

New River Community and Technical College

Instructional Methods Explained

This document explains the **Instructional Methods** used at New River Community and Technical College to identify how course information is delivered to students.

Instructional Methods appear in the **IM** column on course schedules. These definitions are intended to clarify how learning opportunities at New River CTC can be either **FULLY REMOTE** (no on-site meetings are required, and geographically distant students are encouraged to enroll – as well as students in our 10-county region of West Virginia) or **HYBRID** (some on-site meetings are required, so students outside of our 10-county region of support should probably not enroll).

FULLY REMOTE LEARNING is defined as “all instruction, assessments, course-based communication, and access to student support services are available online—no on-site meetings or on-campus visits are required, and students may participate from any geographic location”. *Fully remote learning* comprises two instructional methods (**WEB** and **ZOOM**).

WEB — All course requirements and information (**100%**) are delivered remotely using *Brightspace*. There is typically no requirement for **synchronous** (same-time) class meetings, but students must have access to a computer and the Internet to participate in **asynchronous** (not same-time) learning.

ZOOM — All course information (**100%**) is delivered remotely using both *Zoom* and *Brightspace*. Students must connect from a location of their choice (and have access to a computer with a webcam and an Internet connection) to participate. Scheduled *Zoom* class meetings are **synchronous** and are required for students to participate, while course information delivered using Brightspace is **asynchronous**. Instructors do not schedule classrooms for ZOOM courses, and all participants may use any Zoom-enabled location of their choice.

HYBRID LEARNING enables students to receive less than 100% of instruction remotely, as some on-site **synchronous** meetings are required. *Hybrid learning* combines the advantages of **traditional** and **remote** learning by creating a flexible learning environment. *Hybrid* courses use *Brightspace* to share syllabi and other course information and are denoted by three instructional methods (**TRAD**, **HYBRD**, and **HYFLX**).

TRAD (*Traditional Face-to-Face and In-Seat*) — At least **50%** of the course information is delivered **on-site** in a **synchronous** scheduled classroom (*not necessarily a Zoom-enabled classroom*) with students and an instructor all in the same room, but **up to 50%** of the course information may be delivered **remotely** (using *Brightspace* or *Zoom*). Remote students must have access to a computer with an Internet connection.

HYBRD (*Hybrid*) — More than **50%** of the course information is delivered remotely using *Zoom* and *Brightspace*, while the instructor is in a Zoom-enabled classroom with some **synchronous** on-site students. Remote students must have access to a computer with a webcam and an Internet connection.

HYFLX (*Hybrid-Flexible*) — Instructors of HYFLX courses are expected to teach by potentially accommodating **all** instructional methods. With the instructor's permission, students may complete all course requirements remotely via WEB or ZOOM, but without the instructor's permission, all students are expected to attend some **synchronous** in-class meetings (on-campus and in-seat, typically in a Zoom-enabled classroom). Students must obtain the instructor's permission early in the class if they require fully remote methods (ZOOM or WEB) to complete the course. Students permitted to attend using fully remote methods must have access to a computer with a webcam and an Internet connection.