

EXTENDED EDUCATION >

Extended education at the University of Manitoba is organized into nine program areas, offering hundreds of degree and non-degree courses with more than 14,000 registrations.

The mission of extended education is to extend the resources of the University of Manitoba to meet diverse learning needs through innovative, flexible education opportunities that enhance students' success. We provide leadership in teaching, research and service in post-secondary education; equality of opportunity and access to educational resources of the university; and programming through internal and external partnerships.

To achieve this mission, extended education works with faculties and community groups to promote accessibility to degree credit studies and to develop programming that addresses specific community needs for lifelong learning. The central mandate of extended education is best characterized as outreach, which makes the university's resources available in non-traditional formats or locations to a wide range of learners. These different, but equally important activities, directly support the university's public service mandate and complement the activities of other academic units by emphasizing as primary activities, what others regard as secondary.

Research Activities

Research programs focus on the needs of adult and non-traditional learners locally, nationally and globally, and are linked to the strengths and the expertise of our faculty members. Extended education's research includes the educational interests and motivations of older adults; the recruitment and retention of mature learners; adult learners' technology preferences; the educational needs of new immigrants; recognition of prior learning and foreign credentials; learner demographics; copyright reform; education under occupation and prison education; policies and practices for blended and online learning; knowledge management and trends in higher education; international comparative studies of undergraduate students' access to and use of technology in learning; and the impact and application of social networking technologies. Program-related research includes needs assessments and evaluative research, and the ways in which organizations encourage and facilitate self-directed learners. Researchers have diverse expertise from a range of disciplines including the social sciences, management, and education.



Bringing Research to Life

umanitoba.ca/research



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Extended education coordinated the Annual Blended Learning Conference in October 2008 and the Mobile Learning Conference in May 2009, in collaboration with the Learning Technologies Centre, the libraries and the Information Services and Technology Group.

Distance and Online Education (DE)

The DE staff engages in research in the area's policies and practices for blended and online learning, new models for instructional design, cognitive apprenticeship, and the use of technology to enhance teaching and learning. Academic staff have also been active in provincial and national consortium development, and research projects such as institutional readiness for online program delivery, and students' use of technology.

Summer Session (SS)

Research activities include a study of teaching in compressed formats, as well as ongoing data collection and analysis related to various components of summer session including efficacy of summer programs for degree completion.

Continuing Education (CE)

CE offers more than 30 programs ranging from adult education to applied counseling to an extensive range of management programs. CE program research includes a retention study of adult learners, alternative delivery modes (such as compressed, blended and online learning), and recognition of prior learning in higher education.

Aboriginal Focus Programs (AFP)

The Aboriginal Focus Programs develops and offers accessible and culturally relevant programs in collaboration with university partners and First Nations organizations and communities. AFP programs include community-based certificates and diplomas that integrate indigenous knowledge with university curriculum. The area has undertaken program-associated research related to the integration

of Indigenous knowledge in university curriculum, and delivery models to serve Aboriginal learners.

Research Collaborations

Faculty members are involved in collaborative multidisciplinary research and program development activities that support the outstanding quality of its programs and the reputation of the university in the community. Extended education has developed partnerships with government departments, business, industry, community agencies and other academic units on campus. Some examples of partnerships include two national consortia (the Canadian Virtual University, and Collaboration for Online Collaboration for Online Higher Education and Research), the North American Association of Summer Sessions, the Government of Manitoba, Human Resource Development Canada, the Office of Learning Technologies, the Soros Foundation, and the World Bank.

International Development

Division staff members are engaged in the following international development activities: delivery of on site and online professional development in new technologies for teaching and learning in the Middle East, Malaysia and India; and the development of a model for online professional development for HIV/Aids program managers in eastern and southern Africa. English language studies provides non-credit, certificate courses and customized training in second language acquisition and teacher training to students from more than 20 countries around the world.

Graduate Training Opportunities

Division faculty members serve as graduate advisors, research resources, and instructors in the graduate programs of related disciplines such as education.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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