Online/Distance Education Student Authentication

In compliance with the United States Federal Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008 concerning the verification of student identity in distance learning, Northern Kentucky University has processes in place to affirm that the person who is enrolled at the University and registered for an online course is the same student participating, completing requirements, and receiving credit for that course.

To authenticate identities, Northern Kentucky University requires each student to use their unique username and password credentials that are provided through the University's enrollment process. These credentials are required for access to our Learning Management System, email, and other distance education tools.

In addition to identity management through the unique username and password, added measures may be used to authenticate students for distance learning.

Other methods that may be used:
• Proctoring of examinations
• The use of personally identifiable information to verify identity (student ID, date of birth, address, etc)
• The use of Learning Management System Tools to verify identity (Tegrity, Respondus)
• The use of new or emerging technologies and practices to verify student identity.

Note: For information on tools that NKU uses for identity management, please visit NKU's Knowledge Base.

NKU Student Honor Code and Acceptable Use Policy
As with all activities and courses taken by a student, each student is bound by the NKU Student Honor Code and the University's Acceptable Use Policy for Computing Resources

Privacy of Student Information
All methods of verifying student identity must protect the privacy of student information in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and any other applicable laws or regulations regarding the confidentiality of personally identifiable information.

Cost to Students for Student Authentication
In a good faith effort to inform students and to be in federal compliance, Northern Kentucky University alerts students that there may be additional costs for student authentication in a fully online or hybrid course offering (i.e. cost for proctoring an exam).

Rev. 1/2024