GRADUATE COUNCIL REPORT
30 August 2007

Graduate Council approved the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (COALS) request for approval of the Agriculture eLearning Development Certificate.
June 19, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Rick Giardino
    Dean, Office of Graduate Studies
    Chair, Graduate Council

THROUGH: Dr. Gene Nelson, Executive Associate Dean
         College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

FROM: Dr. David Wm. Reed, Chair
      COALS Graduate Program Council

SUBJECT: Agriculture eLearning Development Certificate

The COALS Graduate Program Council recommends approval of the Agriculture eLearning Development Certificate.

cc. Dr. Kim Dooley, Dr. Theresa Murphrey, ALEC
Proposal from the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications to add the Agriculture eLearning Development Certificate to the Graduate Catalog

Background

Establishment of the "Agriculture eLearning Development Certificate" was funded by the Office of Distance Education during Spring 2004. The program was developed to serve agricultural graduate students across the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Built upon existing courses offered within the department, this certificate is available to serve both on campus and distant agriculture students across all departments in the College. Completion of the certificate provides COALS students a competitive advantage in their job search and a means for employers to select and hire competent eLearning specialists.

As of May 18, 2007, 5 students have completed the Certificate program. An additional 5 students are in the process of completing the certificate and several more students are enrolled in the courses leading to the certificate.

Certificate courses are available to students through both Academic and Continuing Education credit. Certificate participants complete courses on a semester basis and both academic and continuing education students participate in courses together. The majority of the students have selected to complete the courses as Academic Credit. Therefore, the department would like to add the description of this certificate program to the graduate catalog.

Certificate Requirements

This graduate certificate is a 14-credit program consisting of the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title &amp; Description</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 610</td>
<td><strong>Principles of Adult Education</strong> focuses on motivating adults to learn in online settings and how to encourage a change in behavior.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 611</td>
<td><strong>Advanced Methods in Distance Education</strong> emphasizes the skills needed for teaching and training at a distance as the technologies of high-speed computing, interactive video, audio, and print merge into new forms of delivery systems.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 612</td>
<td><strong>Advanced Instructional Design for Online Learning</strong> focuses on applying learning and teaching theory as the foundation for developing engaging online instruction.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 613</td>
<td>Techniques in eLearning Development and Delivery teaches students the necessary programming skills that will allow them to develop engaging interactive online training materials for agriculture.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 685</td>
<td>Directed Studies serves as an eLearning capstone course centered on an individual eLearning project; students apply the foundation knowledge gained in 610, 611 and 612 and the programming skills gained in 613 to develop eLearning educational/training modules.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Paragraph to be Added to the Graduate Catalog**

The Agriculture eLearning Development Certificate is an innovative program offered by the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications. This program prepares students across the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences with the unique knowledge and skills required to develop sophisticated eLearning courses and training programs for their Ag disciplines. Students will gain a substantive foundation of learning theory, adult education, instructional design, and computer programming from an eLearning perspective. This emphasis area consists of 14 semester hours. Inquires should be addressed to the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications. The URL about this program can be found at [http://cbi.tamu.edu/el](http://cbi.tamu.edu/el).

**Contact:**

Dr. Theresa Pels Murdoch
Project Leader
Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2116
t-murphrey@tamu.edu
979-458-2749
Agriculture eLearning Development Certificate
Available Online as Both an Academic and a Continuing Education Program

What is the eLearning Development Certificate?

The eLearning Development Certificate in Agriculture is an innovative program offered by the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications at Texas A&M University. This program prepares students and professionals to develop sophisticated eLearning courses and programs to serve the eTraining needs of both public and private sectors of agriculture. Students are required to complete five online courses to earn the certificate.

Core eLearning Competencies Covered

- Educational Domain
  - Theoretical Foundation
  - Instructional Design of eLearning
  - Delivery of eLearning
- Administrative Domain
  - Management of eLearning Projects
  - Evaluation/Assessment of eLearning
- Technology Domain
  - Course/Document Creation and Editing
  - Image Creation and Editing
  - Audio/Video
  - Animation/Interactivity

All Courses Delivered Online

Fees:
Academic Program:
Based on Texas A&M University Tuition
Continuing Education Program:
$525 per course

CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 611:</td>
<td>Advanced Methods in Distance Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 612:</td>
<td>Instructional Design for Online Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 610:</td>
<td>Principles of Adult Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 613:</td>
<td>eLearning Development &amp; Delivery Techniques</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALEC 686:</td>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Inquiries contact:

Dr. Theresa Pesl Murphrey
Project Leader
Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas USA 77843-2116
t-murphrey@tamu.edu
979-458-2749