

Instructional Systems Technology
School of Education
Indiana University Bloomington

1. List the university name, address, and URL.

Name ¹	Indiana University (IU)
Address-University ¹	107 S. Indiana Avenue Bloomington, IN 47405-7000 Phone: 812-855-4848
Address-School of Education ²	201 North Rose Avenue Bloomington, IN 47405-1006 Phone: 812-856-8500
URL-University ¹	http://www.indiana.edu/
URL-Program ²	http://www.indiana.edu/~istde
1. http://www.indiana.edu , 2005 2. http://education.indiana.edu , 2005	

2. What degrees are offered?

IU's School of Education offers a Master of Science (MS) degree in Instructional Systems Technology (IST). In addition to the MS, the school also offers a Certificate program for students who wish to achieve a firm understanding of instructional design (<http://www.indiana.edu/istde>, 2005) without the formal requirements of the MS degree.

3. How long has IU been offering the MS in IST at a distance?

The distance option for the MS in IST began with the 1999-2000 school year (Overby-Koke, 2005, E-mail correspondence).

4. What course delivery technologies are used?

Currently, IU uses Oncourse as its online teaching and learning environment (<http://www.indiana.edu/%7Eistf500/branon/>, 2005). The system offers students a virtual classroom environment in which they have dedicated areas for each course. Within each course's area, students may chat, review the course calendar, post questions, turn in assignments, share information and files, and complete assessments (<https://original-oncourse.iu.edu/help/studentguide.html>, 2005). There is no mention if Oncourse is video enabled—one-way, two-way, or streaming.

5. Is there a face-to-face component of instruction?

The Distance Education option for the MS in IST requires no face-to-face component (<http://www.indiana.edu/%7Eist/programs/masters/masters.html>, 2005).

6. How long does it take to earn a degree in the distance education option for the MS in IST?

IU's Distance Education option MS in IST "is a 36-credit-hour program, generally spread over a 3-year period" (<http://www.indiana.edu/~istde/programs.html>, 2005).

7. Is the institution accredited? If so, by whom?

IU's School of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The current accreditation is valid through Fall 2007 (<http://www.indiana.edu/~iuncate/>, Official Letter PDF, 2005).

8. Is institution public or private?

IU is a public institution (<http://www.indiana.edu/~trustees/Next%20Meeting/FAQ.shtml>, 2005).

9. What is the total enrollment of the institution? How many students are enrolled in the distance education option for the MS in IST?

According to the 2004-2005 Fact Book (<http://factbook.indiana.edu/fbook04/enroll/fall.shtml>, 2005), there were 98,545 students enrolled at all campuses in 2004. For the 2005-2006 school year, there are 50 students enrolled in the distance option of the MS in IST (Overbey-Koke, 2005, e-mail correspondence).

10. What is the tuition (per course or per year)?

The Distance Education option for the MS in IST for the 2005-2006 school year is: (a) \$226.55 per credit hour, plus (b) a \$31.00 fee, totaling (c) \$257.55 (<http://www.indiana.edu/~istde/programs.html>, 2005).

A. Rate the visual appeal of the website. What aspects are appealing? What aspects are not?

Overall the visual appeal of IU's web site is pleasing. In that the schools colors are crimson and white, they are well incorporated into the web site's design. However, the designs of the various department and school pages varied amongst themselves. The web site as a whole could benefit from a more unified design and layout of information.

B. Is the site easily navigable and well-organized?

After becoming familiar with IU's web site, the chosen navigation and organization of information proved logical. For example, to find the courses and degrees offered via distance education, one logically chooses Academics from the main page. From there, there is an obvious link to the Distance Education department general information page. Then one sees links to distance education courses and degrees, which ultimately leads one to the program specific page. Similar logic to organization and navigation of information is applied should one start a search from a particular school's main page, such as the School of Education's main page.

C. Does the site contain sufficient information to answer questions 1-10 above?

For the most part the IU web site is well populated with information; however, the following pieces of information were not available or easily findable on the web site: (a) the length in time the MS in IST program has been offered at a distance, (b) a clear statement that IU is a public institution, and (c) the enrollment of the MS in IST program.

D. What is the most positive aspect of the web site?

The overall integration of web programming capabilities is the best aspect of the web site. This is particular visible on the main page. The web designers, not knowing what site visitors would want to search for, programmed fly-out menus to accommodate the numerous links necessary to any number of searches that could be started from the main page.

E. What aspect of the web site is most in need of improvement?

As mentioned previously, the varying layout and design of each department and school web site is distracting as one navigates the site. Unifying this layout and design will facilitate visitors as they seek out their information.

References:

Indiana University (2005). <http://www.indiana.edu>.

Overbey-Koke, C. (2005). E-mail correspondence.