

ALTIUS EDUCATION'S IVY BRIDGE COLLEGE

A TECHNOLOGY-DRIVEN APPROACH TO QUALITY, AFFORDABLE COLLEGE EDUCATION

AT A GLANCE:

Organization: Altius Education

Institution: Ivy Bridge College

Accepting Students: 2009-2013

New Technology: Helix Online Learning Environment

Program Launch: 2013

Projected First-Year Enrollment: 2,000

Anticipated Students Served in First Five Years: 20,000

Geographies Served: Nationwide

Targeted Students: Students from underprivileged backgrounds, first-generation college students, and adult learners

HALLMARKS:

Helix learning platform, built for competency-based learning, learner engagement, personalization, social learning, and smart use of data

Analytics and big data woven throughout all activities, including real-time alerts and suggestions to faculty and students based on complex predictive modeling, as well as a data warehouse allowing integrated data examination for long-term improvement cycles for content, instructional design, learning environment features, application of resources, and much more

Comprehensive student support model that includes a success coach who guides and mentors students to prepare them for the rigor of college coursework, as well as staff to support students through admissions and financial aid, transfer and career counseling, and live online tutoring

Courses developed based on research in cognitive science in order to optimize student learning

Incorporates 21st-century skills such as critical thinking and effective communication in courses and can tracks and measures them

Uses project-based assignments and assessments

“ We started Ivy Bridge College with the goal of creating a more affordable way for students to earn a degree. Now with the support of Next Generation Learning Challenges, the technology we’re creating with Helix will allow us to provide a more personalized, engaging way for students to learn online and at an even lower cost. ”

PAUL FREEDMAN, ALTIUS EDUCATION

The vision of Altius Education is to provide the most effective and personalized pathway to a quality university education. Their methods to achieve this goal focus on innovations in virtual learning systems, student services, and educational pathways. To maximize their impact on producing affordable, high-quality higher education programs at large scale, Altius Education creates partnerships with existing universities, collaborating to create whole-program models that can scale and grow with the needs of the university and the students over time. In 2009, Altius created Ivy Bridge College in partnership with Tiffin University, a 2-year online college focused on building fundamental academic and personal skills, and providing transfer pathways to bachelor programs.

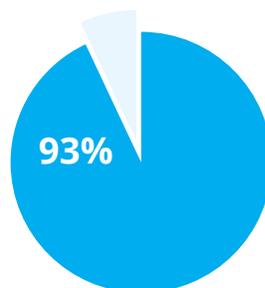
At the core of Altius’ innovative model is the promise that smart use of technology and data can take learning to the next level in terms of personalization, engagement, and

quality. Additionally, through the increased efficiency, data can enable better outcomes more quickly and lower costs through effective use of resources. To enable this innovation, Altius built Helix, a learning platform designed for highly personalized competency-based education.

The Helix platform was designed to deliver a personalized way to interact with content, instructors, and peers online through a competency-based, social, and engaging learning experience. Based on the premise that ease-of-use is critical, particularly for less-technology savvy students, Altius Education designed Helix to be intuitive so students can jump right into learning without an orientation. Helix is designed for personalized learning. Some of the highlights of the personalization features include:

- Individual learning paths: courses can be customized based on a student’s prior knowledge through a pre-test which allows

PELL-ELIGIBLE STUDENTS:



TARGET PRICE TO STUDENTS PER YEAR:

\$5,000

TARGET COST PER FTE:

\$5,000

DELIVERY:



STUDENT SUPPORT MODEL

STUDENTS:	SUCCESS COACHES:	INSTRUCTORS:	TUTORS:	GRADERS:	SUPPORT STAFF:
 <p>Identify potential problems using ongoing feedback on their progress and learning behaviors, then seek guidance and support from student services</p>	 <p>Offer professional mentoring, proactive support, and personal guidance on time management, goal-setting, academics, and college transfer</p>	 <p>Provide the first line of support, available in live instruction and online office hours as well as via email, phone, and online chat</p>	 <p>Supply targeted on-demand support for learning specific academic content</p>	 <p>Equip students with high-quality, objective feedback on assignments, projects, and exams</p>	 <p>Deliver services that include financial aid, career services, library services, and transfer support</p>

HELIX: Within Helix, every learner and teacher interaction is tracked and communicated so that students, instructors, and the university can use that information to create more effective and efficient ways to learn. If students across the board are having difficulty understanding a specific learning object, instructional designers can revisit the way the content is presented and find other ways to present the lesson to ensure student success. The platform's analytic capabilities also allow the support team to take proactive action if an individual student is struggling by suggesting additional learning materials or resources or providing targeted support. Helix includes peer-to-peer answer forums and discussion areas to facilitate collaboration and peer support.

- students to skip lesson material in topics they already know
 - Personalized pacing: If a student has not achieved mastery of a topic, instructors can assign re-writing, supplemental resources, tutoring, and additional practice, and require the student to achieve mastery in the area before moving on
 - Custom mastery levels: Helix can be tailored to a student's academic goals by requiring a different level of competency in each topic based on the student's degree and major requirements, ensuring that each student will be precisely prepared for the path they choose to pursue, and can achieve their goals as quickly as possible
- Social learning experiences like a collaborative answer forum and live instruction provide students with
- opportunities to connect with instructors and each other and create a fulfilling setting in which to work and learn. The answer forum allows students to ask questions and look up answers, answer other students' queries, vote on answers and get information from instructors. A robust integrated whiteboarding application also allows students and faculty or tutors to have meaningful interactions in real time. Helix includes an advanced faculty dashboard that gives instructors and the student support team exactly what they need to provide personalized and effective instruction in an efficient way.
 - Helix collects nearly 100 data points on performance, activity, user-generated feedback, and engagement
 - The data are reported real-time to instructors and students through a dashboard that allows access to the information they
 - need most quickly and easily
 - Faculty and support staff receive dashboard alerts when students show risk factors that may require attention, such as a sudden change in grades or log-in behavior. Using powerful predictive analytics, these alerts triangulate multiple data points including enrollment and academic history, and demographic data that can provide early indication of academic issues, and help enable the instructor to better target support and intervention.
- Course data are also examined on a more macro-level every course cycle so improvements can be made to course content, instructional design, system features, and training processes. This macro-level information can also help institutions optimize resources and target supplemental student support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Online Environment: <http://altiused.com/helix>
 Organization: <http://altiused.com> | Contact: April Worley, april.worley@altiused.com

