



ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ސަރުކާރުގެ ދަށުން
THE MALDIVES NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

Policy on e-Learning

Approved on: 12th March 2023

Approved by: Academic Senate

1. Policy Statement

The Maldives National University (MNU) is committed to facilitating e-Learning as it is essential to engage students in a medium that is more accessible to keep up with the rapidly changing technology enhanced learning and development in pedagogical praxis.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide directions to ensure e-Learning design and delivery at MNU meet the international best practices and standards, and comply with the standards of the Maldives Qualifications Authority (MQA)

3. Definitions

Asynchronous learning- is a student-centred teaching method that uses online learning resources where the participants are not engaged in the learning process simultaneously or concurrently.

Blended Learning- refers to the complementary combination of face-to-face and online learning experiences in programme delivery.

e-Learning- comprises all forms of electronically supported learning and teaching, and the information and communication systems that serve as specific media to implement the learning process in an e-Learning environment.

Hybrid models- a teaching approach where some students attend in-person while others attend online through videoconferencing or similar means.

Online learning- a form of distance education where the primary delivery mechanism is the internet. These could be delivered synchronously or asynchronously. All instruction is conducted at a distance.

Synchronous learning- is a student-centred teaching method that uses virtual learning environments and tools (such as Google Meet, Zoom, etc) for real time delivery of lessons or students are able to engage with class materials at the same time as their peers.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)- is a digital application that hosts virtual teaching and learning in a digital space as opposed to a physical space.

4. Scope

This policy applies to all staff and students of MNU and the programmes delivered using e-Learning.

5. Principles

e-learning at MNU should adhere to the principles of the Teaching and Learning policy.

6. Policy directives

To ensure effective implementation of the e-Learning policy, The Maldives National University should:

- 6.1 Appoint an e-Learning coordinator to facilitate the development and effective coordination of e-Learning courses at MNU. The e-Learning coordinator will ensure, all courses delivered through e-Learning at MNU comply with the Maldives Qualifications Authority (MQA) Guidelines for e-Learning.
- 6.2 Develop e-Learning courses and subjects in conjunction with international best practices, MNU Quality Assurance Policy, and MQA Guidelines for e-Learning. The pedagogical models and innovation strategies to be used in delivering e-Learning programmes and its relevance to achieve the intended learning outcomes should be explicitly stated in the course documents. These include Asynchronous, Blended, Hybrid, Synchronous, or Online learning. The number of contact hours of e-Learning subjects should be in accordance with MQA guidelines for e-Learning.
- 6.3 Establish institutional support for e-Learning. A VLE should be established that is accessible to staff and students participating in e-Learning programmes. In addition to this, MNU should:
 - develop online learning and teaching resources that are up to date
 - conduct orientation for students participating in e-Learning programmes at the beginning of each programme. This should include a session for VLE orientation.
- 6.4 Ensure students enrolled in courses/subjects delivered via e-Learning are provided with continuous and adequate academic and technical support available through the University. The details of the support mechanisms, both academic and technical, must be shared with the students through different platforms. All first-year students must be oriented to the use of the VLE and other tools used for e-Learning. This must also be monitored through periodic evaluations.
- 6.5 Ensure that Faculties teaching a course in e-Learning modality must complete a mandatory staff training in the basics of e-Learning.

- 6.6 Ensure every student enrolled in a course offered in e-Learning modality has access to University's VLE.
- 6.7 Ensure that all assessments are aligned with the Assessment Policy and Examination Rules.
- 6.8 Ensure that all teaching and learning activities in LMS and student records in Student Management System are securely stored and access granted and controlled as per MNU policies

7. This policy should be read in conjunction with including and not limited to:

1. MQA Guidelines for e-Learning
2. MQA Guidelines for programme Accreditation
3. Maldives National Qualifications Framework (MNQF)
4. Course Development Procedure
5. Teaching and Learning Policy
6. Quality Assurance Policy
7. Assessment Policy
8. Examination Rules
9. Plagiarism Policy
10. Graduate Attributes policy
11. Student Voice Policy
12. MNU Disability Policy
13. Strategic Objectives of the MNU
14. Accreditation Frameworks of courses by respective councils (MNMC, MAHC, MMDC)

8. Effective from: 12th March 2023