EDTC 650. Teaching and Learning in K-12 Virtual Schools

Prerequisite: EDTC 640 or DETC 620. An introduction to K-12 distance education, including the policies and structures of K-12 virtual schools, teaching and course development strategies appropriate for K-12 online courses, and current issues involved in the K-12 virtual enterprise. Emphasis will be on K-12 schools that offer courses over the Internet; also included will be discussion of principles that apply to other forms of K-12 distance education, such as television and correspondence courses. Topics include different models of current K-12 virtual schools; district, state, and national regulations governing these schools; role of parental involvement and student support systems; social and collaborative aspects of learning at a distance; and training and mentoring of online K-12 teachers. Trends in international K-12 virtual schools will be compared with those in the U.S. The effectiveness of virtual schools and courses at the elementary and secondary school level will be explored.