



A Seamless Proctoring Experience for Students

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Director of Distance Education and Learning Technologies for TAMU-CC



Texas A&M-Corpus Christi meets online exam challenges head on

Texas A&M University Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) supports the learning needs of thousands of students throughout the state of Texas and beyond. With intense competition for learners, coming especially from community colleges, TAMU-CC's Island Online (named for the University's unique island location) is committed to providing a flexible, seamless, and affordable experience for its students. The university has 14 highly-regarded online degree programs, including nursing, business, and education. They also have continuing education and certificate offerings.

Many of the online courses offered at the university require proctoring. Despite university efforts to help secure site-based exam locations, the process added considerable time-consuming administration, faculty and students. In addition, test-takers were responsible to pay for the proctoring and any costs associated with traveling to the test site. Since many test-takers were coming from rural areas, some were forced to miss work to meet class requirements. This became especially impractical for those students who had weekly exams.

Supportive faculty at Texas A&M grew concerned and collaborated to find an online proctoring solution that would be easy to use, secure and cost-effective. After looking at a number of products, they chose Examity for these reasons, and because of its exceptional integration directly with Blackboard Learn, TAMU-CC's learning management system.

Tiered approach provides the security and flexibility Texas A&M-Corpus Christi requires

Dr. Lauren Cifuentes, Director of Distance Education and Learning Technologies for TAMU-CC, spearheaded the search. “We piloted a number of different solutions,” Dr. Cifuentes says, “And Examity really stood out. One aspect that was critical was Examity's flexible exam levels and fee structure. Rather than setting a fixed offering, they provided a sliding scale that meant that the university had the ability to control costs for the students based on the course needs. Examity's rigorous security was also critical in assuring our faculty members that our standards could be met.” Additional elements also set Examity apart. “Examity's integration with Blackboard Learn was very important to us, as Learn is the environment that our faculty and students live in. Providing a consistent experience helps enhance the overall perception of our school. I also want to mention that, throughout the trial, our experience with Examity customer service was terrific.”

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Dr. Lauren Cifuentes

Director of Distance Education
and Learning Technologies for
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Easier for faculty, easier for students

At TAMU-CC, both faculty and students find Examiity extremely easy to use. From the faculty perspective, Examiity takes care of the paperwork overhead and auditing burden: information is sent out from Examiity, web links are provided for inclusion in the syllabus, audit information is sent to faculty members with any potential problem areas red flagged. “When we introduced Examiity, we offered some webinars, but word got out that the training really wasn’t needed. The faculty and student guides are very clear and straightforward. And when people do have an issue, they’re able to get help from customer support, 24/7, just in time.”

The caliber of support offered by Examiity is best described by one of our students who has taken tests via Examiity a number of times. “One time in particular stands out because my laptop had an equipment failure,” she wrote. “Examiity support was more than understanding, assisted me in identifying the failure, and patiently waited for me to find a work-around. Because of her support, I was able to continue and take my exam.”

Integration with Blackboard Learn is essential

For Texas A&M – Corpus Christi, Examiity’s seamless integration with Blackboard Learn is essential for both students and faculty. The integration, created through the Examiity Building Block, enables single sign-on and automatic importing of relevant test information. Tiered security levels allow TAMU-CC to choose the combination of services that make the most sense from the school level down to the course level. FERPA and ADA compliance protect data and ensure accessibility. “For us, the integration with Learn is not a ‘nice to have,’ it’s a ‘must have,” says Dr. Cifuentes. Faculty use Examiity from within the Blackboard environment, and students can access Examiity through their classes. “There’s just one place for everything, and people aren’t being pulled into multiple environments. As we look to create a more fluid learning experience, that’s important for us.”

Examiity passes the Texas A&M – Corpus Christi test

Examiity is passing a number of critical tests:

- It’s offering students greater flexibility and a less costly way to take proctored exams.
- Faculty members spend less time worrying about the mechanics of testing, without having to make any compromises when it comes to security.

To learn more about Examiity’s online proctoring solution,
visit blackboard.com/partnership/partner-details/examiity