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Georgia Southern University's Online Courses a Popular Option for Professionals Wanting to Advance Careers

JUNE 23, 2009



**GEORGIA
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY**

Jamey Grover visited Georgia Southern numerous times while his son was a student at the University. Then, Grover decided to pursue his Master's in Education degree online.

'I'm 51 years old, work full-time and I've loved this program,'" Grover said prior to receiving his degree last month. 'My wife was teasing me after I took my last exam I kept heading over to my computer and I felt a little lost without a class or a test to take.'

Grover was one of 72 graduates who received online degrees from the University during the spring commencement ceremony a record number for Georgia Southern. The University offers online degrees in the fields of business, education, and healthcare. The online programs are especially popular with professionals juggling work and family.

'These online degree programs allow working adults and those who are outside of our campus area to complete their degrees. We offer flexibility and high-quality programs that meet the needs of adult learners wishing to further their careers,'" said Gary Means, dean of continuing education and public services.

While Grover completed his online degree this spring, Debbie Bose is now starting on hers. As she works full-time in Macon, Bose is enrolled this summer in her first coursework toward a Master of Education with a major in Instructional Technology.

A 27-year veteran of the U.S. Postal Service, Bose said a master's degree will benefit greatly in her current position as a training manager. Bose's experience will come full-circle after earning her online degree, she will be able to apply her knowledge toward creating curriculum and using technology to enhance online training for the Postal Service.

'I'm not interested in just theory. When I get this degree, I'll know hands-on how to do what I want to do,'" Bose said.

Not everyone may think of online programs as being 'hands-on,'" but Bose knows differently. 'Some people think, when you do courses online, they will be easy, but anyone who goes through it knows that's not the case. It's very challenging,'" she said. 'It actually requires a greater degree of dedication because you have to get in and learn it yourself. You have to be disciplined.'

Bose said she researched online programs for about a year and chose Georgia Southern's Instructional Technology program because of its credibility and affordability. She also praised the University's customer service, saying that any question she had was answered promptly.

The application deadlines vary among the different programs, but students still have time to register for some fall semester online classes. For more information on the University's online offerings, visit <http://online.georgiasouthern.edu>.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University, offers 115 degree programs serving nearly 18,000 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelors, masters and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. The University, one of Georgia's largest, is a top choice of Georgia's HOPE scholars and is recognized for its student-centered approach to education. Visit: www.georgiasouthern.edu.