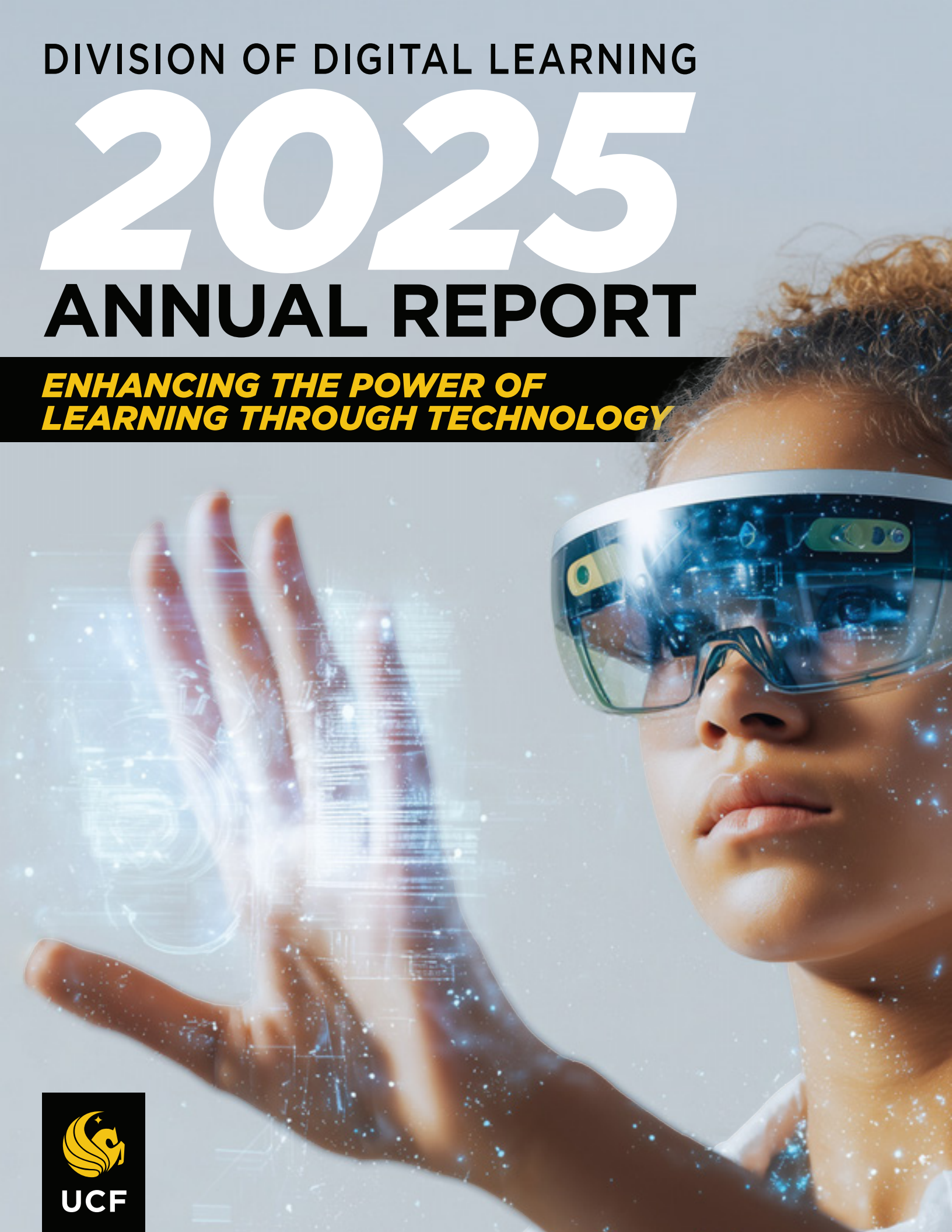
DIVISION OF DIGITAL LEARNING

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

ENHANCING THE POWER OF LEARNING THROUGH TECHNOLOGY



UCF

WE ARE AN ENGINE OF INNOVATION



At the University of Central Florida, we are defining what it means to be Florida's Premier Technology and Engineering University — and learning is at the center of that transformation. Within the **Division of Digital Learning**, we don't just support this vision, it's part of our DNA.

Digital learning is where technology and pedagogy converge to create something more powerful than either alone. Today, that convergence is accelerating through artificial intelligence. Across our work, we are embedding AI into course design, media production, faculty development, and learning technologies, reimagining how education is constructed, delivered, and experienced.

Our leadership in this space is reflected in the continued growth of the **Teaching and Learning with AI Conference**, which in 2025 brought together nearly 1,000 participants from across the nation and around the world. This work positions UCF not just as a participant in the future of higher education, but as a driver of it.

At scale, our impact continues to expand. UCF's online and blended modalities collectively reach learners across disciplines, demographics, and geographic boundaries. Together, these efforts form a connected ecosystem that empowers faculty, engages students, and extends UCF's reach far beyond the traditional classroom.

What distinguishes our approach is clarity of purpose: technology must enhance the power of learning. Every tool we build, every partnership we form, and every innovation we pursue is grounded in that principle, ensuring that advances in technology translate into meaningful gains in student success.

As UCF continues to lean into its identity as a technology and engineering leader, the **Division of Digital Learning** stands at the center of that momentum, shaping how innovation becomes impact, and how learning evolves for the future.

Thomas Cavanagh

Thomas Cavanagh, Ph.D.
Vice Provost, Division of Digital Learning
University of Central Florida

UCF Digital Learning fuels innovation and expands access to improve the lives of all learners. In support of UCF's strategic mission, we leverage state-of-the-art educational technology and cutting-edge practices to positively impact student access, success, cost, and the quality of the learning experience for all.



WE SEARCH.

Our researchers and analysts chart new ways to teach and reach our students regardless of their location or modality.

WE BUILD.

Our developers, designers, and storytellers create new solutions for today's educational challenges to improve student outcomes.

WE GUIDE.

Our faculty, specialists, and success coaches help our partners and students develop the skills and competencies they need to succeed.

WE FIND A BETTER WAY.

For more than 28 years, UCF Digital Learning has served all members of the UCF and Central Florida learning communities. Whether they study online or in the classroom — we are committed to their success.

BUILT ON INNOVATION! LEADING THE FUTURE!

A CONNECTED ECOSYSTEM

Center for Distributed Learning

Leads the design and delivery of digital learning at UCF—integrating instructional design, media, and technology to create engaging, high-quality learning experiences at scale.

UCF Online

Expands access to fully online degree programs, supported by innovative services that help students succeed—no matter where they are.

Continuing Education

Connects learners and organizations to professional development and workforce training—delivering flexible programs aligned with a rapidly evolving, technology-driven economy.

Research Initiative for Teaching Effectiveness (RITE)

Provides evidence-based insights on teaching, learning, and technology—evaluating the impact of digital learning and emerging innovations, including AI.



WENDY HOWARD Ed.D.
Director,
Pegasus Innovation Lab

"Some of the most transformative ideas in digital learning begin with faculty imagination. Together we help turn those ideas into reality by providing the strategy, partnerships, and support needed to move innovation from concept to meaningful impact for students."



KEVIN CORCORAN
Assistant Vice Provost,
Center for Distributed Learning

"Leading the future of digital learning means turning innovation into scalable impact. Through strategic partnerships, open education, quality course design, and the responsible exploration of immersive learning and AI, we expand access, empower faculty, and help every learner succeed."

POWER LEARNING FOR EVERY AUDIENCE

STUDENTS

Access flexible, high-quality learning experiences designed for success — supported by innovative tools, engaging media, and personalized services that meet learners wherever they are.

FACULTY

Partner with experts in design, technology, and pedagogy to create impactful courses — supported by professional development, emerging tools, and initiatives like the Teaching and Learning with AI Conference.

COMMUNITY

Engage with programs that support workforce development, professional growth, and lifelong learning — connecting individuals and organizations to UCF's innovation and expertise.

For more than 28 years, UCF Digital Learning has driven innovation in higher education.

Today, that foundation positions us to lead the next evolution of learning—where emerging technologies and AI enhance the learning experience.

A LEGACY OF INNOVATION

1995 UCF awarded Florida Distance Learning Grant

1995 IDL 6543 Interactive Distributed Learning faculty development course launched

1996 UCF opens Distance Learning Unit

1996 UCF offers first online course (34 courses, 645 students enrolled)

1998 UCF offers three online undergraduate degree completion programs

1999 UCF offers first online Masters and Graduate Certificate programs

2003 9 online degree programs, 6 online graduate certificates

2003 75% of UCF faculty teaching online

2008 15 online degree programs, 12 online graduate certificates

2016 UCF Online Launched

2016 UCF Online ranked **Top 20 Best Online Undergraduate Program** by ***U.S. News & World Report***

2020 UCF Online adds 100th program

2021 UCF Online ranked **Top 15 Best Online Undergraduate Program** by ***U.S. News & World Report***

2022 UCF Online ranked **#7 Best Online Undergraduate Program** by ***U.S. News & World Report***

2023 UCF Online ranked **#8 Best Online Undergraduate Program** and **#1 for the Best Online Bachelor's Programs in Psychology** by ***U.S. News & World Report***

2023 UCF Digital Learning recognized with ***Power Learner Potential Award*** by *1EdTech*

2024 UCF Online ranked **#7 Top Ten Best Online Undergraduate Program** by ***U.S. News & World Report***

2024 UCF Online ranked **#5 Top Ten Best Online Veterans Undergraduate Program** by ***U.S. News & World Report***

2024 UCF Digital Leaning and UCF Online earned a Gold Ranking from *Times Higher Ed*

BREAKING THE IRON TRIANGLE

We develop innovative technology and practices to shatter the outdated convention that increasing access and decreasing the cost of education must ultimately sacrifice quality.



MARTHA HUBERTZ
UCF Psychology Lecturer

"The 2024–2025 academic year exemplified the depth and productivity of my partnership with CDL, spanning co-authorship, co-presentation, course design, and ... research across multiple CDL units. Across all of these collaborations, CDL colleagues were not support staff but genuine intellectual partners — co-authors, co-presenters, and co-investigators in a shared commitment to ... digital learning."



ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING

At UCF, our students thrive with a strategic mix of online, blended, and face-to-face courses.

59.8% of total student credit hours were fully online or blended modalities (2024-25 Academic Year)

40.8% of total student credit hours were fully online (2024-25 Academic Year)

$144.6M rough estimated construction cost savings for access created by digital modalities.*

28+YRS of strategic, intentional course and faculty development

*Classroom construction only, not including labs, offices, parking, plant operations, etc.

2024-2025 BLENDED IMPACT

90.55%	72.5%	93.5%
of all UCF students took at least one online or blended course	of all graduate students	of all undergraduate students

2024-2025 ONLINE IMPACT

78.7%	62.9%	80.9%
of all UCF students took at least one fully online course	of all graduate students	of all undergraduate students

SPEED TO GRADUATION - FCS TRANSFER STUDENTS

3.3 YRS	3.2 YRS	2.8 YRS
<20% ONLINE	50% ONLINE	100% ONLINE

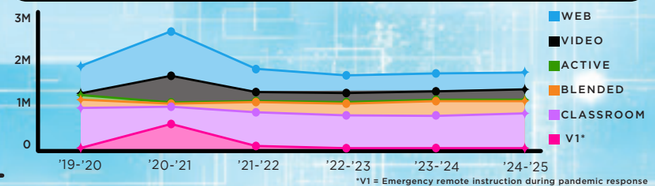
SPEED TO GRADUATION - MASTER STUDENTS

2.2 YRS	2.3 YRS	2.4 YRS
<20% ONLINE	50% ONLINE	100% ONLINE

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE HEADCOUNT

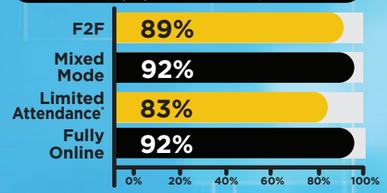


ONLINE & BLENDED STUDENT CREDIT HOUR (SCH) GROWTH

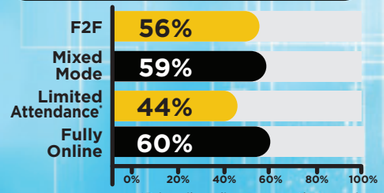


*V1 = Emergency remote instruction during pandemic response

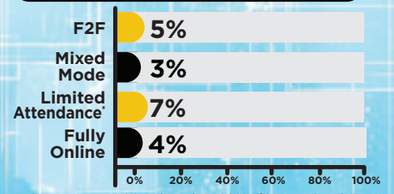
STUDENTS SUCCESS *(A, B, OR C GRADE)*



STUDENTS WHO RATE FACULTY AS EXCELLENT *AY 2023-24*



STUDENTS WITHDRAWAL



*Primarily online courses that require some in-person activities (less than 20% of instructional time)

THE CENTER FOR DISTRIBUTED LEARNING

The Center for Distributed Learning (CDL) provides leadership in distance learning strategies, policies, and practices. We collaborate with internal and external partners to innovate technology and pedagogy through faculty development, course production, open resource outreach, and research.

CDL DEPARTMENTS

Faculty Multimedia Center

The FMC is the UCF faculty's do-it-yourself, hands-on resource for training and technology, where educators can create innovative course content with state-of-the-art tools.

Instructional Design

The ID Team fuels the design and development of quality online courses through one-on-one support and ongoing professional development for UCF faculty, as well as research and outreach.

Learning Content Production

Professionals in content development, accessibility, graphic design, video production, and other media deliver custom products to faculty members to improve student outcomes.

Learning Systems & Technology

Our team of innovative developers creates custom LMS integrations and maintains proprietary educational applications, such as Obojobo, Materia, UDOIT, and Badges@UCF.

Pegasus Innovation Lab

The iLab scales innovative digital learning initiatives across the enterprise and beyond, including digital curriculum initiatives, pilot programs for emerging technologies, and quality course reviews and designations.

LMS SYSTEMS

This team of systems administrators and service agents provides technical support to online instructors and students by phone, email, and live chat.

"In partnering with instructional designers, faculty at UCF are also connected with other CDL teams that offer a range of services to innovate and transform their online and blended courses - with the ultimate goal of supporting student success."

RHIANNON POLLARD, PH.D.
Director,
Instructional Design

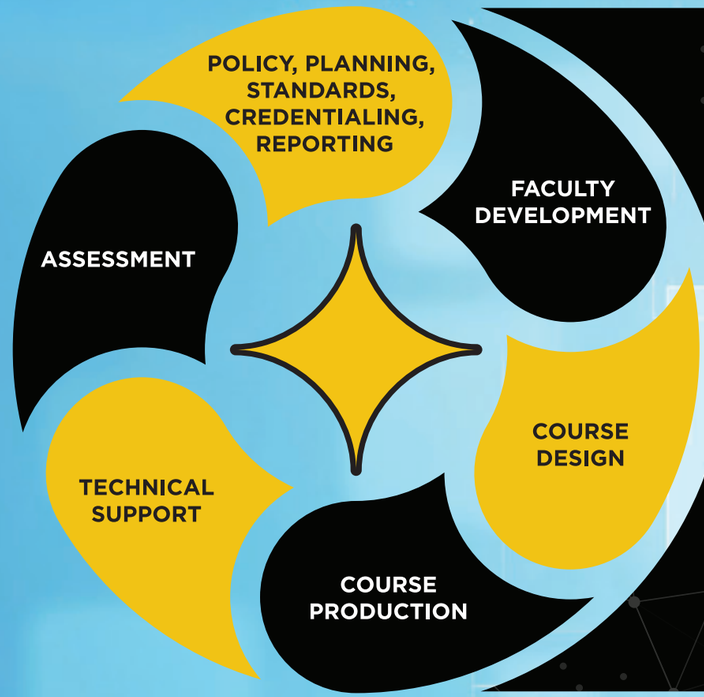


INNOVATIVE ONLINE TEACHING PRODUCTS

Materia helps faculty members diversify their students' online learning experience with a growing library of games, applications, study tools, and learning aids.

Obojobo provides a multifaceted interface capable of building, containing, and utilizing instructional components, plus a powerful analytics suite to give faculty members valuable insight.

The **Universal Design Online Content Inspection Tool (UDOIT)** enables faculty members to identify accessibility issues in the LMS and their course materials.



DIGITAL LEARNING QUALITY ASSURANCE

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS SINCE 1995

2,093
Faculty members have completed IDL6543, our award-winning, non-credit instructional design course

11,094
Faculty members have completed a professional development course, from our broad menu

1,221
Quality and High Quality course designations from 2017 to 2025.

Realizeit is a personalized learning/adaptive learning software application that allows students to progress at their own pace.

Yellowdig is an online learning community platform that offers an innovative way for students and faculty to interact and discuss course topics.

Thinglink is an easy way to create multimedia interactive learning materials that are accessible via an integrated reading tool.



2025 CHUCK D. DZIUBAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ONLINE TEACHING

NICOLE LAPEYROUSE, Ph.D.
Associate Lecturer

"I am truly honored to have been awarded the Dziuban Award for Excellence in Online Teaching. This award recognizes the dedication, creativity, and quality of the course that I have built to enhance students' engagement. When developing this course I wanted to create an atmosphere that welcomed my students into learning, and I look forward to continuing my work in the future."



2025 BARBARA TRUMAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN BLENDED TEACHING

ALISHA JANOWSKY, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer

"Blended teaching works when the blend is intentional, when online and face-to-face components genuinely build on each other rather than just coexist. Getting there takes support, and I'm so grateful to the Center for Distributed Learning and my instructional designer, Sue Bauer, whose guidance, and expertise made all the difference."

UCF ONLINE

Leveraging more than 28 years of experience in digital learning, UCF Online offers prospective undergraduate and graduate students a flexible pathway for higher education. We are committed to supporting and assisting fully online students from application to graduation, no matter where they reside.

UCF ONLINE STATS

130+ FULLY ONLINE PROGRAMS

New Online Programs

Event Management (BS) • Entertainment Management (BS) • Sustainability (BA/BS) • Leadership (BA/BS)
Modeling & Simulation (MS) • Modeling & Simulation of Behavioral Certification • Electronic Parts Graduate Certification

35 BACHELOR'S DEGREES

49 MASTER'S DEGREES

45 GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

5 DOCTORAL DEGREES

TOP 5 UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS:

1. Psychology, BS
2. Nursing, RN - BS
3. English, BA
4. Health Services Administration, BS
5. History, BA

TOP 5 GRADUATE PROGRAMS:

1. Social Work, MSW
2. Nursing, MS
3. Public Administration, MPA
4. Criminal Justice, MS
5. Health Care Informatics, MS



JULIE SHANKLE
Executive Director of UCF Online Operations

"Students don't need to be in Orlando to be a Knight. Today's learners choose online education intentionally, seeking the flexibility to learn in ways that fit their lives. That's why UCF Online combines rigorous academics with personalized support, ensuring that distance never means learning alone."

2,378

UCF Online degrees

awarded by the 2024-25 Academic Year

3,436

fully online courses

developed at UCF

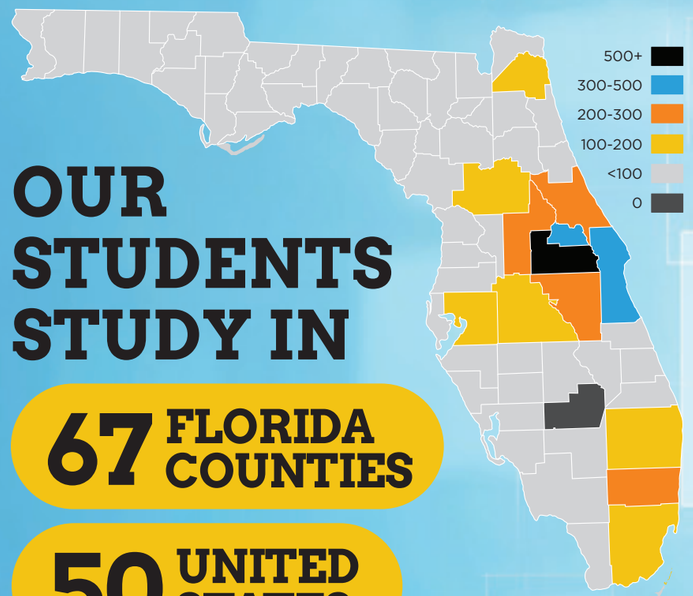


TA'HARA WILLIAMS
Educational Leadership MA

"Being an online student has allowed me to continue my education while balancing work and personal responsibilities. The structure of the courses and the support provided have helped me stay organized and focused on my goals."

GEOGRAPHIC REACH

FLORIDA REACH *(AY 2024-2025)*



OUR STUDENTS STUDY IN

67 FLORIDA COUNTIES

50 UNITED STATES

8 FOREIGN COUNTIES

BUDGET MAXIMIZATION

$2.1B
Total in UCF's budget (2024-25)

$15.2M
Total in Digital Learning Fee Collections (2024-25)

1.8M
Total UCF Student Credit Hours (2024-25)

852,307
Online Student Credit Hours (2024-25)

BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS U.S.News & WORLD REPORT BACHELOR'S 2026

BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS U.S.News & WORLD REPORT BACHELOR'S BUSINESS 2026

BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS U.S.News & WORLD REPORT BACHELOR'S PSYCHOLOGY 2026

BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS U.S.News & WORLD REPORT VETERANS BACHELOR'S 2026



2025 marked UCF's fourth year in a row in the top ten and the eighth in the top 20 for Best Online Bachelor's Programs. UCF was also highly ranked in a number of individual programs, as well as programs for veterans according to ***U.S. News & World Report***.

UCF ONLINE CONNECT CENTER

Many fully online students can benefit from support that goes beyond traditional university resources. Our innovative UCF Online Connect Center takes a personalized, proactive approach to addressing their needs — from enrollment through graduation. Specially trained Success Coaches assist with academic planning, financial aid, accessibility, health and wellness, career planning, and more. And the results are proof that the method works.

WHAT IS A SUCCESS COACH?

A Success Coach develops relationships with UCF Online students to help them set and achieve academic goals, from inquiry to graduation. Coaches and students work together to:

- Establish educational objectives
- Co-create strategies to stay on track to graduation
- Co-develop academic plans that align with career goals
- Connect to appropriate resources for program specific support

UCF HIGHER EDUCATION COACHING ACADEMY

The UCF Higher Education Coaching Academy is a training and research center providing customized training to individuals, teams, and organizations seeking to develop a culture of success coaching within their educational institutions.

1,715 Higher Education Staff at 76 Different Institutions

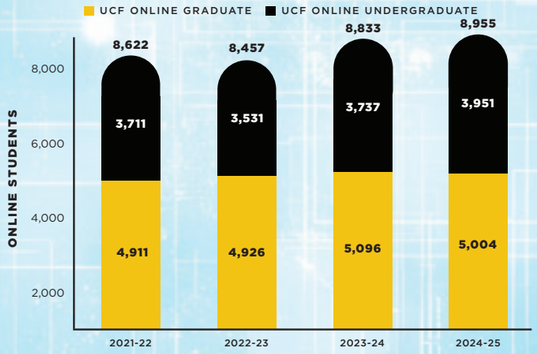
CLIENTS INCLUDE

Kennesaw State University · James Madison University · University of Miami · University of Houston-Downtown · UConn University of Connecticut · Georgia Institute of Technology

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

- ONLINE SUCCESS COACHES
- TECH SUPPORT
- CAREER SUPPORT SERVICES
- ACADEMIC ADVISING
- FINANCIAL AID
- LIBRARY SERVICES

UCF ONLINE ENROLLMENT



UCF ONLINE STUDENT SUCCESS MEASURES

COURSE SUCCESS RATE BY AY: UCF ONLINE & NON-UCF ONLINE

NON-UCF ONLINE		UCF ONLINE
91.6%	2024-25	93.4%
90.9%	2023-24	92.1%
89.8%	2022-23	91.2%
89.0%	2021-22	91.5%
87.5%	2020-21	90.6%



NATASHA HENRY WILLIAMS
Director, UCF Online Student Coaching

"The Success Coach-student partnership is crucial because academics are directly affected by external challenges, so we work together to help students achieve the best possible results."



KADY OWEN
BS in Clinical Psychology Online

"I don't think I would've been able to get through my degree without having our sessions. You always knew exactly what to say to help me through my problems without holding my hand, but guiding me in the right direction. For that I'm forever grateful!"

RITE

At the heart of the Division of Digital Learning's mission is a commitment to advancing teaching and learning through evidence-based practices. The Research Initiative for Teaching Effectiveness (RITE) conducts empirical research to assess the impact of digital learning modalities and applications on students and faculty.

These longitudinal studies examine the effectiveness of distance learning and technology integration in higher education, providing faculty and administrators with evidence-based recommendations, and ultimately supporting UCF's commitment to pedagogical excellence and student success.



PATSY D. MOSKAL
Digital Learning Impact Evaluation Director

"RITE's research helps us determine what actually works in digital learning, so UCF can make informed choices about how technology is used to support teaching and student success."

RITE IMPACT EVALUATIONS

IMPACT OF DIGITAL MODALITIES ON STUDENT SUCCESS AND EXPERIENCE
Longitudinal evaluation of student success, withdrawal, and satisfaction in digital modalities across all student demographics and disciplines.

STUDENT & FACULTY USE OF GENERATIVE AI (GenAI)
Through spring and fall surveys, evaluating trends of faculty and student usage, perceptions, and overall feedback of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) in teaching and learning.

INTERNAL APPLICATIONS SUCH AS INTELLIGENT COURSE SEARCH AND LMS DASHBOARD
Evaluate impact on teaching and advising/coaching as part of efforts to increase student success.

ACCELERATED SEMESTERS
Longitudinal evaluation of the impact of 3-week and 4-week intersessions and new shortened 8-week semesters on student success and faculty teaching.

SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING AND LEARNING RESEARCH (SoTL)
Support faculty across multiple disciplines on classroom-based research related to improving student success.

DEEP DIVE

Student and Faculty attitudes toward AI

STUDENTS (N=2,490)		FACULTY (N=64)
79%	Believe that using GenAI can impede student learning	72%
48%	Believe that knowing how to use GenAI will be an important skill in the workforce	70%
40%	Believe they will use GenAI technology in the future	63%
35%	Believe that using GenAI will be helpful in their future fields of study	59%
24%	Believe students should be allowed to use GenAI in coursework	33%
6%	Believe GenAI will have a positive impact on student learning in higher education	8%

UCF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity Through Lifelong Learning

Continuing Education at UCF extends the university's reach beyond traditional degree programs, connecting learners, professionals, and organizations to opportunities for growth, advancement, and transformation.

Through flexible, market-responsive programs, Continuing Education supports workforce development and equips learners with the skills needed to succeed in a rapidly evolving economy.

AT A GLANCE

- 9,500+ enrollments
- 670+ courses offered
- 550,000+ contact hours delivered

AREAS OF IMPACT

- Workforce and professional development
- Corporate and customized training
- Industry-aligned certification and career programs
- Technology-focused upskilling and reskilling

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Corporate Training**: Serving organizations locally and nationally, with 23% of training delivered outside Florida
- **Technology Programs:** Expanding access to careers in cybersecurity, data analytics, and emerging fields
- **Higher Education Coaching Academy:** Award-winning program with 1,500+ enrollments across 60+ institutions

LOOKING AHEAD

As Continuing Education transitions to the School of Technology Leadership and Innovation, it carries forward a strong foundation of innovation, partnership, and impact — continuing to serve learners and organizations across Florida and beyond.

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS & CLIENTS INCLUDE:

AdventHealth University
City of Orlando
Orange County Library System
Winter Garden
Mitsubishi Power

Continuing education is essential infrastructure for lifelong learning.



UCF DIGITAL LEARNING

12351 Research Pkwy, Orlando, FL 32826
digitallearning.ucf.edu