



Lamar State College
— Orange —

Standards for Quality Online Course Design and Instruction

General Standard 1: Course Overview and Introduction	
1.1	Learners are introduced to the purpose and structure of the course.
1.2	Communication expectations for online discussions, email, and other forms of interaction are clearly stated.
1.3	Course and institutional policies with which the learner is expected to comply are clearly stated within the course, or a link to current policies is provided.
1.4	Learners are asked to introduce themselves to the class.

General Standard 2: Learning Objectives (Competencies)	
2.1	The course learning objectives, or course/program competencies, describe outcomes that are measurable.
2.2	The module/unit-level learning objectives or competencies describe outcomes that are measurable and consistent with the course-level objectives or competencies.
2.3	Learning objectives or competencies are stated clearly, are written from the learner's perspective, and are prominently located in the course.
2.4	The relationship between learning objectives or competencies and learning activities is clearly stated.
2.5	The learning objectives or competencies are suited to the level of the course.

General Standard 3: Assessment and Measurement	
3.1	The assessments measure the achievement of the stated learning objectives or competencies.
3.2	The course grading policy is stated clearly at the beginning of the course.
3.3	Specific and descriptive criteria are provided for the evaluation of learner's work, and their connection to the course grading policy is clearly explained.
3.4	The assessments used are sequenced, varied, and suited to the level of the course.
3.5	The course provides learners with multiple opportunities to track their learning progress with timely feedback.

General Standard 4: Instructional Materials	
4.1	The instructional materials contribute to the achievement of the stated learning objectives or competencies.
4.2	The relationship between the use of instructional materials in the course and completing learning activities is clearly explained.
4.3	The course models the academic integrity expected of learners by providing both source references and permissions for the use of instructional materials.
4.4	A variety of instructional materials are used in the course.

General Standard 5: Learning Activities and Learner Interaction

5.1	The learning activities promote the achievement of the stated learning objectives or competencies.
5.2	Learning activities provide opportunities for interaction that supports active learning.
5.3	The instructor's plan for interacting with learners during the course is clearly stated.
5.4	The requirements for learner interaction are clearly stated.

General Standard 6: Course Technology

6.1	The tools used in the course support learning objectives or competencies.
6.2	Course tools promote learner engagement and active learning.
6.3	A variety of technology is used in the course.
6.4	The course provides learners with information on protecting their data and privacy.

General Standard 7: Learner Support

7.1	The course instructions articulate or link to a clear description of the technical support offered and how to obtain it.
7.2	Course instructions articulate or link to the institution's academic support services and resources that can help learners succeed in the course.
7.3	Course instructions articulate or link to the institution's student services and resources that can help learners succeed.

General Standard 8: Accessibility and Usability

8.1	Course navigation facilitates ease of use and readability.
8.2	The course provides accessible text and images in files, documents, LMS pages, and web pages to meet the needs of diverse learners.
8.3	The course provides alternative means of access to multimedia content in formats that meet the needs of diverse learners.
8.4	Course multimedia facilitates ease of use.