

Overview of Catalog Changes

The UWSP Course Catalog is now available online in PDF format. The PDF document includes a series of bookmarks generated by the section headings throughout the Catalog. The new web address for the online Catalog is:

www.uwsp.edu/catalog

A brief set of instructions has been developed to help you with NAVIGATING and SEARCHING the online Catalog. In addition to this, a SEARCH feature has also been added to the web interface. All of these features can be found on the main Catalog page, along with archives of the last four print Catalogs.

Reasons for Converting the online Catalog from HTML to PDF:

In the past, the Catalog Editor had to maintain two distinct UWSP Catalogs (a print version of the Catalog and the HTML version of the online Catalog). We have now consolidated the two for the following reasons:

- Efficiency –
 - The Catalog Editor will now only need to maintain one document as opposed to two different and separate documents. This will greatly reduce duplication of work and having to update/change a suite of over 150 HTML web pages.
 - Consolidating the online Catalog in this way also enables users to search for different parts of the online Catalog without the distraction of numerous search results coming in from the entire UWSP website.
 - Users will now have the entire Catalog at their fingertips as one, consistent document instead of having to jump from one HTML page to another to another.
- Consistency – with this new system, the online Catalog and print Catalog will be consistent. When a change is made to the Catalog, the change will apply for both the online version and the next print version. In the past, there were instances of information being different in the online Catalog as opposed to the print Catalog.
- More user-friendly – the HTML version of the online Catalog generated many complaints from people stating it was difficult to navigate or not easy to find exactly what they were looking for. The new PDF version will allow users to search the Catalog by either a bookmark or by searching for a specific word or set of words.

Supporting Greater Functionality:

In the past, users were able to link to various parts of the HTML pages that made up the old online Catalog. These old links now take users to the main online Catalog page, rather than the specific sections of the online Catalog that was intended. Clearly, this is not ideal. It would be useful to allow users to link directly to specific sections of the online Catalog.

In order to preserve this important functionality, we are working on a system to allow users to link directly to specific sections of the new online Catalog, and to use a topical site index in order to navigate to key parts of the Catalog. However, existing web links on campus will need to be updated to ensure that users are directed to the correct location of the Catalog. Detailed instructions are being developed to assist users in this transition.

In order to support even greater functionality of the new online Catalog, the following resources are being developed and refined:

- This document, which provides an **overview** of the changes to the online Catalog.
- Instructions on how to **navigate** and **search** the online Catalog.

Coming soon:

- A “Site Index” page, which provides users with a menu of user-friendly topics that link to specific parts of the online Catalog, along with detailed instructions about how to link to specific parts of the online Catalog.