

**Online Course Inventory**  
**EI Online Learning Initiative**  
**UW-Madison**  
**2017-2018**

**Background: The EI Online Learning Initiative.** Launched in spring 2017 to advance UW's [Educational Innovation](#) goals, the EI [Online Learning Initiative](#) aims to ensure that UW-Madison students, staff and faculty are positioned for the pursuit for excellence in online teaching and learning.

Immediate objectives for the initiative include:

- Build an online course standard and UW online brand that:
  - integrates best practices for student engagement and learning
  - infuses a campus-like Wisconsin Experience into online education at UW-Madison
  - insures compliance with regulatory and legal requirements
  - allows for multiple academic uses of the same online content
- Develop an institutional infrastructure and linkages to academic departments for ongoing course development, maintenance, and updating as well as learner support.
- Expand access to traditional course offerings and through entrepreneurial offerings.
- Create known and consistent pathways, and communications for building, maintaining and accessing online courses.
- Contribute to existing campus strategies of reduced time to degree, expanded summer term, development of new academic programs

**Overview: UW Online Course Inventory.** To ensure its success, the EI Online Learning Initiative must be informed by careful and thorough study of the current state of online education at UW. Accordingly, the UW Online Course Inventory aims to review all online courses offered since Fall 2016. The basic instructional design of each course will be assessed using criteria adapted from an extensive rubric developed by [Quality Matters](#), a nationally and internationally recognized, non-profit organization that specializes in instructional design assessment. The Online Course Inventory rubric will also include additional criteria developed to assess the incorporation of elements of [Wisconsin Experience](#) in each course. Each course review will be a collaborative effort involving 1) the course instructor and 2) a campus colleague who has completed the TeachOnline@UW, has taught online and who has undergone special preparation for using the Online Course Inventory rubric. The instructor and campus colleague will meet for a one-hour interview to discuss how elements of the course fit with the criteria included in the rubric. The campus colleague will then complete the rubric via a Qualtrics survey. Results from the Online Course Inventory will be anonymized, aggregated, and used for global assessments of the state of online education at UW. Results **will not** be used as a basis for evaluating faculty or staff or for making course funding or offering decisions.