College of Continuing Studies

The University of Alabama recognizes that its resources can help individuals meet the challenges of their changing lives. Through the College of Continuing Studies, the University extends academic resources throughout Alabama, the Southeast and beyond. The College is committed to delivering educational opportunities through online degree programs, evening and weekend programs, distance programs, the Gadsden Center, professional development courses and a variety of professional workshops, seminars and institutes.

Division of Academic Outreach

More than ever before, students are choosing distance education to pursue their college degrees. The Division of Academic Outreach strives to facilitate University degree programs to adult learners who are limited by time, geography, work schedules or personal obligations. Students may choose from formats that will fit their schedules and learning styles such as online, interactive video conferencing, evening and weekend classes, or online video-streamed classes. All degrees are conferred by the appropriate academic college.

For more information on these programs, write to The University of Alabama, College of Continuing Studies, Division of Academic Outreach, Box 870388, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0388. You may also call 205-348-0089 or toll free 800-467-0227, or e-mail aoinfo@ccs.ua.edu. Visit the Bama by Distance website.

Online Courses

Academic Outreach delivers courses online. Students are instructed through a secured Internet site, where they interact with their professors and other students online.

Video Courses

Academic Outreach delivers undergraduate and graduate courses via online video streaming to students who cannot attend classes on campus. Lectures are recorded as they occur and streamed via the Internet the same day. Students who do not have high-speed internet access are given the option to receive DVD recordings of the lectures. Students complete the same course requirements as on-campus students and take proctored exams at convenient sites. Video courses are offered in Engineering and Human Environmental Sciences.

External Degree (EXD) Program

The External Degree Program is an interdisciplinary undergraduate distance learning program for adults whose educational needs cannot be met through traditional residential programs. Previously earned academic credits transferred from regionally accredited colleges or earned through national tests such as the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), independent studies, out-of-class learning contracts, correspondence studies, classroom work and demonstrated prior learning may be applied toward a bachelor of arts (BA) or bachelor of science (BS) degree in interdisciplinary studies.

The EXD program is intended to serve adult students whose opportunities to use currently available educational resources may be limited. Applicants must have high-school diplomas or minimum General Education Development (GED) equivalency scores of 50, be 25 years of age or older and have educational goals attainable through the program. Applicants need not be Alabama residents. This degree is awarded through the College of Arts and Sciences.

For more information or to obtain a catalog and application, please call 1-800-452-5971 or visit learnon.ua.edu. For specific EXD Program curriculum requirements, please refer to the College of Arts and Sciences New College section of this catalog.

Intercampus Interactive Telecommunication System (IITS)

The Intercampus Interactive Telecommunication System (IITS) is a network of conference rooms connected to a statewide videoconferencing network. Approximately 30 sites throughout Alabama are equipped with cameras, monitors and other devices that allow teachers and students to interact as if they were in the same room. Presenters use traditional visuals, such as PowerPoint presentations, overheads and videotape/DVD, as well as digital options unique to IITS.

Weekend College

Designed to meet the needs of both part-time and full-time students, Weekend College offers a number of courses in the fall, spring and summer semesters on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings and afternoons. Scheduling weekend classes is especially convenient for part-time students who would like to pursue academic studies while working.

Gadsden Education and Research Center

Established in 1946, The University of Alabama’s Gadsden Education and Research Center is an off-campus program serving residents of northeast Alabama. The center offers graduate coursework for credit, noncredit programs for professional development and test services, as well as serving as a liaison to the University’s main campus.

Currently the center offers more than 25 complete graduate degree or certification programs in education, including master’s degree, educational specialists degrees, and class A and class AA certification programs. Graduate-level courses in library studies are also available in Gadsden. For more information, please call (256) 456-2886 or 1-888-223-4131, or visit gadsden.ua.edu.

Evening Program

The Evening Program offers classes at times convenient for working adults. Students unable to continue their education in the traditional format (day classes) may complete degrees in business, geography and criminal justice through this program. Many other courses from the College of Arts and Sciences, the Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration, the College of Communication and Information Sciences, the College of Human Environmental Sciences and the School of Social Work are offered after 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Adult Student Services

Adult Student Services provides a University-wide point of entry for adult students returning to campus or entering the University for the first time along with the following services as they:

- initiate the admission process
- receive assistance with applying for financial aid and adult student scholarships
- be referred to appropriate offices at the University for additional assistance with individual needs
- receive assistance with academic advising and schedule building

For more information, contact Academic Outreach Student Services at 1-800-467-0227 or (205) 348-0089, or visit BamaByDistance.ua.edu.

Required Disclosure Statements

Alaska

Distance education programs are exempt from authorization requirements in the state of Alaska under AS 14.48.

California

The University of Alabama is not under the purview of the California Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education.

District of Columbia

Education Licensure Commission of the Office of the State Superintendent of Education in Washington, D.C. granted The University of Alabama required conditional exemption to offer its programs to residents of the District.

Georgia

The University of Alabama is authorized under the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Institutions Act of 1990.

Indiana

This institution is authorized by: The Indiana Board for Proprietary Education, 101 W. Ohio St., Ste 670, Indianapolis, IN, 46204-1984.

Louisiana

The University of Alabama is currently licensed by the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana. Licensed institutions have met minimal operational standards set forth by the state, but licensure does not constitute accreditation, guarantee the transferability of credit, nor signify that programs are certifiable by any professional agency or organization.

Minnesota

The University of Alabama is registered as a private institution with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education pursuant to sections 136A.61 to 136A.71. Registration is not an endorsement of the institution. Credits earned at the institution may not transfer to all other institutions.
Nevada
The University of Alabama is licensed to provide experiential training in Nevada.

Texas
The University of Alabama is authorized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and is not regulated in Texas under Chapter 132 of the Texas Education Code.

Washington
The University of Alabama is authorized by the Washington Student Achievement Council and meets the requirements and minimum educational standards established for degree granting institutions under the Degree-Granting Institutions Act. This authorization is subject to periodic review and authorizes The University of Alabama to offer field placement components for specific degree programs. The Council may be contacted for a list of currently authorized programs. Authorization by the Council does not carry with it an endorsement by the Council of the institution or its programs. Any person desiring information about the requirements of the act or the applicability of those requirements to the institution may contact the Council at P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, WA 98504-3430.

Courses
EXD 100. Continuous Enrollment. 0 sem. hrs.
EXD 101. Foundations Adult Learning. 3 sem. hrs.
Orientation to the EXD Program and introduction to the theories and principles of adult learning, learning styles, college degree planning, college writing, and selected issues relating to adult education. Mandatory for admission to the EXD Program.
EXD 200. Prior Learning Portfolio Development. 0 sem. hrs.
Prior Learning Portfolio Dev.
EXD 205. Prior Learning Assessment. 0 sem. hrs.
Prior Learning Assessment.
EXD 300. Directed Study. 1-12 sem. hr.
Out-of-class learning contracts designed by students in selected topics. Advisor approval required.
EXD 335. Contract Learning. 1-15 sem. hr.
EXD 345. Contract Learning. 1-15 sem. hr.
EXD 395. Seminar. 1-6 sem. hr.
Campus-based seminar on varying topics in natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, or other selected areas.
EXD 498. Senior Project. 1-12 sem. hr.
Student-designed major project or research in approved area. Required of all EXD students before graduation.