42 LINES

TAKING A WORLD-CLASS UNIVERSITY ONLINE

Using tailored software to make online education a reality

OUR PARTNER

Founded in San Francisco in 1929, the Academy of Art University is the largest private art and design university in the United States that helps students master their craft as they prepare for professional roles as artists, designers and filmmakers.

Over the last ten years, we have worked extensively with the Academy to develop uniquely engaging and highly integrated applications for online learning and administration. Together, we made the dream of developing an online school with a cutting-edge Learning Management System a reality.

ACADEMY of ART UNIVERSITY

FOUNDED IN SAN FRANCISCO 1929
BY ARTISTS FOR ARTISTS

We partner with institutions that educate, advocate and enrich the lives of others. Their projects go beyond achieving simple business goals—they strive to fulfill missions that make a lasting impact today, and into the future. We empower educators and learners with innovative, scalable and easy-to-use technology.

THE CHALLENGE

The Academy was searching for an effective, comprehensive approach to expand their reach to the growing number of students seeking online education and undergraduate and graduate degrees. Their goal was to offer online courses that provided the same rigorous education available on campus with greater flexibility. As a strictly onsite university, the Academy not only looked to offer engaging online courses and degree planning, but wanted a solution that integrated current recordkeeping systems, expanded teachers' capabilities and could continually meet evolving accreditation standards.

We set out to bridge the gap between technology and education and provide the system, tools and support necessary to help the Academy navigate this exciting and dramatic culture change.

THE SOLUTION

After gaining a deep understanding of the Academy's long-term goals, challenges and aspirations, we developed a Learning Management System focused on the unique needs and expectations of art, design and film students. The multi-phase project achieved the Academy's objectives, while allowing the ability to recalibrate and refocus as necessary.

Additionally to expanding the Academy's classroom, we also built custom administrative features that integrate departments and unite the campus as one. The result was a LMS that contained all classes, profiles, news, assignments, grades, ESL support and much more.

THE OUTCOME

The Academy became groundbreakers in online art education—creating engaging, effective and life-filled online courses that offer the same benefits as on site instruction and peer critiques. They offer a comprehensive online learning environment that supports advanced multimedia handling, collaborative work spaces and synchronous livestreams.

With an individualized, flexible infrastructure, the Academy extended their reach to a whole new world of students and became as creative and innovative as the courses they offer. Students receive real-time support and can create the experience that's right for them—whether they choose all online classes, all on campus or a combination of both. Plus, by creating a tailor-made immersive journey, students stay engaged and invested in their own success while instructors have the tools they need to thrive.

The new LMS seamlessly integrated with existing external systems, allowing the entire university to move into a new era and empower more students to advance from admission to graduation.

900+
Online Courses

35
Online Majors

1500+
Instructional Videos

50+
Countries

The Academy of Art University offers over 900 online courses spanning 35 online majors, using 1,500 instructional videos per semester to teach students from 50+ countries.

From design and development to launch and beyond, we partner with you every step of the way to find solutions, integrate new technology and bring your vision to life.

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THE RESULTS

‣ Uniquely designed Learning Management System (LMS) that creates an immersive online educational experience

‣ Interactive classes including lecture content, video, written content, recorded audio, interactive slideshows and hands-on work

‣ An online centralized information hub and collaborative space for students and instructors

‣ Students can submit work online for evaluation, instructors provide detailed, timely feedback

‣ Interactive discussion tool where users can upload media, engage in conversations and offer feedback by marking up images and video

‣ Comprehensive and scalable web-based applications that utilize responsive design to allow teachers and students to be in class on the go

‣ Streamlined business processes between students, instructors and administrators

‣ Innovative instructor tools including virtual office hours, speedy grading and student progress tracker

‣ Curriculum map and degree planner to keep students engaged and on track toward goals

‣ Online Student Academic Support (OSAS) devoted to online students to boost academic success

‣ Academy library, online music library, class discussion and how-to tutorials, academic resources, online communities, career development and guest speaker archive

‣ LMS that can evolve as new courses are built or older ones are reworked

‣ Support of accreditation goals to offer the highest quality education available

‣ Off-site disaster site in AWS that protects all data should the facility suffer a catastrophic event