



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY



Online education at Fort Hays State trades Virtual name for a new one: FHSU Online

Driven by recent organizational changes and significant investments in people, systems and technologies, Fort Hays State University's Virtual College is now officially Fort Hays State University Online.

Unmatched affordability and quality are key contributors to the tremendous growth of online education at Fort Hays State for over a decade. Tuition at FHSU is among the lowest 1 percent in the nation. The university also ranks among the top 1 percent of award winners in online education in the nation.

Fort Hays State is also one of only six universities in the world to earn rigorous United States Distance Learning Association accreditation for its online programs. FHSU Online plans to expand its slate of course offerings with a new undergraduate history and social work program and a graduate degree program in computer science scheduled to launch this fall.

With more than 200 degree and certificate programs, FHSU Online is the largest online school in the Kansas Board of Regents system.

FHSU offers course on educating through crisis

Fort Hays State University's College of Education introduced a new course option for school personnel this summer. The online course – Education Institute: Teaching and Leading through Crisis – was designed for school administrators and teachers to help them understand and develop skills to lead effectively during challenging times.

Paul Adams, dean of the College of Education, Anschutz Professor of Education and Professor of Physics, said the Institute was a response of the College of Education's mission to serve schools and provide timely learning as part of the Tiger Teacher Nation.

The class addressed district needs during these unprecedented times and provided teachers and administrators with up-to-date information as they planned for the fall semester. It was taught by Scott Gregory, director of field experience for the College of Education, and focused on teaching and learning during a crisis.

Gregory said the students learned about the crisis life cycle as well as the effects of crisis on learners and leaders. A third objective was for students to create a portfolio "response" plan to take back to their district or classroom with ready-made strategies.

Students selected a crisis of their choosing and proceeded to work on a plan. Gregory incorporated new knowledge as it relates to COVID-19 and other current events. Students also had the opportunity to hear from the Kansas Department of Education and other representatives via Zoom, who shared up-to-date information about the coming school year.

The best value in
online education -
ANYWHERE

[FHSU.edu/Online](https://www.fhsu.edu/Online)

Special Education Options to Expand

The Department of Advanced Education, Special Education Programs, at Fort Hays State University plans to expand its professional program offerings for special educators. The department currently offers licensure programs for both educators who want to advance their expertise in working with high-incidence (mild disabilities) and gifted students.

One new program currently under development is designed to help educators better serve the range of special education needs of Kansas PreK-12 students. A low-incidence program will focus on helping educators better serve students who have more significant disabilities.

The department is also working on an additional online graduate certificate/badge aimed at developing leaders and experts in the area of teaching students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Upon completion of the 12-credit graduate pathway, candidates will be able to teach individuals with ASD as well as support other educators who work with students with ASD.

The plan is for both programs to be available in the fall of 2021. Once in place, the Advanced Education Department, Special Education Programs, at FHSU will be able to fully cover the spectrum of special education, including gifted and high-incidence and low-incidence disabilities.



FHSU to explore partnering with the National De-escalation Training Center

Fort Hays State University recently signed a preliminary agreement for its Department of Criminal Justice and University Police Department to explore the opportunity to establish a Regional Training Center for the National De-escalation Training Center (NDTC) on the FHSU campus. The NDTC is located at Wayne State University in Detroit and facilitates innovation, research and development of best practices in law enforcement de-escalation training.

The establishment of a regional training center will allow the Department of Criminal Justice to provide de-escalation training to officers from a multi-state region, including Kansas, Colorado, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma. In addition to training de-escalation techniques to current law enforcement, Dr. Tamara Lynn, chair and associate professor of Criminal Justice, hopes to engage criminal justice majors attending FHSU. She believes creating a culture that emphasizes de-escalation will benefit not only those going into law enforcement but also students pursuing careers in corrections, probation and parole, juvenile services and other positions where situations may escalate quickly.

Dr. Lynn and University Chief of Police, Ed Howell, will spend the next several weeks in further discussion with officials from NDTC and university administration.

For more information, visit www.fhsu.edu/criminaljustice and www.fhsu.edu/university-police.

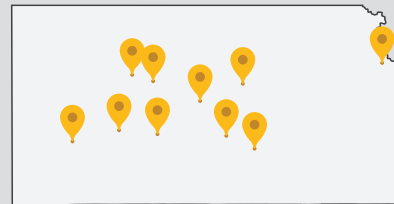
Did you know?

100% DNP Certification exam pass rate of our first Class of BSN to DNP graduates

FHSU's first Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) to Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) graduates all passed their initial certification exam.

Where Are our DNP Grads Now?

Our recent BSN to DNP grads now serve in public health offices, clinics and hospitals across Kansas.



**FORT HAYS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Forward thinking. World ready.

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