



**Cossatot**

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS**

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ALC Education Subcommittee  
Distance Education Presentation

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## History

- Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas was the first college in Arkansas to offer an online degree.

(ASSOCIATE OF GENERAL STUDIES)

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The logo of Cossatot Community College is a red circular emblem. Inside the circle, there is a stylized white building with a triangular roof and a central tower. Below the building, there is a red, flame-like or leaf-like shape.

## History

- Online education was and is still used to provide easier access to education in rural Arkansas. 20% of those registered would not attend class if not for online courses. (Either due to scheduling problems, or courses not making)

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# History

- Began online program in 1998 with a pilot Human Relations course, developed by Fred Borum, winner of the ITC Online Teaching award in 2000.
- Enrollment in online courses in fall 1999 was 90 students (unduplicated). That was 10% of total student enrollment.

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The logo of Cossatot Community College is a red circular emblem. Inside the circle, there is a stylized white graphic that resembles a traditional building or a monument with a pointed top and horizontal lines below it.

## History

- Enrollment in online courses in fall 2012 was 684 students (unduplicated). That is 44% of total student enrollment. (And a 760% increase in online students!)
- Cossatot began teaching in the Audio/Visual classroom environment in fall 1991 with 10 students.

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The logo of Cossatot Community College is a red circular emblem. Inside the circle is a stylized white building with a triangular roof and a large letter 'C' at the base. The word "History" is written in black text across the middle of the emblem.

## History

- Audio/Visual classroom enrollment in fall 2012 is 342 which is a 340% percent increase.
- Cossatot has SIX Audio/Visual classrooms in use, two on each major campus.

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The logo of Cossatot Community College is a red circular emblem. Inside the circle, there is a stylized white graphic that resembles a traditional building or a monument with a pointed top and a base. The word "History" is written in a black, sans-serif font, centered over the top portion of the logo.

## History

- Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas conceived and wrote the original rules that created the Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium (ARNEC). This Bellweather award finalist (2012) relies on Audio, Visual and Online Education to deliver much of the course content. ARNEC continues to produce graduation rates that are among the top five in Arkansas.

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# Distance Education Enrollment



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The logo for Quality Matters, featuring a stylized red figure inside a circle.

# Quality

- Member of Quality Matters

*“Quality Matters (QM) is a faculty-centered, peer review process that is designed to certify the quality of online and blended courses”.*

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# Quality

- Distance Education Committee has met monthly since 1999
- Developed Technical Course Review as an approval process in 1999
- Proctored exams and personal communication required for all courses
- Turnitin and SafeAssign are required in all courses

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The logo of Cossatot Community College is a red circular emblem. Inside the circle, there is a stylized white design that resembles a traditional building or a symbol with a pointed top and a base that tapers to a point. The word "Quality" is written in black, sans-serif font across the middle of the emblem.

## Quality

- Student and faculty orientations are online
- All courses have the same template and façade
- Faculty training / mentoring is required

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## Quality

- “Many research outcomes say that there is no more cheating in online courses than in classroom courses, and with changes in assessment methods such as discussions, collaborative projects, portfolios, and projects there can be an even further reduction in cheating” (Thibodeau, 2011)

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## Quality

- Student evaluations of online courses and instructors are conducted every fall and spring, with the results entered into each faculty member's overall evaluation

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## Results

- In a spring 2012 semester sample, 67% of students who took online courses earned a “C” or better compared to 61% of those who took traditional courses

(Sample size online = 133)

(Sample size traditional = 102)

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# Results

- Drop rates

Fall, 2011: In class = 3% (Total drops = 41)

Fall, 2011: On line = 10% (Total drops = 144)

Spring, 2012: In class = 3% (Total drops = 22)

Spring, 2012: On line = 10% (Total drops = 121)

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The logo of Cossatot Community College, featuring a red circle with a white stylized building or tower inside, topped with a triangle.

## Results

*“If you need to use any student examples for your presentation you can use me. Most of my education at Cossatot was online and all of my Bachelor’s and Master’s coursework was via online programs at UA Fayetteville. I would never have pursued higher education had it not been for that option. I know that I am not the only parent who feels that way”.* -

Tom m. Unrue, current Cossatot employee

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# Future

- Implementation of mobile technology
- Backup of face-to-face courses in case of disaster
- With ABEON, virtual courses (Second Life, etc.) are a real possibility
- Plan, Do, Check, Act attitude

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