

CENTRE FOR CONTINUING & DISTANCE EDUCATION (CCDE)

STATUS REPORT

www.ccde.usask.ca

Mission: We are the University's centre for planning and delivering innovative continuing and distance education programs that assist individuals in overcoming geographic and other barriers to learning. Our collaborative, entrepreneurial and global approach to education enhances the University's sense of place, aligns with its priorities, and improves the social and economic well-being of the people of Saskatchewan and beyond.

Goals and objectives of the centre:

Mandate

- To provide support for academic units in the delivery and management of degree-level distance education and off-campus courses, including operational planning and marketing
- To act as the University's principal point of contact with regional colleges, Campus Saskatchewan, and others seeking educational outreach services from the University
- To collaborate with other units of the University in the development, delivery, management, and marketing of continuing education and lifelong learning programs
- To develop, deliver, manage, and market new and existing continuing education and lifelong learning programs that supplement or complement programs offered by other units of the University
- To oversee the development, delivery, management and marketing of courses and programs offered by the Language Centre
- To participate in University planning processes in the area of lifelong learning and to draw attention to opportunities for policy coordination or development
- To operate in an entrepreneurial and resource-efficient manner, seeking creative ways to meet needs, fill gaps, and build synergies with other units
- To ensure a high degree of cost-recovery in non-degree courses and programming

Types of activities undertaken to achieve mandate: e.g. research; graduate student training; student experience; programming; outreach

As a centre responsible for outreach and engagement, our activities involve an array of educational programming that falls into three broad areas.

1. Distance Learning Off-Campus and Certificate Programs (DOC). Programming in this category involves degree credit and certificate credit courses. All of the former and much of the latter are done in close collaboration with the University's colleges. Our approaches to delivery include off-campus classes offered in traditional classroom face-to-face format through regional colleges, on First Nations and with other organizations or institutions such as NORTEP and Aurora College. We also deliver many distance education courses using online, televised, videoconference and guided independent study delivery approaches. Finally, we have a number of certificate programs in agriculture, horticulture, teaching English as a second language and adult and continuing education.
2. University of Saskatchewan Language Centre (USLC). The USLC is a centre within a centre. Its programming includes full and part-time English as a Second Language program and non-credit classes in several other languages. The full-time ESL program is focused on preparing students whose first language is not English with the language skills they need for university admission and success in their studies. The part-time program is intended primarily to assist existing undergraduate and graduate students of the University, but is of interest to a broader range of adult learners wanting to improve their English. The multilingual programs in the USLC include non-credit classes in French, Spanish, German, Mandarin, etc. We also offer one-week and six-week French immersion classes.
3. Professional Development & Community Education (PDCE). This unit offers non-credit programming for all ages from the smallest children to seniors. Specific program areas include art, music, indigenous peoples, nature and the environment, agriculture and horticulture, business and leadership, seniors and indigenous peoples. Programs are often offered in collaboration with community groups, companies and/or government departments.

Governance: The CCDE is organizationally part of the University and is subject to University management and control. The Executive Director of the CCDE reports to the Vice-Provost Teaching & Learning, and the CCDE falls under the overall supervision of the Provost's Office. Each of the three programming units of the CCDE has a Director, and those three directors report to the Executive Director. A proposal to establish an academic advisory body for the CCDE is being developed.

Current CCDE senior management staff include:

Bob Cram, Executive Director

Karen Hayward, Director, Professional Development & Community Education

David Parkinson, Director, University of Saskatchewan Language Centre

Cheri Spooner, Director, Distance Learning, Off-Campus and Certificate Programs