Online & Distance Education Standards

The National Theological Association (NTA) Online & Distance Education Standards provide a comprehensive framework for ensuring the quality and effectiveness of online and distance education programs in theological institutions.

Standards for Online & Distance Education

Institutional Commitment

- - A clear vision and mission for online and distance education
- - Adequate resources and support for online and distance education
- - A plan for sustainability and growth

Curriculum and Instruction

- - Clear learning objectives and outcomes
- - Relevant and engaging course content
- - Effective instructional strategies and technologies
- - Opportunities for interaction and engagement

Student Support Services

- - Academic advising and support
- - Technical support and troubleshooting
- - Access to library and research resources
- - Support for students with disabilities

Faculty Support and Development

- - Training and support for online and distance education pedagogy
- - Technical support and training
- - Ongoing evaluation and feedback
- - Opportunities for professional development

Assessment and Evaluation

- - Student learning outcomes assessment
- - Program evaluation and review
- - Continuous quality improvement
- - Use of data to inform decision-making

Best Practices for Online & Distance Education

Use of Technology

- - Learning management systems
- - Online resources and tools
- - Multimedia and interactive content

- - Mobile-friendly design

Student Engagement
- - Discussion forums and online discussions
- - Live webinars and video conferencing
- - Collaborative projects and assignments
- - Peer review and feedback

Accessibility and Accommodations
- - Accessible course design and materials
- - Accommodations for students with disabilities
- - Support for students with disabilities
- - Compliance with relevant laws and regulations

Faculty Support
- - Training and support for online and distance education pedagogy
- - Technical support and training
- - Ongoing evaluation and feedback
- - Opportunities for professional development

Quality Assurance
- - Regular Evaluation: Regularly evaluate online and distance education programs to ensure quality and effectiveness.
- - Student Feedback: Gather feedback from students to inform program improvement and development.
- - Faculty Feedback: Gather feedback from faculty to inform program improvement and development.
- - Continuous Improvement: Continuously improve online and distance education programs based on evaluation and feedback.
- - Accreditation and Compliance: Ensure compliance with relevant accreditation standards and laws and regulations.

Implementation and Monitoring
- - Implementation Plan: Develop an implementation plan for online and distance education programs.
- - Monitoring and Evaluation: Regularly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of online and distance education programs.
- - Stakeholder Feedback: Gather feedback from stakeholders, including students, faculty, and employers.
- - Continuous Improvement: Continuously improve online and distance education programs based on evaluation and feedback.