

Distance Learning Surveys
Summary by Guy C. Lamunyon (primary researcher)
January, 2002

Below please find distance learning surveys completed to establish guidelines for course development. Guidelines for independent study/homestudy (distance learning) can be found in the next section (Section 2).

The first survey, completed in 1994 (see Section 3), was done to establish written guidelines for providers inquiring about the development of distance learning courses. The method was to compare a convenience sample of nursing homestudy programs with courses from the Institute of Addiction Awareness, the sole provider of addiction specific approved homestudy courses available at that time. In 1994, nursing education courses averaged 1.9 pages per hour of credit and had an average of 4.2 questions per hour. The sole provider of homestudy courses in 1994 dramatically exceeded the nursing average of pages per credit hour, with 9.1 pages per credit hour. The number of questions per credit hour was lower than the nursing average, with the Institute of Addiction Awareness showing 3.2 questions per credit hour. When the averages for nursing courses were combined with averages for the sole addiction study course provider in 1994, the overall averages were 3.7 pages per credit hour and 5.4 questions per credit hour. The findings of this survey were used in the development of the INDEPENDENT STUDY/HOMESTUDY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT guidelines found in Section 2

A second survey was completed in 1999 (see Section 4) upon requests for guidelines for the development of internet based online distance learning courses. Nine addiction specific providers were surveyed. At the time of the survey, only one provider (the Institute of Addiction Awareness) had internet based courses available. The mean (average) questions per credit hour was 4.1 and the mean (average) for pages per credit hour was 14.9. No changes in the guidelines found in Section 2 were recommended as a result of this second survey. Results of this survey were made available to all providers.

----- Section 2 -----

INDEPENDENT STUDY/HOMESTUDY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Several methods for the development of homestudy/independent study programs are described here for use by authors, developers and providers of continuing education by homestudy/independent study.

FIELD TESTING METHOD

Authors of homestudy/independent study courses using the Field Testing Method write continuing education materials for homestudy courses and determine the ratings of hours per course. These materials are pilot field tested using already licensed or certified healthcare professionals. The results of such field testing determine an average number of hours for course completion and a minimum post-test cutoff score.

CONSULTANT DEVELOPMENT METHOD

Providers of continuing education contract with educational consultants expert in the development of continuing education programs. Paid consultants develop educational programs and specify number of contact hours and passing post-test cutoff score.

FIELD SURVEY METHOD

Developers of continuing education programs survey existing providers to determine acceptable difficulty levels, page-per-CEU ratios and posttest questions-per-CEU ratios.

A recent survey of continuing education providers indicates suggested development guidelines of 3-5 pages per CEU and 3-5 post test questions-per-CEU. Post tests in the essay format may be used as an alternative format in some situations as in the case of ethics courses.

AUDIO-VIDEO TAPE HOURS

Audiotapes and videotapes are rated by actual hours of play time. Additional time may be allocated for registration, study guides and completion of required surveys and post test.

----- Section 3 -----

Continuing Education Provider Survey ***
January, 1994

Provider	Topic	Hrs	Pgs	Pg/Hr	Quest	Quest/Hr.
AJCEN	Tardive Dyskinesia	4	8	2.0	20	5.0
AJCEN	Hepatitis B Vaccine	3	8	2.7	20	6.7
AJCEN	Genital Herpes	2	4	2.0	20	5.0
AJCEN	Sex and the Elderly	2	5	2.5	10	5.0
AJCEN	Nutrition & Drug Tx	4	7	1.8	20	5.0
AJCEN	Antihypertensives	5	12	2.4	20	4.0
AJCEN	Anovulatory Women	5	12	2.4	20	4.0
AJCEN	Imaging Techniques	5	12	2.4	20	4.0
AJCEN	Summary (Averages)	-----	-----	2.3	-----	4.8
CME Resource	Death	15	28	1.9	100	6.7
CME Resource	Homeopathy	10	22	2.2	100	10.0
CME Resource	LUPUS	5	9	1.8	80	16.0
CME Resource	Ethics	15	26	1.7	100	6.7
CME Resource	R.E.T.	10	16	1.6	100	10.0
CME Resource	Diabetes Type I	5	11	2.2	30	6.0
CME Resource	Summary (Averages)	-----	-----	1.9	-----	9.2
NCCE	AIDS and the Caregiver	4	11	2.8	30	7.5
NCCE	Pain Management	12	11	0.9	30	2.5
NCCE	T.B. in the U.S.	12	11	0.9	30	2.5
NCCE	Summary (Averages)	-----	-----	1.5	-----	4.2
Summary of Above Nursing Providers (Averages)				-----	-----	6.1
IAA	Ethics	15	60	4.0	30	2.0
IAA	AIDS	15	105	7.0	55	3.7
IAA	Cocaine Concepts	15	116	7.7	40	2.7
IAA	Designer Drugs	15	164	10.9	50	3.3
IAA	Dual Diagnosis	15	141	9.4	60	4.0
IAA	Opiates	15	113	7.5	50	3.3

IAA	Relapse	15	155	10.3	55	3.7
IAA	Alcohol Concepts	30	227	7.6	100	3.3
IAA	Alcohol Addiction	15	227	15.1	50	3.3
IAA	Cocaine Addiction	15	98	6.5	40	2.7
IAA	Co-Dependency	15	209	13.9	50	3.3
IAA	Summary (Averages) -----			9.1	-----	3.2
	Summary of all of the above (Averages) -----			3.7	-----	5.4

Providers Included:

American Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing
P.O. Box 88-2104
San Francisco, CA 94188
415-928-2471
Approved for Nurses in California and Florida
Accepted in Colorado, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota,
Nevada and New Mexico.

Continuing Medical Education for California Nurses
PO Box 15163
Sacramento, CA 95851-0163
800-232-4238
Approved for Nurses in California, Florida and Alabama.
Accepted in Massachusetts, Minnesota and Nevada.

National Center of Continuing Education, Inc.
P.O. Box 1407
Roseville, CA 95678
916-786-4626
Approved by American Nursing Association and Alabama,
California, Florida, Iowa, Kansas and Kentucky.
Accepted for all Military Nurses, Physicians Assistants,
Critical Care Nurses, Operating Room Nurses, Surgical
Technologists, Surgical Assistants and in Alaska,
Colorado, Idaho, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada,
New Mexico, Oregon and Texas based on American Nursing
Association Accreditation.

Institute of Addiction Awareness
31878 Del Obispo #118, Suite 433
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
800-333-8933
Approved by National Association of Alcoholism and Drug
Abuse Counselors and for counselors in California,
Texas and New York and accepted by reciprocity in many
states. Approved for nurses in California and accepted by
reciprocity in many states.

----- Section 4 -----

Distance Learning Survey ***
Phase I Report
May, 1999

Mean (average) post test questions per CEH
7.5 7.5 Western Schools

6.9	6.9	CMR Homestudy
5.0		U.S. Journal/Professional Counselor
4.2		Institute of Addiction Awareness
2.9		Laban's Addiction Specific Trainings
2.5	2.5	Contemporary Teaching Videos
2.6	2.6	Women and Addiction
2.4	2.4	Hatherleigh
1.4	1.4	Institute for the Advancement of Human Behavior

Mean (average) pages per CEH

48.6		Institute for the Advancement of Human Behavior
24.1	24.1	Contemporary Teaching Videos
18.1		CMR Homestudy
14.8		Western Schools
9.5		Institute of Addiction Awareness
6.5	6.5	Hatherleigh
5.5		U.S. Journal/Professional Counselor
4.2		Women and Addiction
2.9		Laban's Addiction Specific Trainings

NOTE: American Continuing Education indicates no current homestudy programs, but plans to have available, "again in the future."

Telephone Support: All providers have telephone support available to counselors. IAHB indicates, "administrative support, not for content."

Email Support: All providers have email support available to counselors except for U. S Journal, CMR and American Continuing Education. IAHB indicates, "administrative support, not for content."

Chat Room: Contemporary Teaching Videos has a chat room available. Laban-LAST indicates a chat room will be available in 1999, however demand has been "minimal" for such a service.

Instructor in Chat Room: No providers have instructors available in chat rooms.

Email address:

Contemporary Teaching Videos	ceuinfo@ctvinc.com
Institute of Addiction Awareness	CEUInstitute@aol.com
Laban-LAST	richie@ptd.net
Western Schools	customerservice@westernschools.com
Women and Addiction	None listed
Inst. Advance. Human Behavior	Ce@ibh.com
Hatherleigh	editorial@hatherleigh.com
US Journal	PC@hci-online.com

Websites:

Contemporary Teaching Videos	ctvinc.com
Institute of Addiction Awareness	CEUInstitute.com
Laban-LAST	last-homestudy.com
Western Schools	westernschools.com
Women and Addiction	None listed
Inst. Advance. Human Behavior	IBH.com
Hatherleigh	hatherleigh.com
US Journal	professionalcounselor.com or USJT.com

Internet Courses: Only Institute of Addiction Awareness has internet courses available at this time. Laban-LAST indicates "little demand" but will "probably go on line in 1999." Hatherleigh reports internet courses will be available Sept. 1999.

*** All original survey data is available from the California Association of Alcoholism and Drug Counselors.