



# Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education (5th Edition)

By Michael Simonson, Sharon E. Smaldino, Michael Albright, Susan Zvacek

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*Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*, was awarded the 2011 **Association for Educational Communications and Technology: Division of Distance Learning Distance Education Book Award**!

*Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education, Fifth Edition*, provides its readers with the most comprehensive coverage on the market today of information about distance education in the 21st century. Primarily written for pre-service teachers, corporate trainers, and staff development programs that discuss teaching distant learners or managing distance education systems. Readers will be better equipped with the knowledge and ability to select appropriate strategies for teaching the distant learner and how to implement this new knowledge in a distance learning program, so important to today's educational culture.

Five over-arching themes support the text: 1) defining distance education, 2) the importance of research development, 3) distance learning is a viable and increasingly important alternative for teaching and learning, 4) equivalency theory, and 5) the book should be comprehensive—which means it should cover as much as is possible of the various ways instruction is made available to distant learners.

Significantly revised and updated, the fifth edition now includes these noteworthy new features and more: chapter goals and objectives, chapter discussion questions, a look at best practice issues, new strategies and techniques, over thirty-percent new resources and references, and a stronger emphasis on how to design, deliver, and evaluate online instruction.

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### Editorial Review

#### From the Back Cover

Unique in its broad coverage of the various technologies that can be used for the delivery of distance education, the fifth edition of *Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education* provide the basics you need to become a knowledgeable distance educator or manager of distance education systems:

- Part I cover the theory and research that inform distance learning,
- Part II addresses practical skills and knowledge needed to function immediately in a distance learning environment, and
- Part III explores managerial and administrative issues that arise in distance learning environments.

Known for its definition of education for the field, research base, advocacy for distance ed as a viable and increasingly important alternative for teaching and learning, coverage of equivalency theory, and comprehensive coverage of the modes of distance learning, this thoroughly revised edition reflects the following changes:

#### New to This Edition:

- A streamline edition containing 12 chapters (instead of 13) with the Internet-based distance education content incorporated throughout.
- Dozens of new visuals have been added to clarify ideas and explain procedures.
- Additional information about the virtual schooling movement.
- Major revision of Chapter 3 (Research and Distance Education) to update what is known about the best practices in DE.
- Stronger emphasis in this edition is placed on **how to design, deliver, and evaluate** online instructions, supported by the latest research.
- All new end-of-chapter **discussion questions** are designed for instructors to post as a start for threaded discussions and for students to focus on key ideas.
- As distance education has grown into a mainstream teaching and learning approach, many new strategies are included in this edition to help the learner, teacher, and manager understand the impact of new ideas, such as open source course management systems.
- Over 30% of the resources and references included in this edition of *Teaching and Learning at a Distance* are new.

#### About the Author

**Michael Simonson** is a program professor at Nova Southeastern University in the Instructional Technology and Distance Education program. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in Instructional Systems. He works with schools, organizations, and corporations to assist them to integrate instructional technology and distance education into teaching and training, and on the development of virtual schools. Simonson has authored four major textbooks dealing with distance education, instructional technology, instructional computing, and instructional media. Mike has over 150 scholarly publications, and in excess of 200

professional presentations dealing with distance education and instructional technology. Simonson has considerable experience working with domestic and international businesses and industries, especially on projects related to instructional technology, virtual schools, and distance education. Technology planning, distance education/virtual school policy development and effective design of online instruction are current projects. He is editor of the *Quarterly Review of Distance Education*, *Distance Learning Journal*, and *Proceedings of Selected Research and Development Papers* presented at the Annual Conventions of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology. He has won the award for most outstanding research in the field of distance education presented by the United States Distance Learning Association. Most recently he has been an external evaluator South Dakota's *Connecting the Schools* and *Digital Dakota Network* projects, and is a consultant for the U.S. Army Research Institute. Simonson was honorably discharged as a Captain from the United States Marine Corps (R).

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Eric Chabot:**

Book is written, printed, or highlighted for everything. You can realize everything you want by a e-book. Book has a different type. To be sure that book is important matter to bring us around the world. Alongside that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A guide Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education (5th Edition) will make you to be smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think in which open or reading a new book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they might be thought like that? Have you searching for best book or ideal book with you?

#### **Micah Best:**

Precisely why? Because this Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education (5th Edition) is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap it but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such remarkable way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book include such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I have been you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

#### **Sammy Cheney:**

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education (5th Edition), you are able to enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout men. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

**Jeri McKeen:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray you, why because this Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education (5th Edition) publication written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book which can be understand by anyone who else read the book. Written with good manner for you, dripping every ideas and creating skill only for eliminate your personal hunger then you still hesitation Teaching and Learning at a Distance: Foundations of Distance Education (5th Edition) as good book not just by the cover but also by the content. This is one book that can break don't determine book by its protect, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick this particular!? Oh come on your looking at sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to one more sixth sense.

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