



## OCEP Overview

The Online Course Evaluation Project (OCEP) identifies and evaluates existing online courses in higher education, Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup>, and high school. The goal of OCEP is to provide the academic community with a criteria-based evaluation tool to assess and compare the quality of online courses.

The focus of the evaluation is on the presentation of the content and the pedagogical aspects of online courses, yet OCEP also considers the instructional and communication methods so vital in a successful online learning experience.

Existing online courses are identified and measured against a set of objective evaluation categories. These criteria were developed through extensive research and review of instructional design guidelines from nationally recognized course developers, best practices from leading online consultants, and from numerous academic course evaluations.

OCEP employs a team approach in evaluating courses. Subject matter experts evaluate the scholarship, scope, and instructional design aspects of courses, while online multimedia professionals are used to consider the course production values. Technical consultants are employed to establish and evaluate the interoperability and sustainability of the courses.



The ongoing results of the OCEP study will be available publicly in a web-enabled comparison tool developed in partnership with the EduTools project from the WCET. The evaluation categories will be published for use by the academic community and presented at upcoming conferences. Commissioned evaluations can be arranged for institutions or organizations.

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OCEP is a project of the **Monterey Institute for Technology and Education** (MITE), an educational non-profit organization committed to helping meet society's need for access to effective, high-quality educational opportunities in an era of rapid economic, social, and personal change. The Monterey Institute for Technology and Education was founded as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in 2003. Learn more at: <http://www.montereyinstitute.org>.