



Los Angeles Harbor College

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS
August 2009

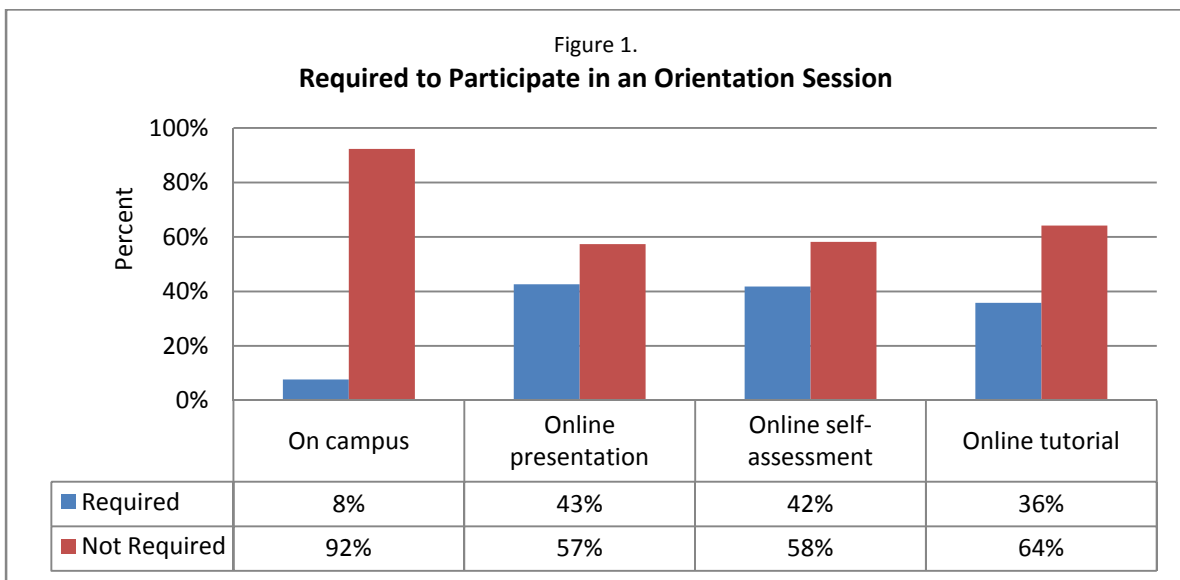
Prepared by:
The Office of Institutional Research

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

August 2009

Data in this report were results from a survey given by California Community Colleges System Office to Los Angeles Harbor College's distance education (DE) students. The survey was taken in both the fall 2008 and spring 2009 semesters. Forty-two respondents were from fall 2008 and 32 from the spring 2009 semester.

Question 1: *Please indicate if you were required to participate in an orientation session for your distance education (DE) class?*

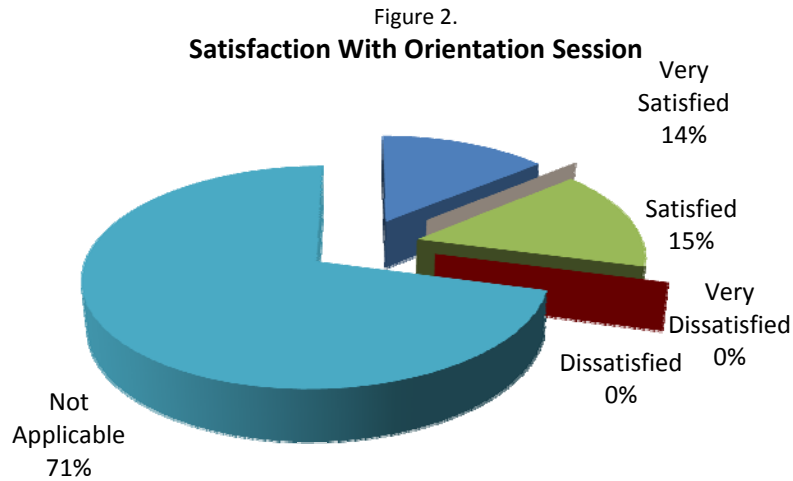


Ninety-two percent were not required to participate in an orientation session on campus. However, the results indicate that some type of online orientation (presentation, self-assessment, or tutorial) was required of about 40% of the respondents.

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

August 2009

Question 2: *How satisfied were you with your orientation session?*



Although this question was not applicable to 71% of the respondents, the remaining 29% were either satisfied or very satisfied with the orientation session they were required to take.

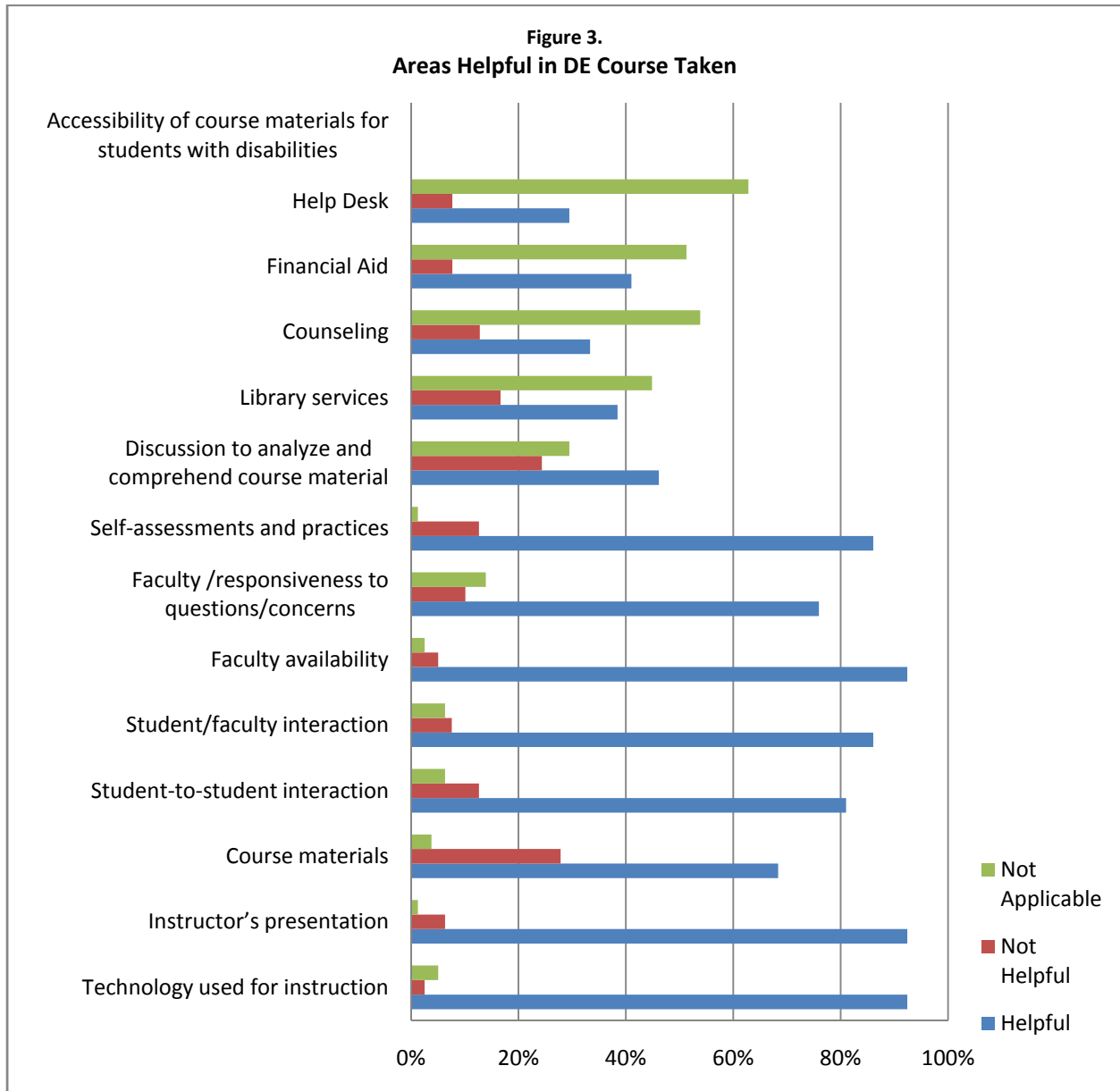
"I felt that because the discussions were online I participated in them more than I would have in an in class setting because I am generally shy about speaking up in class. The online setting gives people more freedom to express their opinions."

-Distance Education Student

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

August 2009

Question 3: Please indicate whether each of the following were either helpful or not helpful in your DE course.

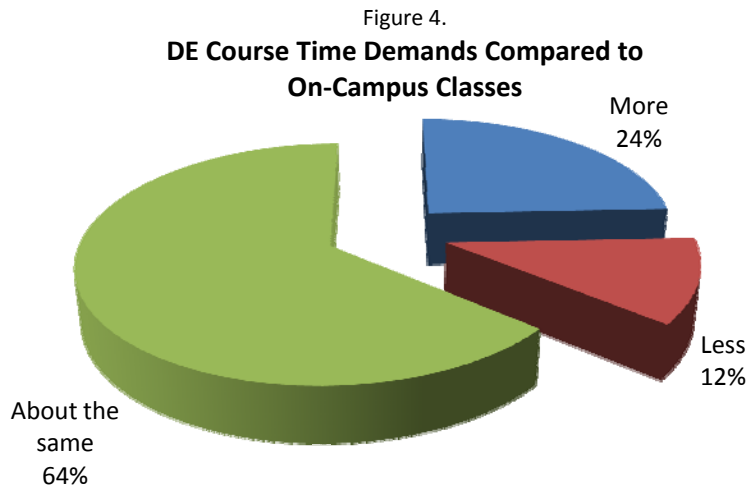


Technology used for instruction, instructor's presentation, student-to-student interaction, student/faculty interaction, and faculty availability, self assessments and practices were the most helpful resources to over 80% of distance education students. Also of help to over 60% are the course materials and faculty responsiveness to questions/concerns.

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

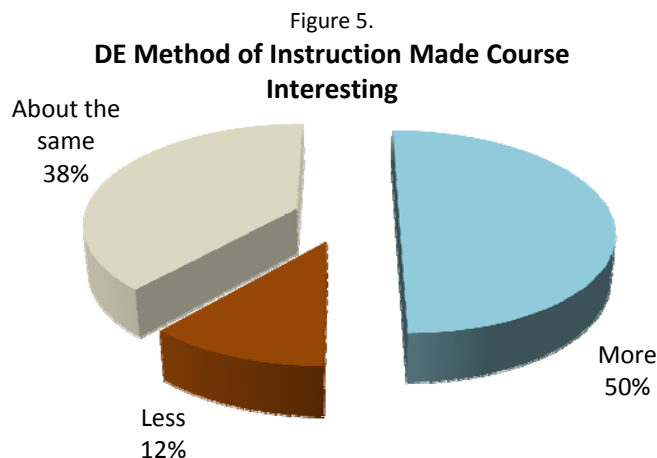
August 2009

Question 4: *The DE course demanded (more/less/about the same time) for lessons, activities, and homework than my on-campus class(es) (not including travel time).*



Sixty-four percent claimed that time demands of distance education lessons, activities, and homework are about the same as on-campus courses. While twenty-four indicated that distance education demands more time.

Question 5: *The method of instruction for my DE course made the course (more/less/about the same) interesting than my on-campus class(es).*



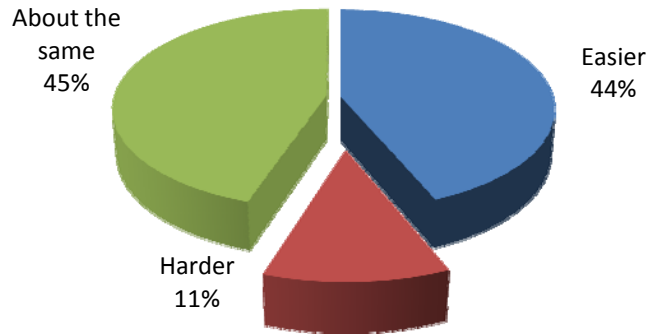
Half of respondents thought the method of instruction for distance education courses made the class more interesting compared to on-campus classes. Thirty-eight percent said that it was about the same.

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

August 2009

Question 6: *The method of instruction for my DE course made the course material (easier to understand than/harder to understand/about as understandable as) my on-campus class(es).*

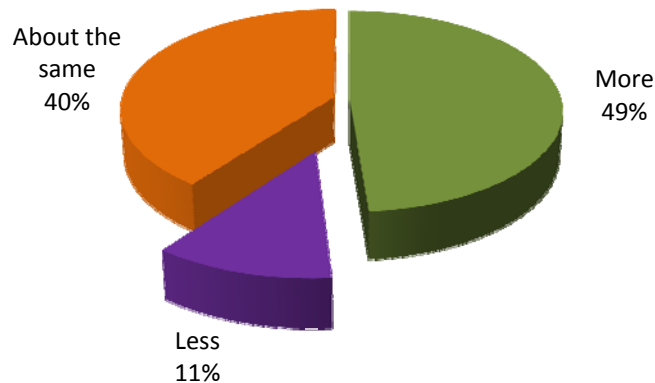
Figure 6.
DE Method of Instruction Made Course Understandable



Only 11% thought that distance education method of instruction made it harder for them to understand the course material. The remaining respondents were almost split between "about the same" (45%) and "easier" (44%).

Question 7: *I learned (more/less/about the same) in my DE course as I would have learned in my on-campus class(es).*

Figure 7.
Learning Experience in DE Course Compared to On-Campus Classes

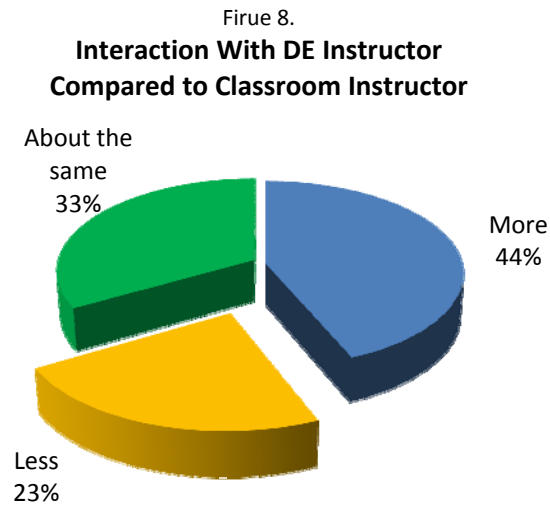


A majority (49%) of respondents said they learned more in their distance education course compared to on-campus classes. Another 40% thought they learned about the same and 11% said they learned less.

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

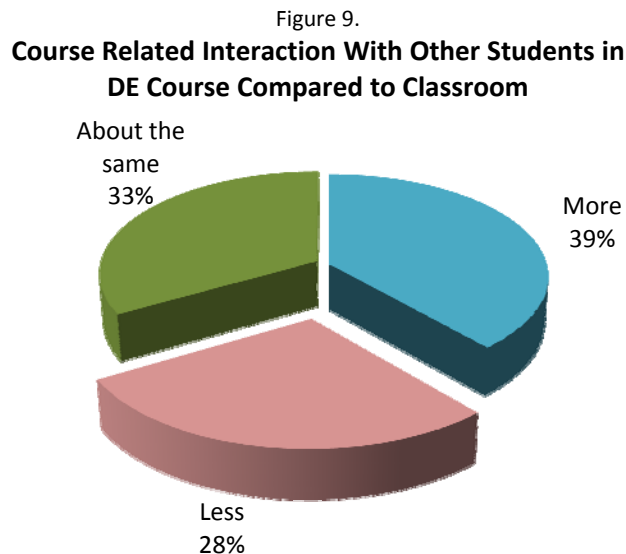
August 2009

Question 8: *I interacted (more/less/about the same) with my DE instructor than I normally would have done with a classroom instructor.*



There seems to be more interaction with instructors in distance education courses compared to classroom instruction as 44% of respondents claimed. However, 23% also said that they had less instructor communication with their DE course.

Question 9: *I had (more/less/about the same) course-related interaction with other student in my DE class than I normally would have done in a classroom.*



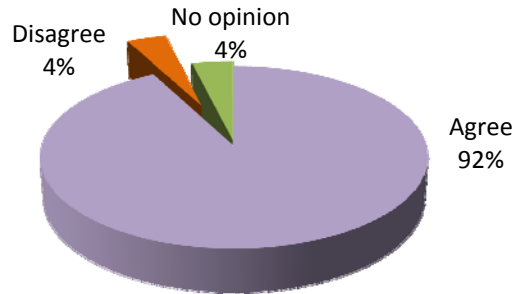
There was also more course related student interaction (39%) among DE students. While 33% it was about the same and 28% thought there was less interaction in their DE course compared to classroom interaction.

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

August 2009

Question 10: *I would take another DE course from this community college.*

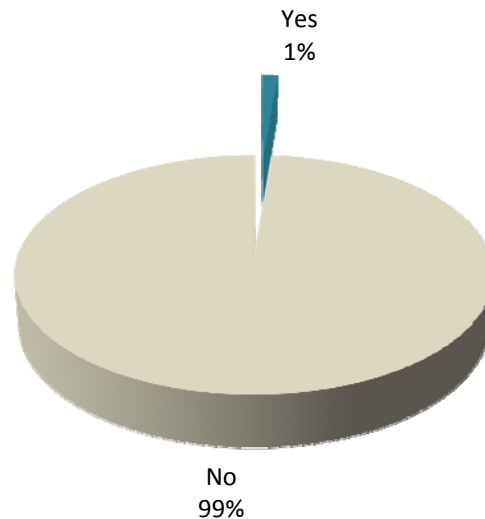
Figure 10.
Take Another DE Course from this College



A significant amount (92%) of distance education students indicated the desire to take another DE course from Harbor College in the future.

Question 11: *Does your course require you to attend some class sessions on campus?*

Figure 11.
Required Attendance of Some On-Campus Class Sessions



Only 1% said that they were required some on-campus session. The remaining respondents (99%) did not have any sessions on-campus.

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

August 2009

Additional comments regarding the recent experience in this distance education class:

- Online interaction of a cohort is better in this format as it encourages engagement by those of us that are otherwise timid in a classroom setting.
- This was my first online class. I still prefer traditional brick-and-mortar classes.
- The professor was extremely responsive; I enjoy the online courses because I am subjected to less peer pressure to tone down my class participation and test grades. The level of class participation by the students is much higher because they are required to write a response.
- DE classes have been the only way that I have been able to attend college and raise two children. I end up reading almost, if not all, the material assigned since I have time that is not taken up with lectures. The readable online lectures provided relevant material and enriched the course. I love online classes also for the discussions with other students. I am not as afraid to critique others and write better knowing everyone can see what I do.
- My experience in my English 214 class was great. I had a lot of help from instructor Warren who was extremely dedicated and helpful. Also I enjoyed the discussions which helped me interact with other students. Overall it was a great class with an amazing teacher.
- I had a great time learning in my Eng 2 Class with Prof. Ann Warren. I've enjoyed the subject, discussions with other students and the assignments required more work than an on-campus class, but as soon as it became heavy, the semester seemed to come to an end.
- Professor Richards is an excellent Sociology professor. He grades assignments immediately and also responds to student questions right away.
- Distance education allows students who are busy with their professional lives to earn a degree. It is the most wonderful invention. I love every class I have taken online, because it not only gives me the same credit that on-campus classes do, it is also closer to my interest. In the 21st century, people do everything on their computers, and studying is no different. I just love it! :)
- This class was great! What I loved most about it was the fact that the whole course was accessible from the beginning.
- Happy with the way school materials were presented to me.

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

August 2009

Additional comments regarding the recent experience in this distance education class:

- A long distance class is no less challenging or less informing than a class that takes place on campus. I am really grateful that I was able to take the long distance courses I took and learned as much I as did. It wouldn't have been possible otherwise given my work schedule.
- I felt that because the discussions were online I participated in them more than I would have in an in class setting because I am generally shy about speaking up in class. The online setting gives people more freedom to express their opinions.
- It's a very good program to be able to work on my goal from home. The only thing that needs improvement is more of a variety of classes would be great.
- I love online classes. I think it's an easier way for myself to learn. I will continue more online classes!
- I really enjoyed taking Soc 1 online. The modules that the professor set up for his students broke everything down giving you a broader vision on the chapters that we were studying. Not to mention the weekly discussions among your professor and classmates. Discussions really improve comprehension because you're able to view other people's perspectives on the subject, which helps if you missed something or didn't quite understand the material.
- Overall, I liked the class but it made it a little more difficult for me because it was a lot of reading. I do better with an on-campus class.
- A lot easier than I expected it would be for my first DE class.
- The course taken was CIS "Computer Information Systems." I was a novice to computer literacy, therefore, the class was extremely challenging for me on-line. As a beginner, it is better that I take in-class instruction.
- I really liked the experience of taking an online course, it worked much better around my schedule, but also the Professor was a great help and I learned a whole lot about this course.
- I've enjoyed this Distance education class and the other distance education classes I have taken as well. These DE classes provide a way of attending college for those that want to continue their education but are unable to attend the campus due to some reason.

DISTANCE EDUCATION SURVEY RESULTS

August 2009

Additional comments regarding the recent experience in this distance education class:

- Instructor very helpful in this course.
- Very good class!
- This is my first online DE class. I was skeptical about online classes, but now I know that they are fun, convenient, and more productive than some on-campus classes, I have liked how easy it is to contact the professor if I ran into questions.
- I think that my instructor (J. Thomas-Spiegel) is one of the best professors I have had to date. I am almost ready for transfer and have taken a few online classes, and enjoyed her class most.
- These classes are great we just need more courses to choose from.
- I think Distance Education classes are good especially for students who are busy, and that can't make it to a class because of their busy schedule.
- This instructor was highly organized, even before the semester started, which helped the transition between traditional classes to a DE classes.
- Professor Lora Lane was truly a joy. She responded so quickly to questions via email or private message on ETUDES very quickly. The course material was interesting, and I learned a lot. I really enjoyed the class, and look forward to taking another distance learning class when available.
- I have found that these classes (AJ001 and AJ008) have enlightened my knowledge and also assisted me in understanding the Criminal Justice as well as the Juvenile Justice system. I am looking forward to taking additional classes in the Spring of 2009. I am also interested in acquiring/obtaining a Paralegal Certification. If this course is available through your program could you please let me know? Let me not forget to mention my instructors, they very extremely accommodating, resourceful and always available throughout the whole course. Thanks to Prof. Kinrade and Seigel.
- What I like the most is that lessons are ready and available at any time, so one can review them wherever we are without taking personal notebooks. Also it is very helpful that Professors have already highlighted the most important points in their written lectures. There is no possibility to miss a class as if I were taking classes within a regular classroom.