

SOCR 480A  
Seed Storage and Deterioration  
Instructor: Dr. Loren Wiesner

Request for Nontraditional Course

Part IV: Comparability to Traditional Offering

1. How are the student learning outcomes comparable to a course if delivered in a traditional format? Cite educational literature.

This course would not be taught in a traditional format. The student enrollment at any one location would be very low and the audience for this course is highly diverse.

The audience for this course will be: Career professional seed scientists and technologists, rural individuals at remote locations, students seeking seed science and technology certification and degree seeking students at both national and international locations.

The students learning outcomes for this course will be similar to traditional format. Students would be presented the same material and required to complete the same assignments. To replace the face-to-face lecture and discussion, each topic will be presented in content modules that present the information on the topic in text and graphics as appropriate. The instructor will be available for questions and comments synchronously and asynchronously throughout the course. Students will be expected and encouraged to communicate with the instructor as the need arises as they would in a traditional classroom setting.

2. How is the content to be delivered? How is the material apportioned among different delivery formats when multiple formats are used? (RamCT is not considered a single format)

The content is to be delivered in an on-line format using RamCT as the platform to deliver course material and facilitate student learning. The course will be presented in modules that will guide students through the materials in a logical and orderly manner.

This course will also be presented by correspondence. Students will order the course materials through the bookstore. Offering this course by both correspondence and on-line will meet the needs of all interested distant learners.

3. How will the students access other information (texts, background readings, reference materials, specialized software, etc) required for the course? Participate in observations, hands-on activities, field trips, etc.?

The majority of information required for the course will be included in the course content modules presented via RamCT or correspondence. In some cases, other resource materials will be used as supplemental materials. All required reading materials will be available through the CSU Bookstore.

4. How does the course provide on-going interaction between instructor and students? Among students?

Students will be able to communicate to the instructors through RamCT, email and telephone. The instructor will provide prompt feedback to students regarding assignments to ensure students are gaining the desired knowledge.

5. What are the methods to be used for assessment of student learning? How will the security be ensured and identification protected?

This course has four lessons that will be turned in for grading. A mid-term test should be taken after the first two lessons have been graded and a comprehensive final test is taken after the third and fourth lessons have been graded. The lessons are a means of determining if you understand the material you have been studying. The tests generally consist of fill-in the blank, listing and short definition questions.

All tests will be taken under the supervision of a proctor.

The grading will be on a percentage bases: 90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C, 60% = D and 50% = F. There will be a total of 300 points for this course. The points will be distributed as follows:

Lesson #1 paper =	10 points
Lesson #2 paper =	10 points
Lesson #3 paper =	10 points
Lesson #4 paper =	20 points
Total points for papers	50
Midterm exam	100
Final exam	<u>150</u>
Total points	300

6. Indicate the student effort distribution needed to complete this course in relation to the standard of a minimum of three hours of student effort per week per credit for a semester (15 weeks plus finals). Provide estimates of time required for reading, viewing, content delivered, study, participation in individual and/or group activities, and completion of assignments.

Students will be expected to read all course material, interact with the instructor, and complete all assignments in a timely fashion. An estimate of 6 to 8 hours per lesson or 24 to 32 hours for this course will be required to read/view course material presented at a level commensurate with attending a lecture. The examinations will take another two to three hours.

7. What must the student access or possess (hardware, software, other components, Internet access) to complete this course? Indicate the availability and sources of student help/tutorials for effective use of these tools.

Students will be required to have access to a computer and internet access that meets the general University requirements found online at:  
<http://www.colostate.edu/Services/ACNS/standards/student.html>. Adobe Acrobat Reader (available for free from the web) will also be required to view and print course materials.

To meet the diversity of students wanting to access this course, the correspondence version will be available.

8. The standard copyright statement used by all distance delivered courses through the Division of Continuing Education will be used.