Redesigning Online Learning in the Age of AI

Mesa DE Committee Report to PCAB
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Who's Who on Mesa DE

- **Arts & Languages**
  - Cara Smulevitz
  - Uriel Ornelas
- **Business & Technology**
  - Tasha Frankie
  - Rachel Russell
  - Jordyn Smiley
  - Lauren Wade
- **Health Sciences & Public Services**
  - Christine Dupraw
- **Humanities**
  - Kim Lacher
- **LRAS**
  - Alison Gurganus
  - Katie Palacios
- **Math & Natural Sciences**
  - Jiyoung Park
- **Social & Behavioral Sciences**
  - Christina Crosby
- **SDCCD: Liesl Boswell**
- **Vacant: Exercise Science, Student Services**

73.8%

of Mesa students take an **online class** (includes all DE modalities)

377

# of Mesa DE faculty in Spring 2026 (includes all DE modalities)

DE Course Success Rate Trend

[Hybrid, Hyflex, Online, Online Sync]

Course Success Rate

73.5%	74.9%	72.7%	74.7%	75.8%	76.3%	76.6%
2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26

Equity Gap Analysis - 25/26 DE Courses

[Hybrid, Hyflex, Online, Online Sync]

Disproportionate Impact for our **Black/African American, Latine,** and **Pacific Islander students**

Course Success Rate Equity Gap Analysis

Ethnicity	Valid Enrollments	Course Rate	Equity Gap (PPG-1)	Additional # Needed	DI
⊕ Asian	4,132	83.7%	8.3%	0	⚪
⊕ Black/African American	2,475	67.4%	-9.9%	244	◆
⊕ Filipino	450	76.4%	-0.1%	1	⚪
⊕ Latine	13,796	74.0%	-4.4%	606	◆
⊕ Multi-Ethnicity	2,660	75.3%	-1.3%	34	⚪
⊕ Native American	68	76.5%	-0.0%	1	⚪
⊕ Pacific Islander	119	66.4%	-10.2%	13	◆
⊕ Unknown	335	80.6%	4.1%	0	⚪
⊕ White	8,871	80.0%	4.8%	0	⚪
Total	32,906	76.5%			

AI impact on DE

- LLMs (Chat GPT) can do text-based assignments
- Agentic AI follow multi–step assignment instructions and complete entire courses
    - AI Agent browsers (Perplexity Comet, Chat GPT Atlas) marketed as "help" for students
    - Will respond on discussions, take quizzes and exams, write essays
    - Instructors can create entire courses with agentic AI and AI is giving students feedback
- No action from LMS to block agents
- Big question asked: Will online education remain relevant? What are we even doing?
- BUT: DE courses mean access to our most vulnerable students
    - Lifeline for students and faculty

How can we redesign online learning so learning stays meaningful and equitable?

What this means for faculty

- Redesign is now required, not optional
- Meaningful online learning experiences take time to design
- Maintaining academic integrity requires redesign
- Faculty struggling to keep up with rapidly changing tools

Good news: There are tools and strategies to make online learning more humanized

Bad news: These tools require funding and are in jeopardy.

Humanizing Strategy 1: VoiceThread

Humanizing Strategy 2: Perusall Video

Perusall with text

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gracefully declined to answer insult with insult. Instead, he summarized in dramatic fashion the differences between the interests of black and white suffragists — and the case for federal protection of black voters.

"When women, because they are women," he said, "are hunted down through the cities of New York and New Orleans; when they are dragged from their houses and hung upon lampposts; when their children are torn from their arms and their brains dashed out upon the pavement; when they are objects of insult and outrage at every turn; when they are in danger of having their homes burnt down over their heads; when their children are not allowed to enter schools; then they will have an urgency to obtain the ballot equal to our own."

Douglass cut to the central fallacy of the white suffragist push — that African-American women could magically separate their blackness from their femaleness.

The 15th Amendment was, of course, ratified. Women would wait another 50 years for the 19th. Racism intensified among suffragists as they neared their goals. African-American luminaries like the noted anti-lynching crusader Ida B. Wells and the civil rights leader Mary Church Terrell became more deeply and publicly engaged.

As in other instances, suffragists outside the South used the racism in the Jim Crow states as an excuse for their discriminatory treatment of their black suffragist sisters. Black women's suffrage clubs that sought formal affiliation with the national white suffrage movement were discouraged from doing so on the grounds that admitting them might anger white Southerners. It has since become clear that this was a ruse Northern whites used to obscure their own discriminatory policies.

Elle Silva 17 days ago

Yet another instance of created bias. This reminds me of certain things I hear within christianity. While I am not religious, I have grown up in church and learned what it means to be a follower of jesus's word. The reason why this reminded me of the bias that Northern whites were using to mask their blatant racism is because of the people mask their homophobia using their "religion" as a means to not be accepting.

👍 1

✓ Upvoted by instructor

Tiffany Herrera 16 days ago

@Elle Silva I really liked the connection you made between how the North suffragists women masked their racism and how some religious people hide their homophobia using said religion as an excuse to not accept them. There will always be people that aren't adult enough to step up to their truths, especially when they are ugly ones. Leads me to wonder about whether they understand what they are doing is morally wrong.

👍 1

✓ Upvoted by instructor

Tools:

- The Forge
- Discuss-IT
- Plagiarism Checker Tools
- Proctoring Network across CCCs
- PlayLab for building instructional chatbots
- LLM Tools
- More...

Faculty need more than tools. They need time and support to use them well.

Another major demand on faculty: Accessibility

All digital content provided by public entities must meet accessibility standards by April 2026.

1.3

1.0 instructional designer
.1 online faculty mentor
.2 online accessibility mentor

Capacity means more than training/webinars/workshops:

- Time to review and revise assignments
- Instructional design support to bounce ideas around
- Implementation support for using the new tools
- Space to iterate, reflect, and revise over time

If online learning is a lifeline for Mesa students, then we need to **invest in tools, but tools alone are not enough**.

We also need to invest in the **people, time, and support** that make quality online learning possible.

Thanks!