
Abstract: Research is available on the graduation rates among primarily on-line institutions and traditional universities, but not much on the effect of on-line classes within a university setting. According to Pew Research Center surveys conducted in spring 2011, 89% of four-year public colleges and universities offered online classes, and 46% of recent college graduates report that they had taken an online course (Parker, Lenhart & Moore, 2011). With the proliferation of on-line classes, this study aims to analyze the evolution of the class offerings in the business school of a four-year public university over the past ten years. In addition to examining the current trend regarding the on-line curriculum, the project further investigates whether such offerings are related to graduation rates and/or graduation in 4 years. A discussion on grade inflation, job placements and other consequences of online course offerings in higher education are provided.

Keywords: online education; graduation rates
