CS102 Placement Assessment General Information for Distance Learners

CS 102, Microcomputer Applications, serves as a pre-requisite for a number of required courses in various degree programs. The course is also a pre-requisite for a number of “C (computer) designated” courses that students may take to complete their Core Curriculum requirements. Students have the option of “testing out” of CS 102 by taking a placement assessment that tests their proficiency with basic software productivity packages (e.g. word processing, spreadsheets, databases, presentation software & computing concepts). Available testing dates can be found at [http://assessment.cs.ua.edu/](http://assessment.cs.ua.edu/) and then by selecting the Distance Learners Link.

**To register for the CS102 Placement Exam:**
1. a) Visit [https://alabama.simnetonline.com](https://alabama.simnetonline.com) and select the Distance Learner option.
2. Read the Registration Instructions on the website.
3. On the bottom right side of the page select one of the following options
   - Register for Placement Test Only (no charge)
   - Register for Placement and Purchase Study Materials ($95)
4. After making a selection (and purchasing materials if desired), you will be asked to provide information to self-register and to assign yourself to one of the available “classes”. The class titles correlate to available test dates and whether materials were purchased or not. Be sure to select testing dates with OL in the section title. Example: Friday, Oct. 3, 2014 (no prep-OL)

**Information regarding the placement evaluation:**

- All Distance Students taking the PLCS are required to schedule a proctored test time (See the instructions on site for signing up for a proctored exam on the assessment website).
- The PLCS May only be taken one time.
- All students taking the exam agree to follow the [UA Code of Academic Conduct](http://assessment.cs.ua.edu/).
- Testing time for the 5-part exam is about 2hrs
- The exam is a 500-point exam that tests a total of 100 skills in five separate parts (word processing-30%, spreadsheets-40%, presentation software-10%, databases 10% and other skills-10%).
- Placing out of CS102 requires a minimum passing score of 380 points.
- Purchasing and utilizing review materials are highly recommended.
- Students purchasing materials and not passing the Placement Exam may use those same materials to take CS102 without incurring an additional software registration charge.
- Students will be contacted within 24hrs confirming test results.
- Once the exam is complete, scores will be sent to Testing Services. Testing Services will then put the scores into the Banner system.

*Please email requests for additional information, questions or concerns regarding the PLCS to Dr. Kathleen Morris at kmorris@cs.ua.edu*