

A Scalable Online Enterprise Systems Curriculum

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In this presentation we will:

Provide background on the need for online Enterprise Systems (ES) education

Describe the process of developing an multi-campus ES online program

Provide school and student profiles of those involved

Describe the steps needed for course roll-out

Comment on course delivery

Summarize course outcomes

Define next steps for scaling this and other courses to other schools



Background on the need for online Enterprise Systems (ES) education

The increasing retirement of ES professionals has created concern for replacing their expertise

The IBM Academic Initiative for System z has aggressively addressed this issue, but...

The number of schools/students being exposed to ES concepts is not sufficient to fill the need

Several schools- Marist, NC A & T, Robert Morris and others- are teaching these courses but several issues must be addressed for multi-campus scalability

Students need to be able to take courses that lead toward their graduation

Most schools do not have faculty with ES expertise.

Most students need the cost of the course included in their tuition.



Developing a multi-campus ES online program

In order to provide a within-curriculum course:

Must get approval of Provost, Deans, Chairs, and Faculty

For me to teach the course I had to go through the application process

Must convince students to sign up for an elective course

Participation of a local faculty member is essential



School and student profiles of those involved

Intro to Enterprise Systems was selected as pilot course

Alcorn State was selected as the pilot school

John developed relationships with senior administrators and the computer science faculty

First students were 7 computer science students and 2 business students

Computer Science Chair Lixin Yu was a student in the class, with the goal of eventually teaching the class.



Steps needed for course roll-out

Select the course- Introduction to Enterprise Systems

Select the delivery technology - Blackboard Collaborate

Record lectures and labs

Create the quizzes and exams

Test connectivity



Comment on course delivery and course outcomes

Students who took the course were all interested in ES careers

Class met twice each week online

Attendance was usually 100%

Alcorn students outperformed A & T students on the same material

There were 5 A's 2 B's and 2 C's

Student engagement was excellent



Next steps for scaling this and other courses to other schools

The intro course will be deployed at Tennessee State this fall.

The Dept of Computer Science will own the intro course, but other units will drive different courses- School of Business will own the DB2 course, other technology units will own other courses

This method is highly scalable; spring of 2015 I hosted 100 students in 5 courses

We feel this is an excellent solution not only for the ES skills gap, but the IT skills gap





THANKS!