Duke's business school is first university offering class live on World Wide Web for MBA course

DURHAM (AP) — Duke University's business school will offer live broadcasts of a class on the World Wide Web beginning next month for working students.

The one-of-a-kind course on global asset allocation and stock selection will be broadcast live Mondays and Thursdays beginning Jan. 22.

Duke said it will be the first university to offer a live Web broadcast of a regularly scheduled Master's of Business Administration course to students outside its campus.

The course is designed for business people who are not in the MBA program at Duke's Fuqua School of Business.

The Web class "is for the people who don't want to go for the full MBA, but what they do want is to pick off the things they need," said Campbell Harvey, a finance professor who will teach the course.

The course will be archived on the Web for students around the globe who can't make live viewing of the class.

Other Duke schools are interested in the live Web broadcast.

"We will carefully watch the results of this step forward to see if it would be applicable to other schools at Duke," Duke Provost Peter Lange said.

The biggest sticking point was that the class would be open to people who have not been admitted to the university, he said.

"This is the first time we've ever allowed non-Duke students into a classroom," Lange said.

The course costs $1,000 for non-Duke students and $500 for Duke alumni. All registered students will receive a user name and password that will provide them access to the broadcast site.