



## FAST FACTS

- Each semester, MCC offers **over 100** different online courses.
- In fall 2012 **more than 3,400** MCC students took at least one of their courses online— **20%** of the student body.
- Thirty-five academic programs can be completed **entirely online** with courses offered by MCC and other SUNY institutions.
- MCC is one of the **largest providers of online courses** in SUNY.
- Over the last 10 years, the number of MCC students taking online courses has **more than doubled**.

## MCC Partners to Expand Online Degree Offerings

As teachers and learners debate the advantages and limitations of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), one fundamental philosophy is unchallenged: online learning presents a significant opportunity for expanding access to higher education—especially for working students and those with family responsibilities.

At MCC, we are broadening access as a founding member of the Online Western New York Learning Alliance (OWL), an initiative featuring the best online distance learning resources from six western New York community colleges. Through the OWL Alliance, Monroe, Corning, Erie, Finger Lakes, Genesee and Jamestown community colleges now offer 35 different associate degrees and certificates that can be earned completely online.

The OWL network provides affordable, quality, fully online higher education opportunities with a prestigious SUNY degree upon completion.

## App Provides Access to Online Courses Anytime, Anywhere

According to Pew Research Center, 55 percent of American mobile phone owners go online using their phones, up more than 20 percent from three years ago. Going mobile is one of the most effective ways to instantly enrich teaching and learning. Blackboard Mobile Learn is an app that enables students and faculty to connect to their online courses via mobile devices. Student and faculty users can retrieve course information and interact through a variety of devices including iOS (iPhone/ iPad), Android, BlackBerry, and webOS smartphones.

Students have found the app to be an invaluable resource for keeping track of grades and online quiz dates. In-class nursing students are also using the app during classroom simulations to access and document patient data as they would in a real clinical setting.

***“MCC ensures the quality of our online courses by continually investing in faculty professional development and well-designed coursework.”***

— Mike McDonough, MCC Provost and Academic Vice President



## Technology Enhances Student Experience

- Online students can access the same technology assistance as students taking classes on campus. MCC's student technology help desk offers support for onsite and offsite students. In the past two years over 5,500 students have been assisted with a variety of technology issues via our walk-up and phone-in service.
- MCC's libraries website offers 24/7 access to a wealth of online resources for student research including full-text scholarly journals, e-books and digital video. MCC libraries recently piloted the use of Kindle e-readers for high-demand book titles.
- Open SUNY, an online education platform available to all SUNY students, will launch this coming fall. This new program will give students unprecedented flexibility by allowing them to enroll at MCC but have access to the full course offerings of every other SUNY college.
- MCC faculty and staff receive hands-on technical support through MCC's Office of Online Learning and our online students are assisted through the "Building Online Student Success" (B.O.S.S.) program which helps them understand how to adapt to the online learning environment.
- In addition to its online courses, MCC also offers hybrid and web-enhanced courses. Hybrid courses combine face-to-face classroom instruction with online learning activities. Typically, students in hybrid classes attend class on campus one day per week. However, some hybrid courses bring students to campus only a few times during the semester.

## MCC Student Finds Online Study Crucial

Susan Bell, a full-time MCC student with a full-time job, is taking four online courses and an in-person math class on Saturdays.

For Susan, the online option has been a crucial component in meeting her educational goals. "It takes a lot of discipline and organization to keep everything on track," she said. "I keep a study plan posted on the fridge and live by it — no matter what."

Susan is an LPN who has been working in an internal medicine office for the past 12 years. There she has discovered her love for the business of health care. However, Susan has been advised that any promotion to management would require an associate's degree.

By May 2014, she will have that degree in hand—thanks to MCC online classes.

"I've had wonderful teachers and advisors. I've enjoyed outstanding traditional and online courses. MCC has truly been a gift to me," she said.

***Could online learning be for you?***

***Check out MCC's free mini-course***

***"Online Learning: Is it for me?" at:***

***[www.monroecc.edu/depts/distlearn/minicrs](http://www.monroecc.edu/depts/distlearn/minicrs)***

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