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UMaine Offers New Graduate Program in Instructional Technology

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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Selected News Releases

UMaine Offers New Graduate Program in Instructional Technology

ORONO, Maine — Maine schools are wired, expect additional funding for computer hardware and software, and students are eager to enhance their learning with cutting-edge technology. Beginning this fall, a new graduate program from the University of Maine will address the critical need for a more technologically advanced K-12 teaching force.

The Master of Education in Instructional Technology degree aims to provide schools with the skills and leadership needed to tap the potential of available and future technology.

Offered by the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, the new program was designed in collaboration with other University of Maine System education, computer science and art faculty and with public school educators. Courses will be available statewide, both on-line and through instruction at various sites around Maine.

"Technology is much more visible in Maine's classrooms. However, its potential to redefine teaching and learning depends on schools' ability to assess and continually upgrade how they are using technology and what they should be doing," says Walter J. Harris, associate dean for instruction. "Teachers' proficiency in technology and their ability to integrate it into the curriculum are central to student achievement," he says.

The 39-credit hour advanced degree program, guided by state and national goals and standards, will be scheduled evenings during the school year and through the summer to meet the needs of professional educators. Committed students should be able to complete the required coursework, research and clinical experience in three years, according to Harris. These highly marketable leaders will be ready to build the technological capacity and innovation of schools and guide them in adapting to constantly emerging technology, he says.

More information about the M.Ed. in Instructional Technology is available by calling the College's graduate office at (207) 581-2444 or on its web site: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/~cofed/>.

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