

Graduate Certificate Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Maggie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about GVSU's Graduate Certificate in Online and Blended Instruction and Assessment. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, certificate requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this certificate program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. The Graduate Certificate in Online and Blended Instruction and Assessment will prepare students to become online instructional designers and e-learning professionals. For those individuals in higher education, this graduate certificate will assist students in making the shift to online instruction through a series of online courses. This is a 12 credit hour program and can be completed in three to four semesters.

Today, 77% of US companies offer online corporate training to improve the professional development of their employees, and the global pandemic has only served to demonstrate the significant need of instructional designers across corporate and educational settings.

Standard GVSU admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

In addition to the standard GVSU admission requirements, all College of Education graduate applications require three letters of recommendation and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in their final 60 credit hours of undergraduate study. The GPA requirement can be waived if the applicant has previously received a master's degree in another field.

More details about the program can be found by visiting The Graduate School website, www.gvsu.edu/gs then selecting Graduate Programs, Graduate Certificate Programs at GVSU, and selecting Online/Blended instruction.

The great news about GVSU's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

The first two courses of the 12 credit hour certificate program cover the theory and research of instructional design and online learning. Upon completion of these two courses, students then enroll in a practicum experience where they design and implement online curriculum. The final course in the sequence is an assessment course where students analyze data from their practicum experience.

That is just a snapshot of the Graduate Certificate in Online and Blended Instruction and Assessment at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Sean Lancaster, at lancasts@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.