**What do you want to do after you finish your degree?**

I will continue working and possibly start working on my MBA.

**How many online courses have you taken?**

I have taken a total of five online classes in the past and I am currently taking an online class this semester.

**Why did you decide to take online courses?**

It is very convenient! You can take your classes anywhere as long as you have internet access. It also saves money and time.

**How is the online experience different from the traditional classroom?**

You definitely learn how to administrate your own time. You must learn how to be organized in order to succeed. One of the reasons I like taking online classes is because in my opinion, you interact a lot more with your classmates in Discussion Boards than you normally would do in a traditional classroom....ironic, huh?

**What makes an online course effective?**

Interaction. As in anything you do, you need to have self-discipline and work hard in order to succeed.

**Who was your favorite professor and why?**

Meg Rentschler – she was one of the first instructors and hit the ball out of the park in providing an outstanding learning environment online, genuine concern for the students and personality that resonated with me.

**Is there any advice you can give to other online students?**

*As I said before, be organized, manage your own time, be disciplined, and enjoy the process of learning in a completely different way!*

If you would like to be featured in the eLearning Newsletter, [email us!](#)

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## Jindal School of Management

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### **Academic Advising**

As you register in your classes for the next semester, please take some time to think about Graduation. All students are required to submit a graduation application by the deadline posted on the [Academic Calendar](#). If spring 2014 will be your last semester, for example, you will need to submit your graduation application by January 22, 2014. You will need to contact your primary advisor for a preliminary review of your file to then be eligible to submit the graduation application. When you submit your graduation application, you will also be able to RSVP to the Commencement Ceremony, if you would like to attend.

Graduating summer 2014? Please note that the summer semesters do not have Commencement Ceremonies. However, you can choose to attend the spring or fall Commencement Ceremony. Keep in mind that for the spring ceremony, you will need to let us know by the spring graduation deadline.

As always, feel free to contact us, [som-grad@utdallas.edu](mailto:som-grad@utdallas.edu), with any questions.

Corina Cantua, Assistant Director | JSOM Academic Advising | [som-grad@utdallas.edu](mailto:som-grad@utdallas.edu) | 972-883-5963

Want to see an Advisor? Join the line from anywhere! Text JSOM to 626-414-3210 or Call: 855-883-5766

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### **JSOM Online Courses**

Spring 2014 registration is here. There have been a few cases where online MBA students had problems registering for their desired core MBA courses. If you are classified as an online MBA student but the core course is full, you can still register for your desired core courses if you follow the following procedure:

1. Follow the registration procedures on Orion.
2. If the course is full, you do not have to go to a wait list - online MBA students wanting to register in an online core MBA course can contact their primary academic advisor - <http://jindal.utdallas.edu/student-resources/advising/important-contacts/> - for assistance with registration. Advising has reserved a certain number of spaces for online MBA students.
3. If any problems, contact Corina Cantua at x2750 or [elvddy@utdallas.edu](mailto:elvddy@utdallas.edu).

**Please note that these reserved online core MBA seats will be released to all students on December 20th.** If you have other questions concerning online classes or registration, please contact me.

Larry Chasteen, Ph.D., Director, Assistant Dean | UT Dallas Online Programs | [chasteen@utdallas.edu](mailto:chasteen@utdallas.edu)

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### **Innovation and Entrepreneurship Program**

No matter which one of the seven UT Dallas schools you are a part of, the courses in the Innovation and Entrepreneurship program are open to you. When the entrepreneurial spirit calls, be ready. The Innovation and Entrepreneurship program offers a full curriculum of undergraduate and graduate courses. At the graduate level, the Naveen Jindal School of Management offers a Master's degree, an MBA concentration and two certificate programs in this emerging field. The Innovation and Entrepreneurship program offers 14 courses this Spring, along with the following online courses:

#### **[ENTP 6378 - Managing the Emerging Enterprise](#)**

The course focuses on the challenges of growing a small company from early startup to a professionally managed business, as the entrepreneur seeks to maintain the entrepreneurial spirit of the firm while introducing the professional management disciplines essential to sustained and profitable growth. This course is taught by Jackie Kimzey, Senior Lecturer.



**Jackie Kimzey**

Jackie Kimzey serves as the Executive Director for the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Since 2007, Kimzey has served on the faculty of The University of Texas at Dallas where he shares his lessons about innovation and new ventures with enthusiastic young entrepreneurs. Jackie has extensive years of real world entrepreneurial experience. Jackie is one of the founders of ProNet. ProNet specialized in paging services and tracking stolen currency and goods. They found great success with both businesses, later merging with Metrocall creating a company that generated more than \$750M in annual revenue. He later went on to work on several "start-up" projects and then joined the venture firm of Sevin Rosen Funds as a General Partner. He focused on wireless and software investments. His most successful projects, Neoworld, Wayport, Tangoe, LliveVault and Invodo, have all had a common thread; good management and quality advisors and investors.

#### [ENTP 6315 - Entrepreneurial Finance](#)

The objective of this course is to build skills and knowledge in the financing of entrepreneurial ventures. Entrepreneurial Finance concerns not only the processes of financing and investing in start-up companies, but also the changes to the initial financing mix that may be required as start-up companies mature and grow. This course is taught by Madison Pedigo, Senior Lecturer.



**Madison Pedigo**

Madison Pedigo is the Associate Director for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Programs for the undergraduate academic programs. He is also a member of the faculty where he teaches entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial finance, business finance, and small business management courses. Prior to joining UT Dallas in 2009, Madison was the Manager of TI's Venture Capital Program, where he played a key role in strategic analyses and led equity investments in a wide range of private companies and VC funds. He also managed multiple strategic acquisitions for TI.

[Find out more about the undergraduate Innovation and Entrepreneurship curriculum](#)

[Find out more about the Master of Science in Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#)

For further information, please contact **Joseph C. Picken, Ph.D.** Director, Programs in Innovation and Entrepreneurship [jpicken@utdallas.edu](mailto:jpicken@utdallas.edu) | 972-883-4986

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### School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

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#### ***New Online course in Spring 2014***

The Public Affairs and Sociology Program in EPPS is introducing a new online course in Spring 2014 called **Social Policy in Modern Societies**. Taught by Associate Professor Sarah Maxwell, SOC/PA 4386 examines the controversies and research concerning the development of welfare states and public social provision. Particular emphasis will be placed on the U.S. public social system, in historical and comparative perspective.

Dr. Maxwell noted the course will use a case study approach. *"For example, we trace the history of the 1963 Community Mental Health Centers Act from problem identification through evaluation and unintended consequences over the course of five decades,"* she said. *"We also cover a case on rural poverty in Appalachia."* The course syllabus is available on [www.coursebook.utdallas.edu](http://www.coursebook.utdallas.edu).

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### Meet Our Faculty

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**Carol Lanham**

Carol Cirulli Lanham, Ph. D. is a senior lecturer in Sociology and assistant dean in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences. She earned her PhD in Public Policy and Political Economy from UT Dallas.

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*Newsletter edited by Rita Cubie, Administrative Assistant, UT Dallas eLearning Team*

