

Seaver College Online Course Policy

Seaver College places the total development of the student at the heart of its educational enterprise. As a primarily residential and undergraduate college, Seaver College affirms a significant relationship between the degree of individual student involvement in the life of the college and our success in effecting student development. For this reason, a concerted effort is made to engage students with faculty in the academic experience. Courses offered at Seaver College occur in settings that facilitate direct interaction between students and faculty.

As educators, the foremost concern of the Seaver College faculty is student learning. We support the use of creative pedagogical methods designed to enhance student engagement and advance learning. Seaver faculty engage in the scholarship of teaching and realize that our call as scholars and educators demands investigation of alternate pedagogical methods that may advance student learning.

As a consequence of our commitment to student learning, it is the responsibility of the Seaver Faculty to review the use of alternate pedagogical strategies to ensure that they align with the Mission of Seaver College and result in student learning. For this reason, a priori approval is required for all online courses offered at Seaver College. For this policy, an online course is defined as one for which 50 percent of regularly scheduled classroom time is replaced by required activities completed at a distance (faculty and students are not coincident) and managed via internet communication.

All online courses at Seaver College must be approved by the Division Chairperson and the Associate Dean or Seaver Academic Council. If the chairperson approves the offering of the online course, the faculty member must submit the Seaver College Online Course Review form to the Associate Dean of Seaver College. Aligned with SAC procedures for special topics (292/592) courses at Seaver College (SAC Procedures IV.D), proposals for online courses may be approved or denied by the Associate Dean, who also may choose to forward them to the Seaver Academic Council if more discussion is warranted. An online course may be taught only twice after initial approval by the Associate Dean; additional requests to offer an online course must be approved by the Seaver Academic Council.