

Part I: The institution and its programs (1 point each, unless otherwise indicated)

1. List the name, mailing address, and website URL of the institution. [.5 point]
Valdosta State University
1500 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31698
<https://www.valdosta.edu>
All information above is located on their homepage, www.valdosta.edu.
2. What degrees and majors are offered in the identified program? For instance, NSU offers an EdD in instructional technology and distance education. Florida State University offers an MS in instructional systems design. [.5 point]
 - Ed.S. in Instructional Technology
 - <http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/online-programs/welcome.php>
 - Instructional Technology Technology Applications (Certificate not required or acquired, intended for non P-12 applicants)
 - Instructional Technology P-12 Technology Applications (Previous certification required)
 - Instructional Technology P-12 Technology Applications with Add On Library Media Certification (Media Certification will be at the certification level at which you enter the program, not S6)
 - Performance-Based Leadership
 - <http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/curriculum-leadership-and-technology/programs/specialist-programs/welcome.php>
3. For how long has the institution been offering the identified program at a distance?
EdS has been offered since summer of 2000
<http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/graduate-school/our-programs/instructional-technology.php>
4. What course delivery technologies are used? Be specific: general terms such as “Web-based” are insufficient. Also, be inclusive, bearing in mind that many programs use a variety of technologies in addition to a course management system.
They use BlazeView – Brightspace by Desire to Learn – as their learning management system.
<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/elearning/blazeview.php>
They use Blackboard Collaborate for web conferencing.
<http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/elearning/main/current-students/welcome.php>
5. Is there a face-to-face component of instruction? If so, where is it conducted, and for what duration?
Completely online – no face to face but suggest practicum for optimum learning.
<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/curriculum-leadership-and-technology/programs/specialist-programs/eds-it-technology-applications.php>
6. How long does it take to earn a degree in the identified program? (Indicate either the briefest amount of time required or the amount of time most students require.)
30 course hours – 1 2/3 years for EdS
<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/curriculum-leadership-and-technology/programs/specialist-programs/eds-it-technology-applications.php>
7. Is the institution accredited? If so, by what organization? [.5 point]
Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)

- Southern Accreditation of Colleges and Schools
Approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission
<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/online-programs/welcome.php>
8. Is the institution public or private? If private, is it for-profit or not-for-profit? [.5 point]
Public State University
<http://www.valdosta.edu/about/facts/did-you-know.php>
9. What is the total enrollment of the institution? How many students are enrolled in the identified distance-delivered program?
11,302 students total as of fall 2015
http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/institutional-research/documents/enrollment-graduation-retention/enrollment_fall_2015.pdf
10. What is the tuition (per course or per year)?
EdS – 8,550 for program
<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/curriculum-leadership-and-technology/programs/specialist-programs/eds-it-technology-applications.php>

Be sure to cite your source for each answer.

Part II: The institution's website (1 point each)

Critique the institution's (or program's) website, answering the following questions:

- A. How would you rate the visual appeal of the site? What elements are visually appealing, and which aspects are less so? Include screen shot(s) to illustrate.
The site has a nice clean look with their school colors and good headings. I like the bread crumbs you can follow back as you get deep into looking at pages.



Even the navigation at the college level has nice big buttons of the major areas someone would want to investigate, just like I was looking for Online Programs.

The screenshot shows the website for the DeWear College of Education and Human Services. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with a dark header 'DEWAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES'. Below it are links for 'About COEHS', 'Admissions Information', 'Degrees and Programs', 'Advisement & Registration', 'Academic Centers', 'Student Resources', 'Faculty Resources', 'Open Educational Resources', and 'Study Abroad'. Below the menu is another dark header 'DEPARTMENTS' followed by a list of departments: 'Adult and Career Education', 'Communication Sciences and Disorders', 'Curriculum, Leadership, and Technology', 'Early Childhood & Special Education', and 'Kinesiology and Physical Education'. The main content area features six large, light-colored buttons: 'Online Programs' (with a student image), 'Degrees & Programs', 'Academic Calendar' (with a calendar image), 'NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS The Educator', 'Accreditations and Affiliations', and 'Assessment & Accreditation'.

The only aspect I don't really like is the drop down menu that covers up so much of the screen, especially when you didn't mean to roll over it.

The screenshot shows the Valdosta State University website. At the top is a red header with the university logo on the left, 'VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY' in the center, and a search bar on the right with '81°F' and a weather icon. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for 'About VSU', 'Admissions', 'Academics', 'Campus Life', and 'Athletics'. The main content area is a dark grey menu with five columns: 'About VSU' (VSU Facts, Visitor Information, News, Events, Office of the President Administration, Campus Directory), 'Admissions' (Undergraduate Admissions, Graduate Admissions, Financial Aid, Online Programs, International Admissions), 'Academics' (Colleges & Departments, Majors & Degrees, Course Catalogs, Odum Library, Special Programs, Online Learning, Academic Services, Registrar), 'Campus Life' (Student Services, Student Activities, Recreation & Wellness, Housing, Dining, Disability, Diversity, Emergency Info), and 'Athletics' (Athletic Department, Boosters, Alumni, Schedules, Ticket Information, Get Your Tickets, Watch Live, Live Stats). Below the menu is a banner image of three smiling students.

B. Is the site easily navigable and well organized? Provide examples.

If found it easiest to use their search feature on the website instead of going to academics, then degrees, etc. They do have a reasonable navigation, but I prefer to search to get more precise information.

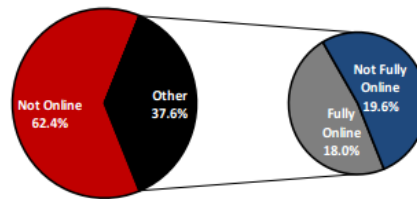
C. Does the site contain sufficient information to answer questions 1-10? If not, provide details.

All of the answers could be found on the website except the current enrollment in the EdS program of Instructional Technology.

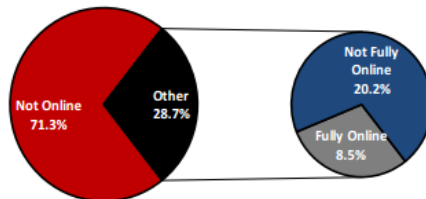
D. What is the most positive aspect of the website?

The comprehensiveness of the information is great. I was surprised to find the enrollment report with the statistics broken down so well with great graphs.

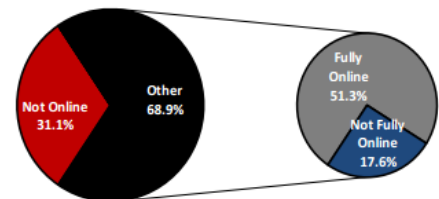
Total Enrollment for Distance Learning, Fall 2015



Undergraduate Enrollment for Distance Learning, Fall 2015



Graduate Enrollment for Distance Learning, Fall 2015



Source: VSU OIR Analysis of ADC Enrollment, October 2015.

http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/institutional-research/documents/enrollment-graduation-retention/enrollment_fall_2015.pdf

E. What aspect of the site is most in need of improvement?

My only criticism of the site in the time I spent on it is that amount of screen real estate that is used for navigation. About 1/3 of my viewable screen is used by the three lines of navigation and title shown below.



Colleges

- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)
- [College of the Arts](#)
- [Langdale College of Business Administration](#)
- [James L. and Dorothy H. Dewar College of Education and Human Services](#)
- [College of Nursing and Health Sciences](#)
- [Graduate School](#)
- [Honors College](#)

Departments and Programs

- [Accounting](#)
- [Adult and Career Education](#)
- [African American Studies](#)
- [Library and Information Science](#)
- [Mass Media](#)
- [Management and Healthcare Administration](#)