West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

WVROCKS
WEST VIRGINIA REMOTE ONLINE COLLABORATIVE KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM

Mission

To provide a high quality, student-focused, engaging, online learning higher education collaborative to increase the college completion rate.

Goals

- Increase access to higher education for non-traditional learners.

- Enhance the ability of adults to attain a bachelor's degree through the existing Regents Bachelor of Arts degree program

- Support the delivery of high-quality instruction focusing on best practices in online learning.

- Provide an environment for institutions to collaborate on course offerings.

Contact Information

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In an effort to make college more accessible to all West Virginians, the Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC), with assistance from WVNET, developed a web portal, the West Virginia Remote Online Collaborative Knowledge System (WVROCKS). WVROCKS is designed to be a collaborative effort between all West Virginia higher education institutions who offer the Regents Bachelor of Arts degree.

Students interested in taking WVROCKS classes must enroll and be admitted to the Board of Governors program at an affiliated institution.

Faculty teaching classes are all West Virginia higher education faculty who have a master's degree or higher in their field and who have been trained on best practices for online course development and teaching.

Courses are offered online in an eight-week compressed format and have been designed to meet Quality Matters (QM) Standards. Students have the opportunity to begin classes twice during the regular semester with efforts being made to increase the number of enrollment opportunities.

Campus Responsibilities

- Admit and register students
- Process financial aid
- Collect tuition
- List courses in schedule of classes
- Administer grades and degrees
- Provide enrollment information to the portal

WVROCKS Responsibilities

- Provide students access to classes on a single instance of Bb Learn 9.x
- Provide a schedule of course offerings
- Provide faculty development and information regarding best practices for online teaching to portal faculty
- Provide a secure web site for data transfer

Student Responsibilities

- Apply and be admitted to a participating institution
- Register for courses through the campus Regents Bachelor of Arts (RBA) coordinator
- Pay the $223.00 per credit hour rate for the course
- Check your campus email for information from the WVROCKS staff
- Access the WVROCKS portal at http://ilearn-wvrocks.wvnet.edu prior to the start of classes to find information about required course materials.

How do I choose a participating campus?
Choosing a participating campus can be a difficult decision. It can depend on preferences like location, size, and course offerings. The following institutions are currently affiliated with WVROCKS:

- Bluefield State College
- Concord University
- Fairmont State University
- Glenville State University
- Marshall University
- Shepherd University Martinsburg Campus

What types of courses are offered on the WVROCKS portal?
Courses offered on the portal are all 200-400 level courses. The courses are all 100% online and offered in an eight week time frame. It is possible for students taking classes on the portal to complete twelve hours of course credit per year by taking one course at a time. Several courses with a video/webinar synchronous component are also being added to the portal.

How much do WVROCKS courses cost?
WVROCKS courses have a $223.00 per credit hour fee.

Can I use financial aid to pay for my classes?
You should contact your home campus for information regarding financial aid.

What is your refund policy?
The refund policy associated with WVROCKS courses is the same as your home institution.

How do I register for classes on WVROCKS?
All registration occurs on your home campus. You should consult with the RBA coordinator on your campus for course selection information.

When do classes start?
WVROCKS has five start dates each academic year. The WVROCKS calendar may differ slightly from your affiliated campus calendar. Check http://ilearn-wvrocks.wvnet.edu for start and end dates.

How do I get my grades from WVROCKS classes?
While you will be able to view grades from individual assignments and track your grades throughout the course, final grades will be sent to your home institution and you will receive them in the same method you do grades from your home campus.

Where do I go for help with WVROCKS classes?
For class-specific questions, you should contact your course instructor. For technical questions you can contact the WVNET helpdesk at 304.293.5192 twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

How do I know what classes are being offered on WVROCKS?
All classes approved by your home institution will appear in your home institution's schedule of classes.

What do I do if my institution doesn't participate in WVROCKS?
In this case, you will need to register for the classes at one of the participating institutions and have the credit transferred to your home institution.

How do I know what textbooks to buy?
1. Go to: http://www.ilearn-wvrocks.wvnet.edu.
2. Select View Course Catalog
3. Under Browsed Categories, select the appropriate catalog.
4. Search for your course. You will see a course description and a link to view textbooks.