

## Life Strategies News imagine • achieve • excel

August 2011

# 10 BENEFITS OF ONLINE LEARNING

Almost all of Life Strategies' LearnOnline courses are facilitated, asynchronous e-learning. That means they are instructor-led and students go through the course in a cohort, but discussions use a bulletin-board type of forum and are not in "real time." The benefits below relate specifically to this type of e-learning but many would also be true of self-paced e-learning that makes more use of interactive computer technology.

- 1. Learn anytime, anywhere. If you have access to a computer and the Internet, you can engage in e-learning literally from anywhere in the world. Time zones don't matter, except for assignment due dates. With students on different continents, there are likely discussion posts to respond to anytime you log in to the course site!
- 2. Expand your choices. Because you can register in courses almost anywhere in the world, there are endless possibilities to choose from.
- **3. Extend your professional network.** In our Canadian courses, we've had students from Australia, China, South Africa, Ireland, Dubai, and throughout North America. Where else can you engage with such diverse learners without needing to travel?
- 4. Accommodate your learning style. If you're introverted, e-learning gives you time to think before you speak; if you're extraverted, there are lots of active discussions to engage in. Visual learners benefit from interactive multimedia components. Whether your peak learning time is morning, midday, or night, your classroom will be open!
- **5. Engage with your instructors.** In facilitated e-learning courses, instructors are active participants in class discussions. There's no need to wait for weekly office hours or use vacation time to take a course from a subject matter expert elsewhere in the country. Your instructor is as close as your keyboard.
- 6. Avoid cancelled classes. E-courses, like postal carriers, continue regardless of weather conditions. E-courses are also rarely cancelled due to low registrations; with no commute for instructors or fees for classroom space, running with just a few students is usually do-able.
- 7. Fit learning into "moments" of your day. Whether your days are full or simply unpredictable, it's possible to fit in 1.5 to 2 hours per day in convenient chunks of time (e.g., 15 minutes in the morning, ½ hour at lunch, ½ hour in the coffee shop waiting to pick up teens from their activities, and ½ hour at the end of your day). Even if you travel or work different shifts your schedule can adjust daily.
- 8. Find that elusive work-life balance. Role conflict is a huge issue for many adults today. Learn from home while juggling childcare and eldercare responsibilities or learn during breaks at work. Participate in course discussions while doing laundry, cooking dinner, or in the middle of the night while nursing your new baby. Students report doing all of this . . . and more!
- 9. Go green . . . reduce your carbon footprint. Research has confirmed that e-learning consumed "nearly 90 percent less energy and produced 85 percent fewer CO2 emissions per student than conventional campus-based university courses." Use your own
- and leave your car parked.
  10. Go to school in your pyjamas. This is likely the most-cited benefit of e-learning there's no need to dress up to impress your peers or your instructors they may be in PJs, too! Wear what you're comfortable in as you learn from your own home.

computer, learn from home or work, print less paper,



## Coming FALL 2011

We hope you'll join us in our upcoming courses.

Click on the course names below for more information.

• Free LearnOnline Orientation

### CMPP Courses:

- Researching Workplace Trends
- Group Facilitation
- Career Development Theories
- Program Management
- Administering and Interpreting Assessments
- Helping Skills to Facilitate Career Development
- Ethics Essentials

### e-Courses:

- Managing Diversity at Work
- e-Coaching
- Proposal Writing
- Marketing Programs & Services
- Start a Private Practice

### Certificate Courses:

- Fundamentals of Psychometric Assessments
- Foundations for Practice in EVG
- Look Before You Leap
- Job Developer
- Personality Dimensions
- Let's CHAT!
- Case Manager
- Consultants & Organizational Systems

View our full course schedule; click here

Mark your calendars for the upcoming

Fraser Valley Chambers of Commerce

Business and Showcase Mixer. Plan to
stop by our booth for some special treats
and promotions. Tuesday Nov. 1 - for details
please go to <a href="https://www.langleychamber.com">www.langleychamber.com</a>



Life Strategies LearnOnline is now on LinkedIn. We'd like to invite current and/or former students, to join the LearnOnline LinkedIn group. This group will provide an opportunity to keep in touch with other students, course instructors, and student advisors and stay up to date on the latest program news, share success stories, and access new resources.

Social media marketing has paid off the most for self-employed individuals compared to all other types of businesses. Read more at: www.socialmediaexaminer.com/small-businesses-benefit-most-from-socialmedia-study-reveals. Are you thinking about self-employment? Don't jump in blindly, consider taking the LEAP! Our informative course, Look Before You Leap: Self Employment Survival Strategies starts September 21st. It is advantageous for anybody considering self-employment, and those career practitioners who want to assist clients contemplating self-employment. Register today to add this unique training to your skill set! Want to add a self-employment workshop to your employment program? Take a look at including our new Look Before You Leap workbook as one of your resources.

# NEW RESOURCES

The Internet: A Tool for Career Planning. This book is helpful for Career Professionals and Counsellors in understanding how to use the internet in

successful career planning. To find out more and to order your copy, please visit the NCDA website.

No Canadian Experience Eh? We're

excited to have contributed to Daisy Wright's latest edition of "No Canadian Experience, Eh?". This book is a handy companion for every professional immigrant thinking of moving to Canada or those who have already arrived and need guidance. To order your copy please visit our online store.

## TOF THE MONT



Angela was a delight to work with; she demonstrated an incredible commitment to her professional development, fellow students, and clients. Her work throughout the program consistently exceeded expectations, a trend that continued through to her applied project. It was a pleasure working with her and we wish her all the best.

Angela wrote, "My name is Angela Meulenbroek and I am 39 years old and reside in Kemptville, Ontario in the National Capital Area. I have a degree in Sociology from Carleton University. I have spent many years in various fields and finally found my calling when I started working at CSE Consulting in October of 2009. I started here as a Resource Attendant and was promoted to an Employment Consultant in August of 2010. CSE Consulting prides itself on the academic achievements of its staff and so I was asked if there were any courses I would be interested in taking. I checked out the Life Strategies website and felt that the Personal and Professional Development/Life Skills Coaching program would be best suited to my new position.

After completing my certificate in May of 2011 I can honestly say that I have grown in my new career as a result of the education and training I have received from Life Strategies. Their course structure and content were completely relevant and have provided me with the skills and background I need to offer my clients the best service possible. The final applied project was a great way for me tie in all of the information I learned with my own experiences and realize that I have managed to develop my own theories along the way! It was a real eye opener and I now consider myself a Career Development Professional who can knowledgably and confidently assist clients."

### CONGRATULATIONS





CMPP

Karen Cross has successfully completed her Organizational

Career Management

Career Development Specialist certificate

The following students recently completed their **Job Club Coach** certificate:

Blanche Pilkington Janice Peters Joyce Horne Jocelyn Isnardy Kathie Maxwell Sandra Shimmin

The following students recently completed their Case Manager certificate:

Beatrice Thompson Janice Peters Jean Bruno Nkondi Sharon Cartwright Lisa Schafer Shameemah Kalaichelvan

Tammy Potratz







