

Welcome the New Face of ACE!

The CSC introduces its new logo design for the ACE Distance Program.

In anticipation of launching the ACE Distance web site, the College Sector Committee for Adult Upgrading is pleased to present a sneak preview in the form of our new logo design for the ACE Program.

In creating the content and “look” of the web site, the CSC has been working very closely with the creative and design team of Aftershock Creative Inc. and their affiliated web development partner eImagine Inc. of Oshawa and Whitby respectively. The initial stages of the design process presented an ideal opportunity to consider the creation of a logo to reflect the positive, dynamic quality we wanted to convey on the web site.



Terry Cullen, Senior Art Director of Aftershock Creative Inc., explains the rationale behind the design concept:

“The logo is designed to have a strong, stable, yet also dynamic feel. The ‘ACE’ typeface is sans serif and italic with the red checkmark beginning the ‘A’. The checkmark is a strong visual, indicative of the positive ‘correct’ symbolism with which everyone is familiar from our early years in the school system. The word ‘distance’ is in a sans serif, italic font to once again convey a sense of forward motion.”

We gave the Aftershock Creative team a checkmark and an “A” for effort in creating the logo and look forward to leveraging this energetic new branding within the ACE Distance web site and other promotional applications.

collegematters

Special Issue

Your Connection to Adult Upgrading in Ontario's Colleges.



ACE Distance student Darcy Skitt looks to a brighter future with the help of The Ottawa Mission.

Inside: Focus on ACE DISTANCE

Partners in online learning
ACE Distance students speak out
Top Ten most asked questions
Successful students *Learn to Learn* online



College Sector Committee
for Adult Upgrading

Contents

Out Of The Briefcase.....2

In The Spotlight.....3

The Big Picture.....4

ACE at the Ottawa Mission..5

Partners in Online Learning.6

Going the Distance.....7

The Faces of ACE.....8-9

Upgrades.....10

ACE Distance Features.....11

Just the FAQs, ma'am.....12

Shared Genius: Quoi neuf?.13

Man with a Mission.....14

Ontario Colleges.....15



College Sector Committee
for Adult Upgrading

967 Falconbridge Road,
Sudbury, Ontario P3A 5K8
Phone: 705-675-2124
Fax: 705-675-8295

collegematters

Editor: Jan Lean
Communications Coordinator
email: jan.lean@sympatico.ca



Out Of The BRIEFCASE

A Message From The Editor

The news is out! Ontario colleges are offering the Academic and Career Entrance (ACE) Program online. This program enables students seeking entry to postsecondary and apprenticeship programs to acquire the senior level courses which are prerequisites for admission. Now, students across Ontario can study in the comfort of their own homes, at a flexible pace, and at convenient times.

This special issue of *College Matters* celebrates the successes of hundreds of students who are choosing to qualify for the ACE Certificate or complete the ACE, grade 12 college stream equivalent courses through the ACE Distance Program. Read some of their compelling stories; meet the dedicated teachers and supportive staff behind the scenes; learn more about the program itself.

One special feature of the program is *Learn to Learn*, an intake and assessment course which is a pre-requisite for enrolling in ACE Distance courses. L2L offers students the opportunity to clarify their goals, establish a training plan and ensure that they are academically prepared to be successful in ACE courses taught online.

College Matters is a voice for those learning and working in college adult upgrading programs across Ontario. For those who want to update or complete their grade 12 equivalent courses but would prefer an alternative to traditional classroom studies, ACE Distance is proving to be a viable alternative. We want to hear about your programs and your students. As editor, remember that I am “Lean’n on you”.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The College Sector Committee for Adult Upgrading will assist the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and lead the Ontario College System in the creation of provincial resources, procedures and standards related to the development and delivery of relevant programs and/or services.

The CSC is committed to providing leadership in promoting the continuous improvement of the delivery of upgrading programs to meet the needs of adult learners.

On our cover:

ACE Distance and Ottawa Mission client Darcy Skitt. Read Darcy’s essay on page 14 and learn more about The Ottawa Mission on page 5.

Ontario Colleges

Algonquin College

1385 Woodroffe Avenue
Nepean, Ontario, K2G 1V8
www.algonquincollege.com
613.727.4723

Cambrian College

1400 Barrydowne Road
Sudbury, Ontario, P3A 3V8
www.cambriancollege.ca
705.566.8101

Canadore College

P.O. Box 5001, 100 College Drive
North Bay, Ontario, P3A 3V8
www.canadorec.on.ca
705.474.7600

Centennial College

Box 631, Station A
Scarborough, Ontario, M1L 4N4
www.centennialcollege.ca
416.289.5000; 1.800.268.4419

Collège Boréal

21 Boul. LaSalle
Sudbury, Ontario, P3A 6B1
www.borealc.on.ca
705.560.6673; 1.800.361.6673

Conestoga College

299 Doon Valley Drive
Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4M4
www.conestogac.on.ca
519.748.5220

Confederation College

P.O. Box 398
Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7C 4W1
www.confederationc.on.ca
807.475.6110

Durham College

P.O. Box 385, 2000 Simcoe St. N.
Oshawa, Ontario, L1H 7L7
www.durhamcollege.ca
905.721.2000

Fanshawe College

1001 Fanshawe College Boul.
London, Ontario, N5Y 5R6
www.fanshawec.ca
519.452.4430

George Brown College

200 King Street East
Toronto, Ontario, M5T 2T9
www.georgebrown.ca
416.415.5000; 1.800.265.2002

Georgian College

One Georgian Drive
Barrie, Ontario, L4M 3X9
www.georgianc.on.ca
705.728.1968

Humber College

205 Humber College Blvd.
Etobicoke, Ontario, M9W 5L7
www.humber.ca
416.675.3111

La Cité collégiale

801 promenade de l'Aviation
Ottawa, Ontario, K1K 4R3
www.lacitec.on.ca
613.742.2483

Lambton College

11–150 North Christina Street
Bayside Centre
Sarnia, Ontario, N7T 7W5
www.lambtoncollege.ca
519.542.7751

Loyalist College

P.O. Box 4200
Belleville, Ontario, K8N 5B9
www.loyalistcollege.ca
613.969.1913; 1.888.569.2547

Mohawk College

Box 2034
Fennel Ave. and West 5th Streets
Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 3T2
www.mohawkcollege.ca
905.575.1212

Niagara College

300 Woodlawn Road
Welland, Ontario, L3C 7L3
www.niagaracollege.ca
905.735.2211

Northern College

P.O. Box 3211
Timmins, Ontario, P4N 8R6
www.northernc.on.ca
705.235.3211; 1.866.736.5877

St. Clair College

2000 Talbot Road West
Windsor, Ontario, N9A 6S4
www.stclaircollege.ca
519.966.1656; 1.800.387.0524

St. Lawrence College

P.O. Box 6000
Kingston, Ontario, K7L 5A6
www.sl.on.ca
613.544.5400

Sault College

P.O. Box 60
443 Northern Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 5L3
www.saultc.on.ca
705.759.2554; 1.800.461.2260

Seneca College

Yorkgate Campus
1 Yorkgate Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario, M3N 3A1
www.senecac.on.ca
416.491.5050; 416.493.4144

Sheridan College

1430 Trafalgar Road
Oakville, Ontario, L6H 2L1
www.sheridanc.on.ca
905.845.9430

Sir Sandford Fleming College

Sutherland Campus
599 Brealey Drive
Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7B1
www.flemingc.on.ca
705.749.5530; 1.866.353.6464



Man with a Mission

An essay by Darcy Skitt, client of the Ottawa Mission's Stepping Stones Learning Centre and ACE Distance student.

From an early age I tried to get an education, but that never happened. I now want to set myself free by getting my ACE Certificate so I can go to Algonquin College and become a baker/pastry chef. When I was 12 years old, I was diagnosed with epilepsy. It was very hard for me to understand information. When I was 16, some doctors did a bit of work on my brain and now I can understand almost everything. I noticed I can understand even more from books.

At the age of 14, I was placed in a youth detention centre under

the Youth Protection Act. The youth detention centre realized that I was at low risk of running away, so a staff member asked me one day "How would you like to work in the kitchen twice a week?" My answer was yes. At first, I was just washing all the pots and pans. As time went on, I was taking care of nine food boxes (milk, bread, butter, etc.) for each of the units at the youth detention centre and bringing lunches to the same units. It was then that I wanted to become a baker/pastry arts chef. I want to go to Algonquin College so I can work in a restaurant or

bakery. The end result would help me get off the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). I would not have to eat at soup kitchens or drop-in centres every day, or depend on food banks once a month.

In my mid-twenties, I was told that there was high demand for bakers in the workforce. With my epilepsy, it's safer to be a baker than a head chef or prep cook because I do not have to use very hot pots and pans or use sharp knives. Although I do love to cook, it's not my passion; it's not my art. Lastly, I also like that people would see my work from start to finish.

I think I would be a good baker/pastry arts chef because I have come to learn how to be adaptable by working on my own and working with others. As a matter of fact, I have also developed a habit for waking up early in the morning and working late in the evenings. This is important because bakers are required to work various hours. Chefs and prep cooks carry less heavy items such as bags of potatoes and cans of beans or corn and flour up to 45 kgs.

My main problem in English is not with reading, but with writing; however, I will receive help from the Stepping Stones Learning Centre and I am grateful. Living on ODSP is not fun. Ask yourself one question: Would you like to see one more person on the street or one more person in the workforce? *D.S.*



Mary Jonik, Academic Advisor ACE Distance Program

Learn to Learn (L2L) is the 20-hour pre-requisite course for students planning to take ACE Distance courses. The course introduces learners to online learning and helps them determine if they have the computer skills, academic background and personality to succeed. Mary developed and currently facilitates L2L. Mary has taken over twenty online courses, so she truly understands the needs of students venturing into this exciting learning environment!

In The Spotlight

L2L prepares students to succeed online.

Academic Advisor Mary Jonik understands the challenges and rewards of online learning only too well. With 20+ online learning experiences under her belt, Mary is well positioned to facilitate ACE Distance's *Learn to Learn* course.

L2L offers a supportive, non-threatening learning environment and is an excellent orientation to ACE Distance learning. Anyone considering taking ACE Distance courses should be aware that L2L must be completed prior to registering for a course. An exception can be made for students able to prove they have successfully participated in an online course through OntarioLearn.

Regardless of their online experiences, all students are welcome

to take L2L to clarify their goals, establish a training plan and ensure they are academically prepared to be successful in ACE courses. In order to succeed, students should be self-directed, disciplined and motivated. They should also be able to communicate in writing, stay on task, and demonstrate problem-solving abilities. Access to a modem and computer—as well as a comfort level in operating a computer—are essential.

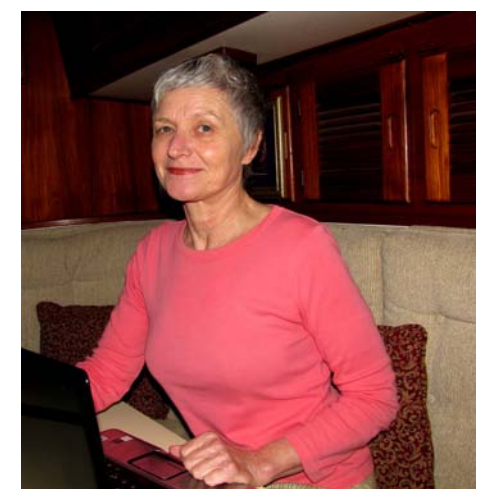
The course is 20 hours in length and is delivered totally online. This Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities (MTCU) funded course is free. The cost of textbooks is also covered by the program and many courses are textbook-free. Students may start

L2L any day throughout the month. To register, simply email Marla White at marlawhite75@gmail.com.

Online learning isn't for everyone. For those who prefer alternative delivery environments more suited to their learning style and goals, Mary provides guidance and helpful referrals.

Mary herself is an avid lifelong learner and was an Academic Advisor and Professor at Cambrian College for over twenty years before joining the ACE Distance delivery team. She possesses a degree in Psychology, a Masters in Human Development and continues to take online courses.

And what do students have to say about Mary? "Encouraging". "Gracious." "Offers excellent feedback!" Quite the accolades for this seasoned professional with a sunny disposition and passionate commitment to her students' success.



Mary enjoys the flexibility of online learning from her sail boat on vacation off the coast of Vancouver.

In the beginning...

The need for ACE Distance programming was identified in the study *Innovative Approaches and Promising Directions*, funded by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) in 2006. In the fall of 2007 work began on the development of the ACE courses. Delivery began in July, 2008 with 166 students. We are very pleased that the original ten teachers are still delivering the programming.

In less than eighteen months, the program has experienced incredible growth, verifying that the need identified in the initial study is being met. From April, 2009 to January, 2010, there were 1,689 enrollments for English programming and 45 for French. The most popular courses are Communications, Core Mathematics, Biology and Chemistry, but there have been significant registrations in all ten courses. Students have moved on to postsecondary and qualified to receive the ACE certificate.

The Big Picture

An Idea That Took Shape Across the System



Learn to Learn has been equally successful. Since April, 2009, 1,250 people (250 per month on average) have enrolled; 957 (77%) have successfully completed and 225 (18%) are still in the course and due to complete this month (January, 2010). Most *Learn to Learn* students are planning to move on to an ACE Distance course; others are getting experience with online learning in order to prepare for postsecondary online courses.

This success is directly the result of the commitment of the ACE and *Learn to Learn* teachers, course developers, coordinators

and administrative support staff. We have also been very fortunate to benefit from the guidance of OntarioLearn personnel, the experience of the college distance education coordinators on the ACE Advisory Committee and the invaluable direction and support provided by our technology partner, Embanet.

We look forward to continued growth and improvement.

ACE Distance Courses:

- ◇ Communications (English and French)
- ◇ Core Mathematics
- ◇ Apprenticeship Mathematics
- ◇ Business Mathematics
- ◇ Technology Mathematics
- ◇ Biology
- ◇ Chemistry
- ◇ Physics
- ◇ Computer Fundamentals
- ◇ Self Management/Self Direction
- ◇ English as a Second Language (for francophone students)

Yours To Say...

“Ask yourself one question: Would you like to see one more person on the street or one more person in the workforce?”

Darcy Skitt
ACE Distance learner

This month's Freudian slip:
“Do do” list
(Similar to a “To do” list?)



“We will be connected as classmates in learning even though we may be physically miles apart.”

Trish McCormick
Biology Instructor
ACE Distance Program



Shared Genius

Don't hide your light under a bushel! Share your stories, ideas, and brain waves with others across the system. This issue introduces a roving feature en français in *College Matters* from Clarence Potvin, the ACE Distance Francophone Coordinator.

ACE en ligne—Quoi neuf? (What's new with ACE online?)

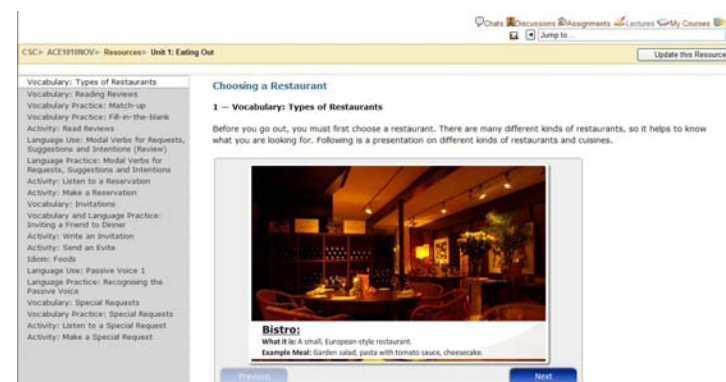
M. Manuel Dignard—étudiant ACE en ligne

M. Dignard s'est inscrit au cours de Communication anglaise lors de la session été 2009. Ce cours en ligne de 22 semaines prépare les étudiant(e)s à atteindre un niveau d'anglais satisfaisant pour réussir le niveau d'anglais au postsecondaire. M. Dignard demeure à Cornwall et a décidé de s'inscrire car le cours était offert et correspondait à ce qu'il recherchait. Il avait besoin d'améliorer son anglais rapidement afin de poursuivre ses études à l'automne.

<<Je n'ai eu aucun problème avec le cours. J'ai bien aimé. Le tout s'est très bien déroulé. Le cours m'a été profitable et j'ai pu travailler à mon rythme, aussi vite que je voulais. À part quelques problèmes d'ordinateurs le tout s'est bien passé et je suis très satisfait. J'avais besoin de suivre ce cours pour m'inscrire au programme <Practical Nursing> du Collège St-Lawrence à Cornwall. Je suis en ce moment à la fin de mon premier semestre et il me reste encore trois semestres pour terminer le programme.>>

Tout les cours sont offerts par un facilitateur pour aider avec le contenu et les activités orales et écrites. Dans ce cas, Mme Nicole Renaud, qui demeure présentement au Pérou, a encadré M. Dignard à distance.

Ce cours de Communication anglaise fait partie d'une série de 11 cours ACE en ligne offerts dans la province par les deux collèges francophones—La Cité collégiale et Boréal. Présentement nous offrons 5 cours cet hiver et 5 cours sont prévus pour le printemps 2010.



Web Picks

Tell us your favourites so we can share them with others!

College Upgrading

Check the CSC web site regularly for information on college upgrading programs.
www.collegeupgradingon.ca

ACE Distance Web Site

www.acedistancedelivery.ca is coming soon!

Contact North

www.contactnorth.ca

elearnnetwork.ca

www.elearnnetwork.ca

OntarioLearn

www.ontariolearn.com

Sioux Hudson

www.siouxhudsonliteracy.com

The Learning Hub

www.learninghub.ca

Caf Plus www.cafplus.ca

Alpha Plus Centre

www.alphaplus.ca

Editor's Inbox

Please submit all articles, questions, comments, etc. to Jan Lean at jan.lean@sympatico.ca
Thanks for your input!

“Just the FAQs, ma’am.”

Top 10 most frequently asked questions about ACE Distance

- 1. How do I find out about prerequisites for my postsecondary program?** Each college, university and apprenticeship program can have different prerequisites, so it’s best to check with the academic institution where you plan to apply. Contact the academic institution’s admissions department, counseling office or check the prerequisites on their web site.
- 2. What is the purpose of the Learn to Learn course?** L2L has three purposes: To ensure that you have the necessary personal and academic skills to function at an ACE level (grade 12) in an online environment, to provide experience in an online learning environment, and to help refine your educational or career goals by completing an Individual Training Plan (ITP).
- 3. How do I register for L2L?** Contact Marla White at marlawwhite75@gmail.com.
- 4. How do I register for an ACE Distance course?** Register through the Distance Education Department at your local college. At the conclusion of L2L you will be given directions for registering for an ACE Distance course.
- 5. What are the costs involved?** There is no cost to you. This program is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.
- 6. How many ACE courses can I take at one time?** Because many of these courses are very intensive, we recommend that you only take one course in the beginning. If you are doing well in that course, you may register in a second course. You may not participate in more than two courses at a time.
- 7. How long is each course?** You are allowed a maximum of 22 weeks to complete each course. Allow 7–10 hours per week for studies. With a greater commitment of time, it is possible to complete a course in fewer weeks.
- 8. What credential do I get?** To receive an ACE Certificate, you must complete four courses: Communications (English or French), a Math and any two other courses offered through the program (see page 4). You may request an official transcript from the registering college when you have successfully completed the program or are applying for postsecondary. You do not receive a certificate for each course.
- 9. Whom should I contact if I have a problem?** Embanet if you have technical problems (e.g., logging on, submitting assignments), College Distance Education departments to register for a course, online teacher if you are having academic or personal challenges affecting your progress, and Mary Jonik mary.jonik@gmail.com for help with L2L or if you need career advice once you are in an ACE Distance course.
- 10. Where can I get more information?** Contact Arlene Cronin, arlene.ace@gmail.com for assistance with English courses and Clarence Potvin, cspotvin@boreal.on.ca for help with French; Lynne Wallace, Executive Director of the CSC, l.wallace@xplornet.com or www.acedistancedelivery.ca (after March 15).



ACE Distance at The Ottawa Mission

“You cannot teach a man anything, you can only help him find it within.”

These words of inspiration reflect the caring, supportive services provided by Marianna Proskos and the staff of the Stepping Stones Learning Centre of The Ottawa Mission located in downtown Ottawa.

In 1906, a group of Christian business leaders founded The Ottawa Mission; their goal was to provide shelter for the homeless men who slept in the streets of Canada’s new capital city. Programs and services have evolved to meet the ever-changing face of homelessness, including the Stepping Stones Learning Centre, a unique school “where ALL adult learners are welcomed and supported” in achieving their educational and training goals.

I visited the Ottawa Mission on a crisp, wintry day so typical of Ottawa in January. Upon entering the Mission, I was immediately warmed by the welcoming nature of the staff. Marianna, Education and Training Coordinator, was no exception. Simply



Marianna Proskos, Education and Training Coordinator, The Ottawa Mission

referred to as “the teacher”, Marianna explained that her educational background (B.Ed. Psychology and a Masters in Educational Counselling) and desire to work in an alternative setting prepared her well for this rewarding opportunity. Ushering me into the Stepping Stones Learning Centre, Marianna introduced me to a comfortable, supportive, friendly space conducive to adult learning at its best. Although each client had arrived at the Centre through different circumstances, they all had something in common: the pursuit of an educational goal which would allow them to transform their lives in a positive manner.

Most clients at the Centre are pursuing academic upgrading to achieve their grade 12 (or equivalency) to open the door

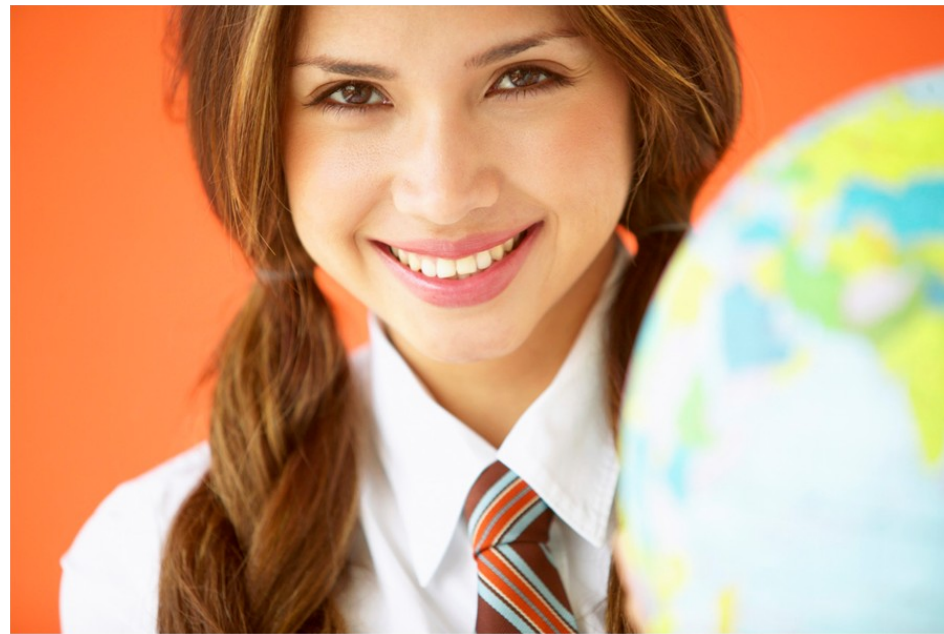
to employment or further training. Marianna is excited by the opportunity ACE Distance offers in terms of its flexibility and computer-based learning format which are a perfect fit for her clients at the Centre. One such client is Darcy Skitt (see Darcy’s essay, p. 14), who has just successfully completed the *Learn to Learn* course and is planning to complete his grade 12 equivalency through ACE Distance. The greatest benefit of L2L for Darcy was the chance to organize and express his ideas, and practice his writing skills. Darcy’s advice to teachers would be to encourage students to keep trying and support their choice to stay in school. Darcy urges fellow learners to use resources there to help them: “Life’s not a line; it’s a circle. Look around.” For information, visit www.ottawamission.com.



Partners in Online Learning

The College Sector Committee is one of four organizations funded by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) as part of their e-Channel Learning strategy to provide opportunities for students across Ontario to study online. In addition to providing programming for students, the e-Channel organizations were put in place to support literacy agencies to enhance and grow capacity.

The CSC is responsible for providing the ACE courses required by students to qualify for admission to college postsecondary programs and to register as an apprentice. In addition to this postsecondary preparation programming, MTCU also funds three additional organizations to deliver foundational mathematics, computer skills, communications, Es-



sential Skills and career exploration modules. The Learning Hub provides programming for students in English and Sioux Hudson Literacy delivers programming for First Nations, Aboriginal and Métis individuals, groups and organizations in English. Caf Plus facilitates French programming.

For underserved communities and groups, online learning is the ideal solution.

Like ACE Distance, this level of programming is free of charge and is designed to help students

achieve their educational and employment goals. Many of the modules offered are excellent preparation for successfully participating in an ACE course.

For more information about the materials, scheduling and registration processes, visit the following organizations' web sites:

The Learning Hub
www.learninghub.ca

Sioux Hudson
www.siouxhudsonliteracy.com

Caf Plus
www.cafplus.ca



Studying online in an asynchronous delivery mode offers the flexibility of studying where you want, when you want...even on vacation! These simple tips will help keep you focused:

- Set short- as well as long-term goals and stick to them
- Organize a study schedule at times you're most productive
- Stay in touch with your instructor and create a support system

For more survival tips for studying online, visit <http://bullyingcourse.com/mod/resource/view.php?id=156>

ACE Distance Features



No Computer? No Problem!

Having a reliable computer with the capacity to enable students to participate in ACE Distance programming is essential. There are 111 access sites in communities across Ontario where students can schedule computer time free of charge. These access sites are coordinated by Contact North in the north and by elearnnetwork.ca in the rest of the province. Local Coordinators can assist students on site who are experiencing computer problems and provide information about online courses available through e-Channel programs as well as Ontario colleges and universities. These sites can also confirm and report on student attendance and supervise the writing of tests and exams.

For more information about OntarioLearn, available courses and services, and location of access sites, go to www.contactnorth.ca and www.elearnnetwork.ca.

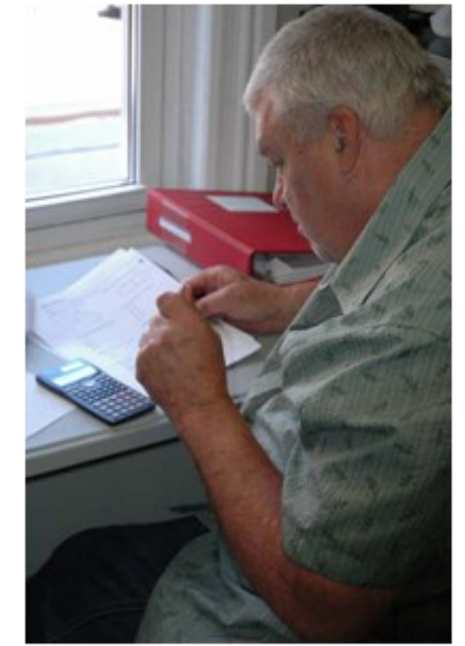


eLearning in Action

Local sites offer individuals hope for the future by providing support and the opportunity to study ACE online with computer access in their communities.

"Our elearnnetwork.ca centre in St. Thomas is located in an area that has been devastated by manufacturing layoffs. Our unemployment rate is over 11%, the second highest in the country. As can be imagined, large numbers of people in the area are looking to upgrade their skills and enter educational programs to increase their long-term employability. ACE is a vital part of this process, especially ACE Distance which so perfectly accommodates people residing in the rural community and those with family obligations and other scheduling difficulties. ACE Distance has been a lifeline to achieving the upgrading necessary for them to plan a new, successful career path."

Laura Sherret
eLearning Coordinator
elearnnetwork.ca, St. Thomas



Building on Success

ACE Distance programming in English is delivered through OntarioLearn. This consortium of the 22 English Ontario Community Colleges was formed in 1986. Since then it has been delivering postsecondary courses to hundreds of students through 94 Access Centres in Northern Ontario and 17 elearnnetwork.ca Centres in Central, Eastern and Western Ontario. Although the primary focus of OL is on postsecondary, the staff and OL Board have accommodated the unique needs of the non-postsecondary ACE courses and students. During the implementation stage, they kept ACE on the most efficient path to success. We anticipate continued growth and success through OntarioLearn.

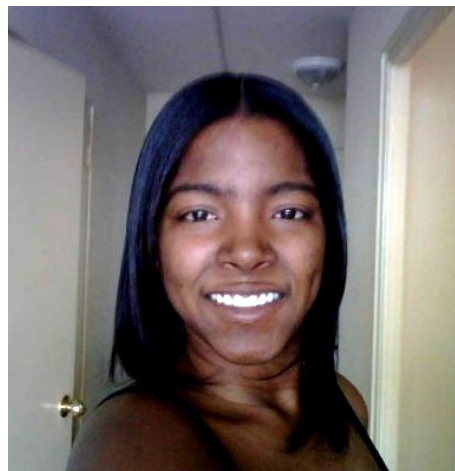
Upgrades

Honouring students: The voices of ACE Distance



“My goal is to become a successful student at George Brown College and graduate as a Practical Nurse. I believe that the ACE program will provide me with the academic upgrading I require in math, biology, chemistry and English in order to become a successful student. Taking these classes will help me better understand my career goal and help me plan my future if I choose to pursue another route. ACE Distance seems to be the perfect fit for me because I do not have the time to travel to an actual college at the moment and I am able to study and learn at my own pace.”

Michelle Dunn



“I am 19 years old and graduated high school in June, 2008. I plan to attend Canadore College in September, 2010 to take a program in the health science field such as Nursing or Respiratory Therapy. I have decided to take ACE to further my education, take new courses and upgrade existing ones. My goals are to take the Biology course to upgrade my mark from high school and complete the Core Mathematics course. The thought of being able to take the courses that I need, and be able to work on them at my own pace and time, is the main reason why I decided to join the ACE program. ACE offers me a great opportunity to be able to complete the required courses I need to gain entrance into college as well as stay home with my six month old daughter until next September.”

Kristen Best

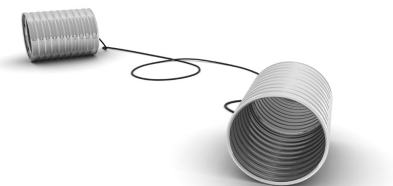
Hear what other ACE Distance students have to say and learn more about the advantages of online learning!

Visit www.acedistancedelivery.ca coming in March, 2010.



“Hello from the lovely village of Bayfield! I’m looking forward to upgrading my computer and accounting skills in an online learning environment. Due to issues with my mobility requiring double knee surgery, I have recently retired from farming and am now looking at the possibility of providing or helping with computerized accounting systems in the local area. I’m also looking forward to the interaction with other students in this forum and hope we can all accomplish our goals, however extensive or modest they may be. The level of satisfaction is always directly related to the amount of effort needed to accomplish a task.”

Tony Van Bakel



Going The Distance

The ACE Distance Program Zooms!

The ACE Program—formerly referred to as BTSD IV and Ontario Basic Skills—has been available on site at all Ontario community colleges. Now students have the choice to study either in class or online.

Online learning is a form of instructor facilitated and supported independent, student-paced study that offers an alternative to courses offered in a traditional classroom setting. Since instruction and most tests and assignments are conducted

online (via email), individuals may study from home or anywhere they can access the Internet. Course instructors and an advisor are available for consultation online; response time is within 24 hours (weekdays). Technical support is available 24/7.

Some of the many advantages of studying ACE Distance include the following:

- Study when you want, where you want—ultimate flexibility

- Complete courses at your own pace without the restrictions of classroom hours (within a 22 week framework)
- Start L2L daily and ACE Distance courses monthly. This enables you to prepare for

further training or to re-enter the workforce as quickly and conveniently as possible

- Removes barriers such as time restrictions that prevent you from attending college-based programs

• Offers the convenience of doing your school work at home because

of family obligations and other responsibilities

- Resolves transportation and daycare issues
- Allows you to study even if you live in an isolated location
- Allows you to use the Internet if you prefer learning in an online environment

Interested in finding out more? Contact Arlene Cronin, Project Lead, ACE Distance at arlene.ace@gmail.com.



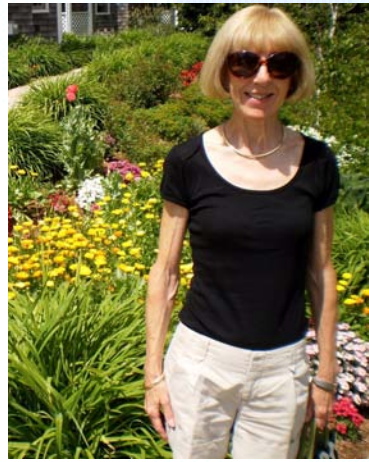
What's the buzz?

The Academic and Career Entrance (ACE) Program is a postsecondary preparation program delivered by community colleges designed to provide adult students with the prerequisites required to apply for and succeed in postsecondary (college-level) and apprenticeship training. It is accepted as an OSSD (grade 12) equivalent by Ontario's community colleges and the Apprenticeship Branch for registration as an apprentice. ACE courses have been evaluated by the Ministry of Education and determined to be equivalent to OSSD college stream courses. The ACE Certificate is also recognized as an OSSD equivalent by a growing number of employers for hiring and promoting staff.

In order to achieve an ACE Certificate (grade 12 equivalent), students need to complete Communications (English or French), one Mathematics and any two other courses. Many who are applying to college on a mature student basis only take the stated prerequisite courses for consideration to admission to their programs.

The Faces of ACE

Meet your ACE Online team!



Ms. Ann Ashberry
Instructor
Self Management and Self Direction



Ms. Laura Leahy
Instructor
Business Mathematics



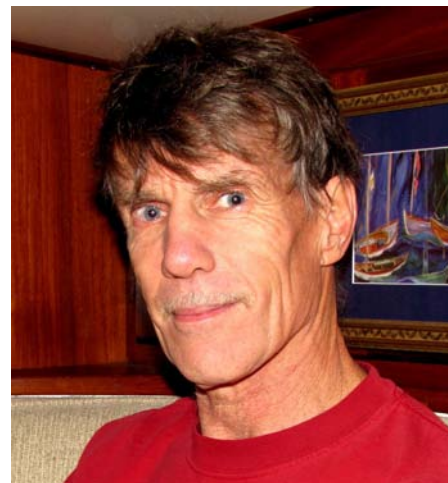
Mary Jonik
Facilitator/Advisor
Learn to Learn



Ms. Colleen Cairns
Co-Facilitator
Learn to Learn



Dr. Clint Sheehan
Instructor
Physics



Mr. Rick Hewitt
Co-Facilitator



Ms. Trish McCormick
Instructor
Biology



Ms. Sorina Zota
Instructor
Apprenticeship Mathematics



Ms. Cliona Geraghty
Instructor
Technology Mathematics



Mr. Marco Antonelli
Instructor
Core Mathematics



Ms. Joan Binnendyk
Instructor
Communications



Ms. Agnes Bielecka
Instructor
Chemistry



Ms. Stephanie Balsdon
Instructor
Computers



Ms. Arlene Cronin
Project Lead
ACE Distance Program