Online Undergraduate Course Initiative (OUCI)
2018

Objectives:
To develop online and/or hybrid undergraduate courses that:
- Increase the range of online learning opportunities at the University of Toronto; or
- Increase the number of students from other universities enrolling in University of Toronto courses for credit transfer; or
- Provide flexible options that leverage online technologies to accommodate scheduling constraints while providing a rich learning experience; or
- Explore transformative instructional approaches and respond to needs across academic program contexts.

It is anticipated that instructors receiving OUCI funding for online/hybrid course design proposals will consider the affordances of online learning for improving flexibility, enhancing learner experience and supporting student success across dimensions such as:

- **Access**
  - *Geographic* - offering flexibility for full time degree program students and convenience for part time
  - *Temporal* - learning at time and pace preferred by learner with flexible options
- **Program path** - addressing student needs such as speeding up or catching up
- **Content** - providing varied digital media, interactive activities, learner generated or collaboratively created content
- **Format** - exploring synchronous, asynchronous or self-directed modules
- **Instruction and assessment strategies** - engaging students in innovative active learning, personalized formative feedback and authentic assessments

Criteria:
- Priority is given to courses that are part of a first entry undergraduate degree program
- Courses must be offered in online/hybrid format for a minimum of three years
- Lead instructor must have a continuing appointment

Fully Online	Hybrid
• Course content would be acceptable for credit transfer by other universities • Course prerequisites are sufficiently broad as to allow access by students from other universities • All course activities must be online, with the exception of a final exam during the regular exam period that is invigilated	• Course reduces in class time on campus by at least 1/3 • Course format both online and on-campus is redesigned • Tests and midterms may be held during the term during in class sessions.

OUCI Funding:
- Online Courses - $12,000 per redesigned course
- Hybrid Courses - $6,000 per redesigned course

Each instructor undertaking an OUCI projects will be recognized as an "online learning innovator" and given recognition (e.g. through a letter for their teaching dossier, innovation profiles on web).

Use of Funds:

Use of funding will be determined by the Office of the Dean in the relevant division. Example course development expenses include:
- course buyout by instructor or hiring a co-instructor in accordance with unit-level Workload Policy provisions
- media/technology design support (buyout of time of educational technology staff or hire contract)
- software or hardware
- professional development activities, conferences
- Teaching Assistant support in course preparation

The funding is to be directed to professional development support of online course design capacity. Additional resourcing will not be provided on an ongoing basis.

Expectations:
- Course instructor will participate in faculty development related to online course redesign/teaching (≈2 days, normally the Course Design Institute scheduled in May and/or June 2018)
- Form a design team including instructional designer, TA, librarian and others as appropriate
- Course instructor will participate in regular online course redesign team planning meetings (≈ 4 sessions)
- Course instructor will participate in OUCI activities, including webinars and round table events
- Courses will meet UofT standards with respect to quality, security, accessibility and branding

For more information contact:
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