

*Distance Learning Student Achievement Data:*

A variety of student achievement data is reported in this narrative as forming the basis of the overall evaluation of CSM's Distance Learning program. CSM's Office of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness (PRIE) has completed a study in Fall 2008 of student achievement in telecourses and online courses for the 3 previous consecutive Fall terms: Fall 2005, Fall 2006, and Fall 2007.

This study includes 76 distance education courses compared to their counterparts in a traditional face-to-face mode. This includes 4,099 student enrollments in distance classes (2,016 online enrollments and 2,083 telecourse enrollments) and 6,236 enrollments in comparable courses offered in a traditional mode.

Each online or Telecourse is compared to the same course (where available) offered in a traditional face-to-face mode. (Multiple section offerings of the traditional course were aggregated in the analysis.) The comparative analysis considers student academic performance as measured by successful course completion rates and retention rates. The student success indicators are also analyzed for the 3 Fall terms combined in relation to three demographic variables: ethnicity, gender, and age. This analysis allows for a comparison of potential demographic variations in student academic performance.