



ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

Creating a Thriving Learning Environment: Strategies for Implementing High-Impact Practices



Introduction



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*Expanding access to top-quality,
affordable, and workforce-relevant
education delivered online.*



**EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY**

*Developing a world-class environment to
enhance student success and improve the
quality of life in the region and beyond.*



Presentation Goals



Student-centered Resilience



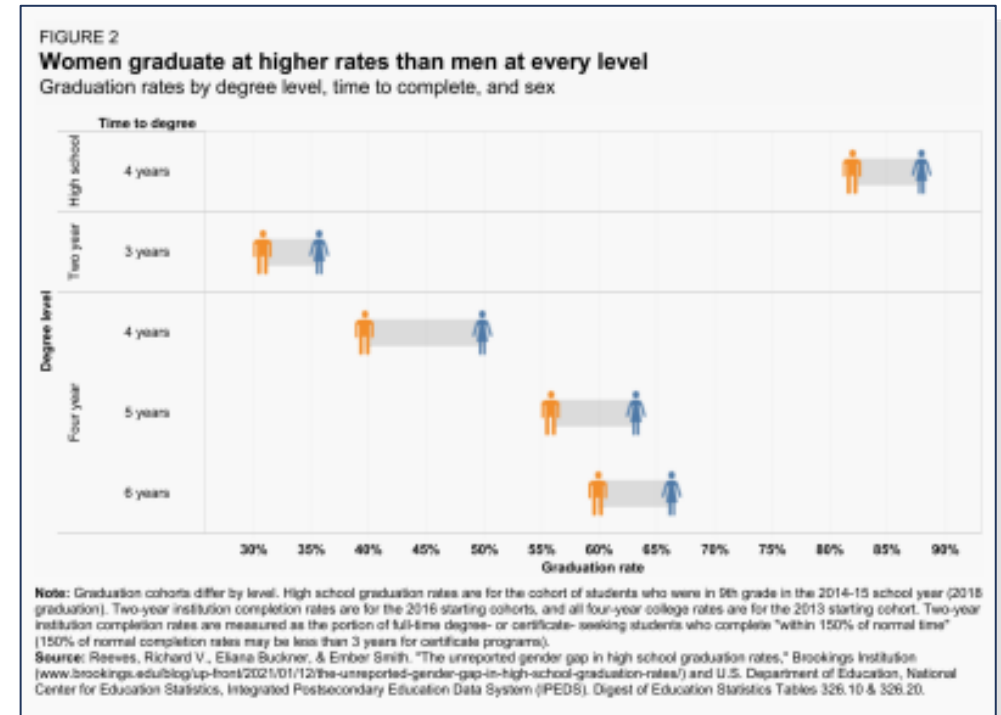
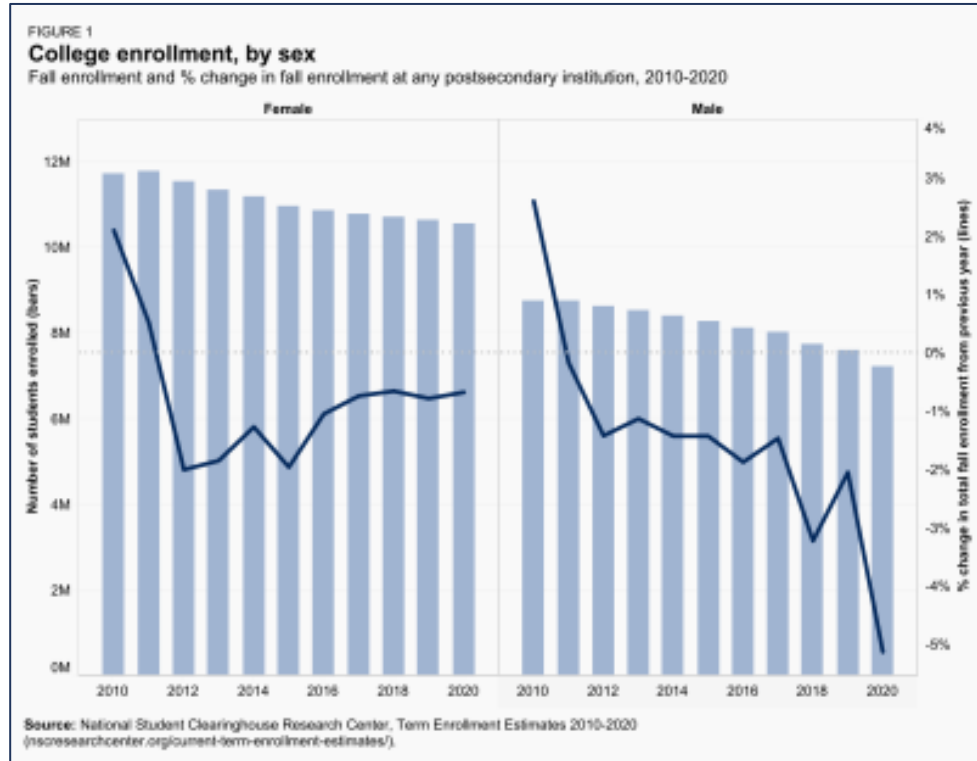
Challenges and Opportunities in Higher Education and the New Norms

- Shifting Student Demographics
- Online/Flexible Options
- Career Readiness & Career Advancement
- Holistic Support
- Student Support
- Access to Resources
- Technology



Shifting Student Demographics

Gender Shift



Shifting Student Demographics

Non-traditional Students



- Enrollment Declines
 - What does this really mean?
 - Needs of today's students
- Online/Flexible Options
 - Affordable, Quality, Online Learning
- Career Readiness & Career Advancement
 - Reskill & Upskill



Holistic Support



Student Ready Support

- Underrepresented Populations
- Underserved Populations



Access to Resources

- Prevent Barriers to Success



Technology

- Evolving Technology (Challenges and Opportunities)



Understanding Today's Student

Realities of Student Life and Perceptions



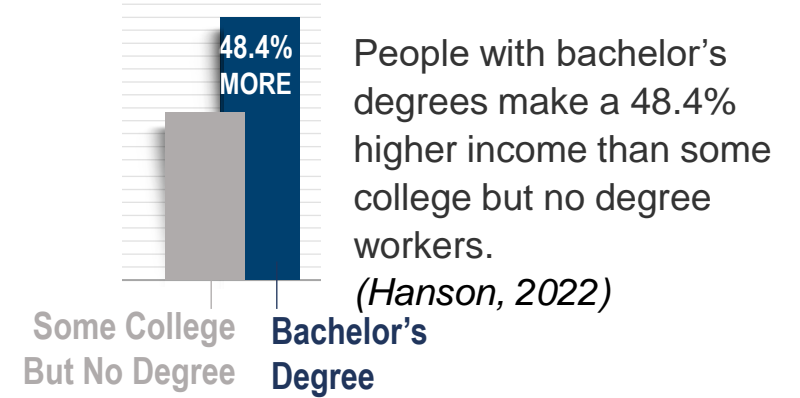
Perceived Capabilities



Say they feel unprepared for college, academically and emotionally. (Education Advisory Board)

of high-school students

College Value

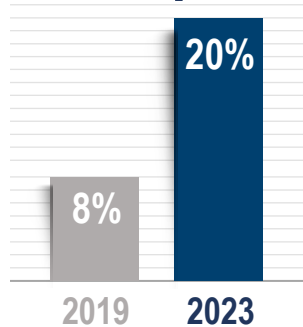


Ease of Learning



With information at our fingertips, there has never been a better time to hone our skills and learn something new.

College Perception



Students feel college is not worthwhile. (Education Advisory Board)

Retention Challenges



As of July 2021, 40.4 Million U.S. adults had some college but no degree. (Williams-June 2023)

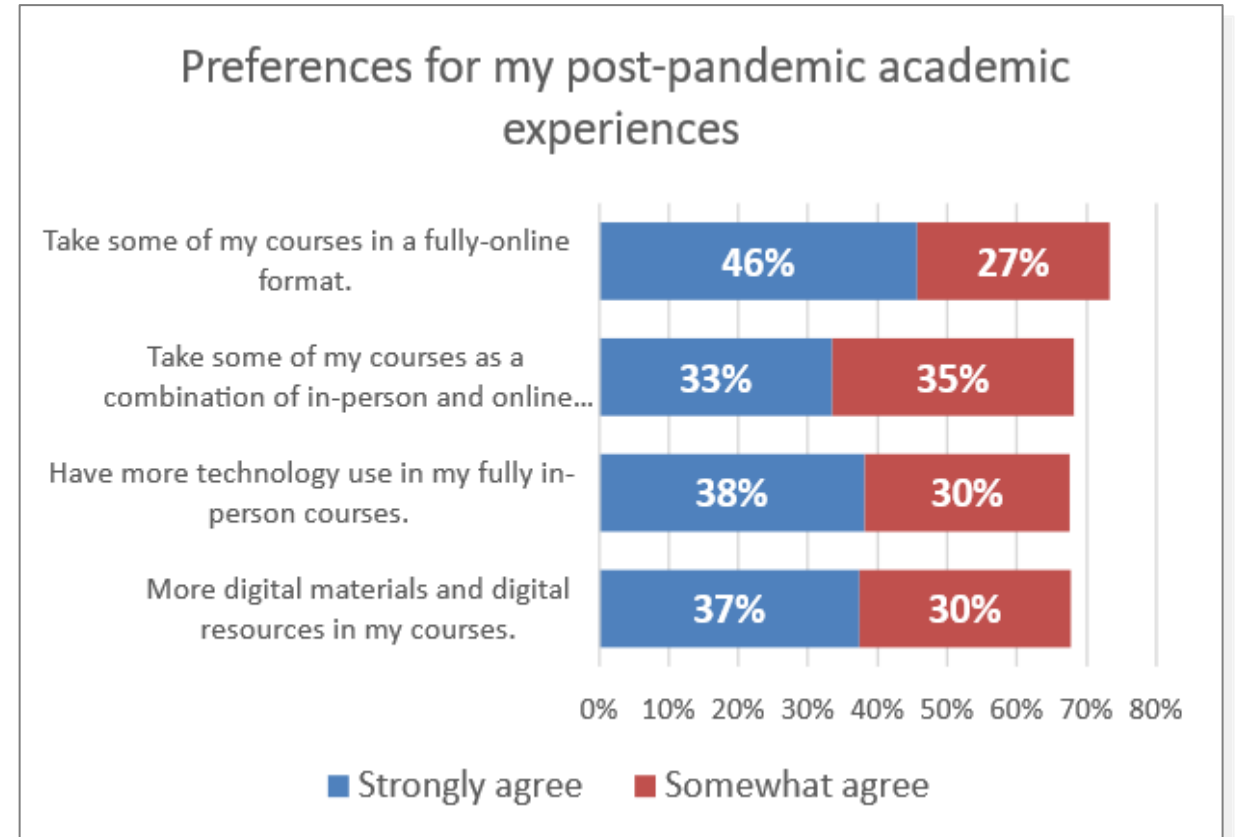


Unveiling the Value of Online Learning

Noteworthy Insights

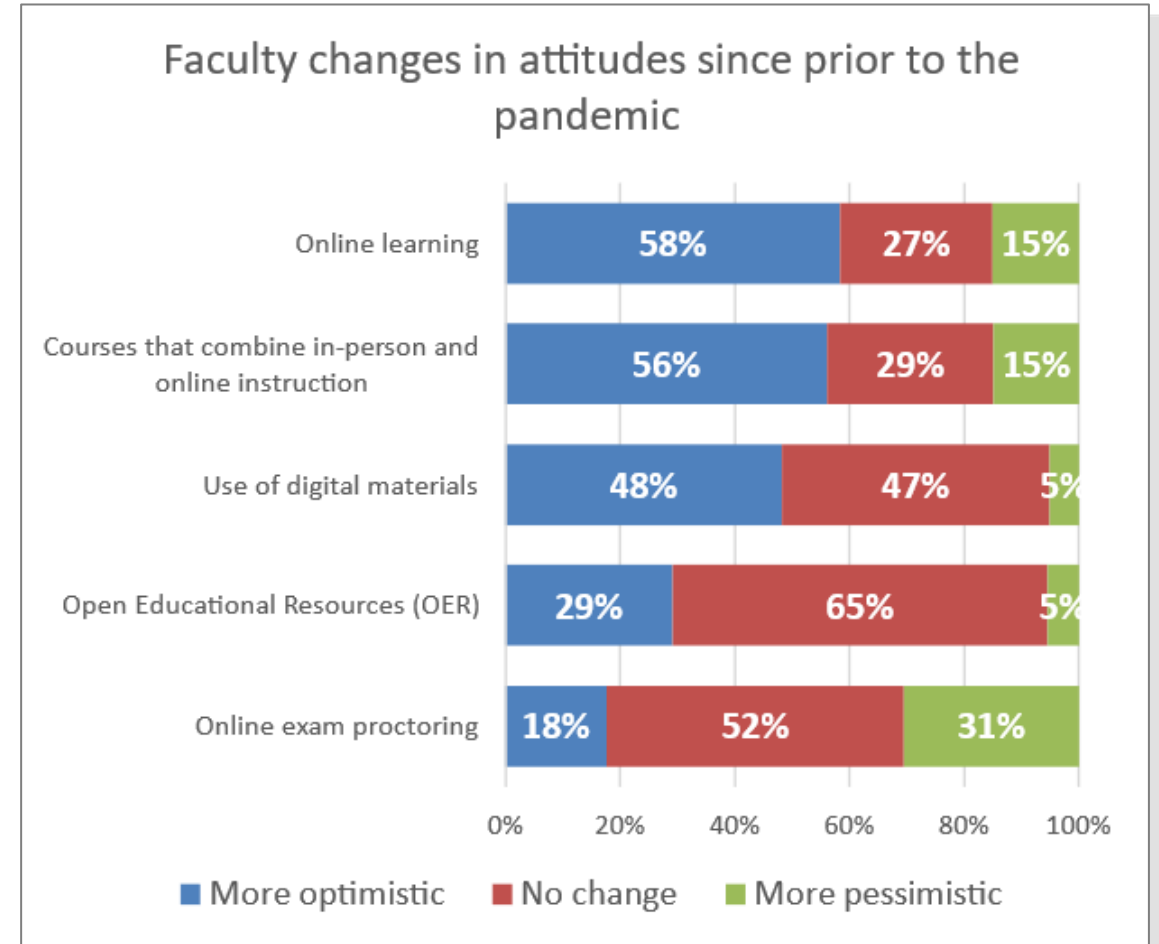
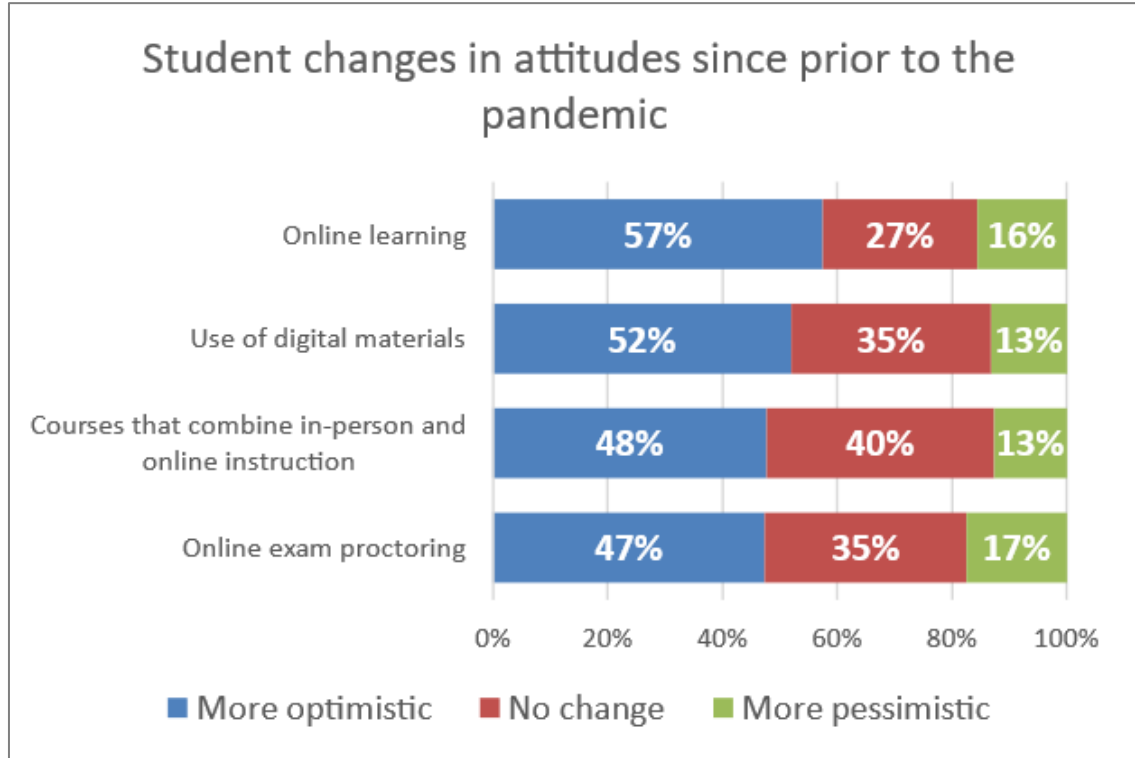


- **Embracing online learning:** students increasingly desire to take courses in a fully online environment
- **Increased Diversity:** programs online have more racially diverse student bodies than conventional schools (Hamilton, 2023)
- **Improved Access and Retention:** results from a study conducted by Arizona State University indicate that online courses were associated with improved access and retention (Bolkan, 2018)



Navigating the Online Learning Landscape

Changing Attitudes



Elevating the Learning Experience

Advancing Academic Achievement in Online Learning



Student Needs and Wants	Faculty Considerations
What is this course to students?	What is this course to students?
Strong Community	Peer-to-peer learning opportunities, compassion, first impressions
Dynamic Instruction and Delivery	Course shells attractiveness and consistency
Practical Learning for Real World Application	Relevant, innovative, certifications, experiment with instructional methods and try new approaches
Flexibility to Learn and Study	Consistent due dates, allow trial-and-error opportunities
Timely Support	Availability, response times
Supportive Feedback Culture	Promote insightful student feedback through mid-term student surveys



Ensuring Academic Excellence

Faculty Support and Resources



- Select the **optimal online instructor** for exceptional learning experiences
- Unify faculty around a passion for **mentoring** students
- Establish **standards** and **expectations** (e.g., MOU)
- Inspire **continuous learning** through professional development
- Facilitate ongoing course **evaluation** and **enhancements**
- Monitor faculty **workload**
- Encourage faculty to invest in developing **leadership skills**
- Review student assessment of instruction reports and **evaluate instruction**
- Craft a **compensation framework** for course development

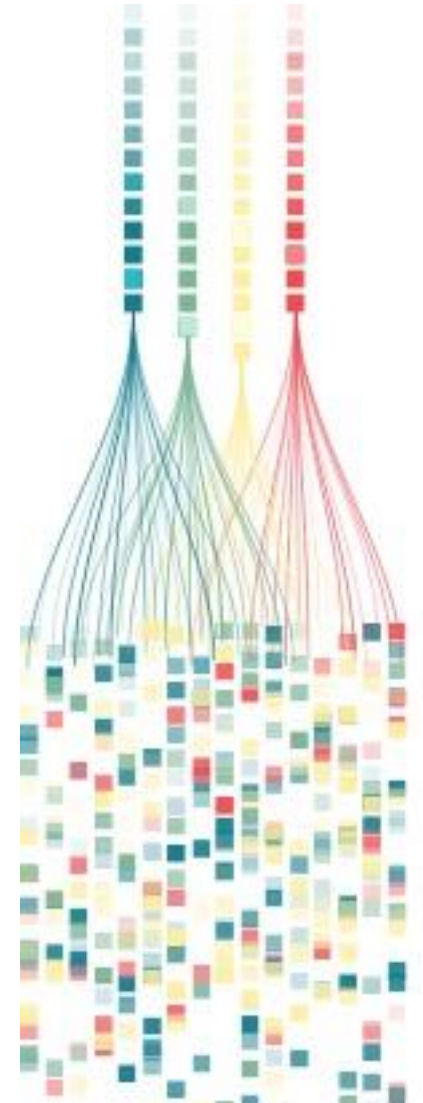


Navigating New Frontiers

Adapting to Changing Times Through Innovative Curriculum Redesign



- Understand the **alignment** between institutional, program, and course objectives and outcomes
- Focus on **curriculum development** and **training**
- Maintain program **relevancy** and **innovation**
- Embrace flexible **processes** and **scheduling**
- Conduct regular **evaluations** of peers and aspirants

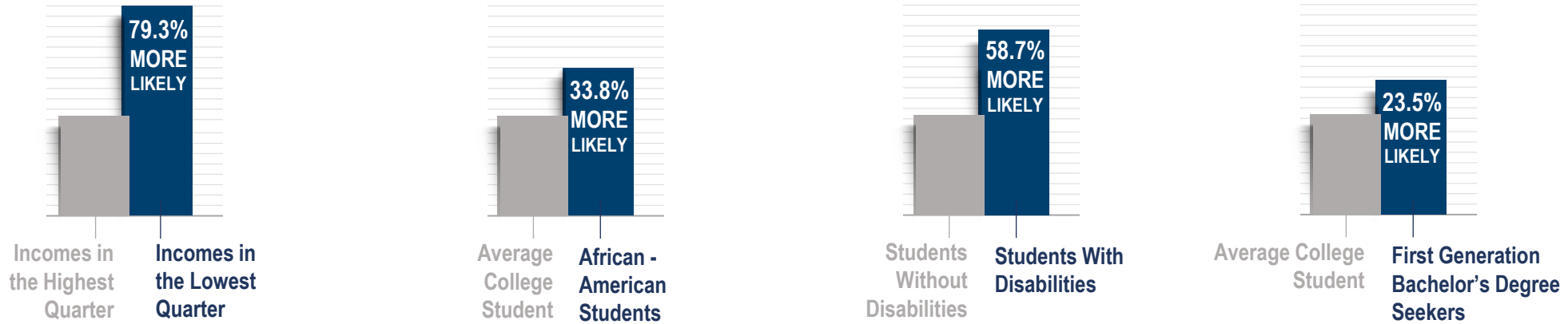


Empowering the Future

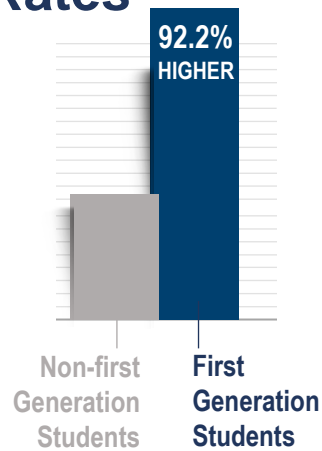
Critical Insights



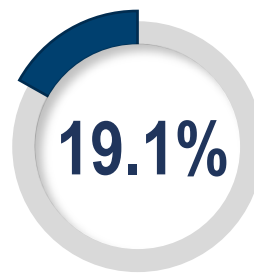
Likelihood of Postsecondary Dropout



Dropout Rates

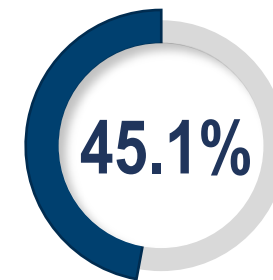


Asian Students



Dropout Rate

American Indian / Alaskan Native Students



Dropout Rate



Empowering the Future

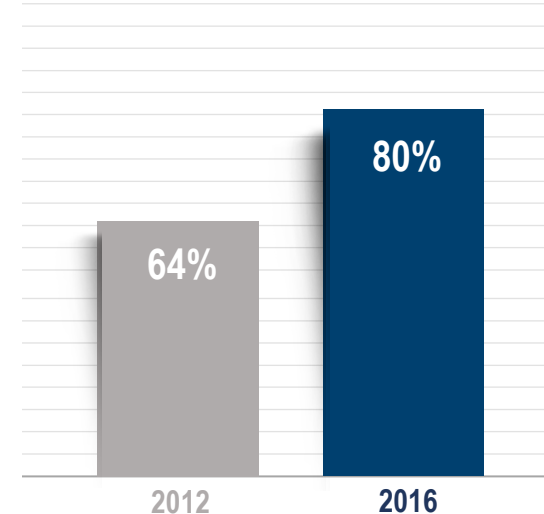
Strategies for Meeting the Needs of Diverse Student Populations



- Develop data-informed insights
- Create student support strategies – top-down approach to a team effort
 - Advisor/Faculty Coaches
 - Peer or Faculty Mentors
 - Leadership Opportunities

University of Texas at San Antonio
UTSA's Equitable Student Pathways (ESP) project

First-year Student Retention



High-Impact Tools and Practices

- Curriculum Development
- Course Development and Learning Design
- Facilitation
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Teaching and Learning
- Virtual Reality (VR) Augmented Reality (AR) for Education



Curriculum Development



- Streamline and optimize curriculum design processes
- Align learning outcomes with real-world competencies



Tools

- Coursetune (K12 and Higher Ed)
- Atlas (K12)
- Planbook (K12)

The screenshots show the Coursetune interface with two main views:

- Advanced Health Assessment:** A circular diagram mapping course activities to various standards. A sidebar on the right shows a tree view of mappings including AP University Institutional Outcomes, 2021 AACN Essentials Domains, and 1.1 Nursing's Distinct Perspectives. A legend indicates coverage levels from 1% to 100%.
- Operations Management:** A similar circular diagram mapping course activities to standards. A sidebar on the right shows a tree view of activities including 'Introduce', 'Reinforce', and 'Master' for various topics like 'Theories from Nursing Science' and 'Knowledge of Nursing Science'.



Course Development & Learning Design



- Consistent course navigation and nomenclature to reduce cognitive overload
- Design engaging and interactive modules



Tools

- Catalyst (course builder)
- H5P (open-source content builder)
- SoftChalk (authoring tool)

CATALYST
Powered by COURSETUNE

Module Learning Objectives

COURSE MAP

7 Modules	LOs	INTRO	LEARN	DISCUSS	ASSESS	SUMMARY
MODULE 1	✓ LOs (2)	✓ Intro	✓ Learn (1)	✓ Discuss (1)	Assess	Summary
MODULE 2	✓ LOs (1)	Intro	Learn	Discuss	Assess	Summary
MODULE 3	✓ LOs (1)	Intro	✓ Learn (1)	Discuss	Assess	Summary
MODULE 4	LOs	Intro	Learn	Discuss	Assess	Summary
MODULE 5	LOs	Intro	Learn	Discuss	Assess	Summary
MODULE 6	✓ LOs (2)	Intro	Learn	✓ Discuss (2)	✓ Assess (1)	✓ Summary
MODULE 7	LOs	Intro	Learn	Discuss	Assess	Summary

Current Events Discussion

Instructions for Initial Post: What should the student do to successfully complete their initial post? Include any general criteria that will be used to grade the initial post.

Instructions for Responses: What are your expectations for number and quality of responses? Include any general criteria that will be used to grade the responses.



Facilitation



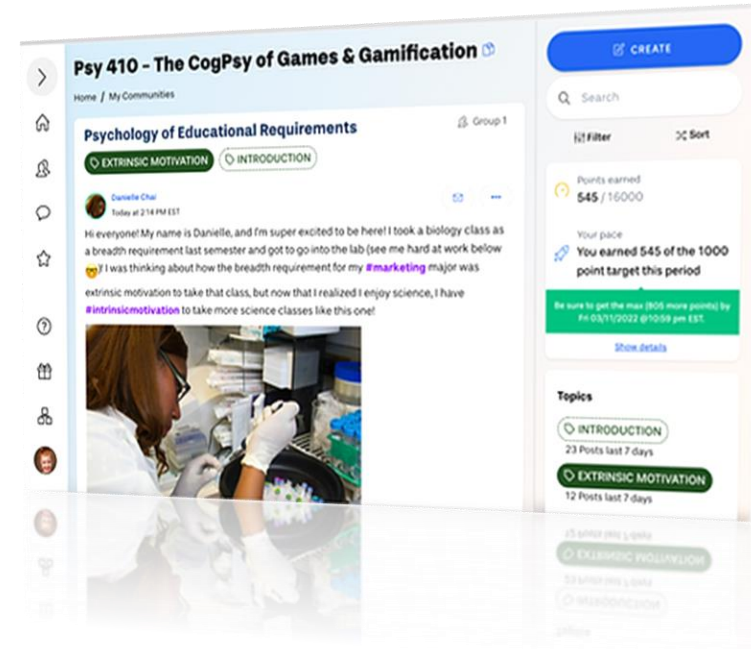
- Foster collaborative, inclusive, and supportive learning experiences
- Encourage discussions, group work, and knowledge sharing
- Providing timely feedback and personalized guidance



Tools

- Yellow Dig (collaboration platform)
- Discourse (open-source online interaction tool)
- Mighty Networks (community building tool with branded networks)

Yellowdig



Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Learning



- Harness the power of AI to personalize learning experiences
- Leverage AI-powered chatbots for instant student support
- Provide adaptive feedback, recommendations, and support
- Address frequently asked questions, provide resources, and assist with inquiries



Tools

- ChatGPT
- Articoolo
- Duolingo
- PhET Interactive Simulations



Virtual Reality (VR) Augmented Reality (AR) for Education



- Immerse students in virtual environments for experiential learning
- Simulate real-world scenarios, field trips, and hands-on experiences



Tools

- Apple Vision Pro (AR/VR)
- Google Expeditions (VR)
- zSpace (VR)
- Oculus for Business (VR)
- Merge Cube (AR)
- Microsoft HoloLens (AR)
- Aurasma (AR)



Conclusion

Nurturing Student and Faculty Success from Start to Finish

QR Code with References,
links, resources, info, etc.



Q&A/Open Discussion

