



SHARING
LEARNING
ACHIEVING

project-delta.org


PROJECT DELTA



A U.S. Department of Education FIPSE-funded project

Special Focus Competition:

Innovative Strategies for Working Adults
and Displaced Workers

Three-year grant: \$728,112

WHAT IS IT?

Florida State College at Jacksonville, in partnership with George Mason University and Iowa State University, is pleased to introduce Project DELTA, a FIPSE-funded endeavor to address the national need for postsecondary change in the approach to the retention and success of nontraditional students returning to college.

Through a national consortium, Project DELTA provides a turnkey solution to meet college and university needs, including faculty training and complete course materials packages developed by SIRIUS Academics. SIRIUS Academics was designed as a low-cost program for students that concentrates on general education courses, including those covering basic educational skills such as mathematics and English.

"I have to say that the
communication
process
through online courses
is **amazing.**

I never thought it would be
so easy and fun
to take classes online.
I can communicate with people
and they do not judge me by
my age, sex, or nationality."

Student in a SIRIUS Academics
psychology course

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FIPSE

Fund for the Improvement
of Postsecondary Education

Project DELTA

Disseminating Effective
Learning Through Automation

Often, returning students seeking degrees do not have the fundamental skills needed to advance academically. According to the 2011 ACT report *The Condition of College & Career Readiness*, “about 1 in 4 ACT-tested high school students met all four College Readiness Benchmarks in 2011.” These benchmarks include English, reading, mathematics, and science. “Fully 28% of all graduates did not meet any of the College Readiness Benchmarks.”

SIRIUS Academics also provides faculty training through the Online Professor Certificate program, which focuses on a combination of learning and motivation theory applied to higher education pedagogy. Furthermore, a support system of faculty mentors who have participated in SIRIUS Academics training is in place to provide continued support.

More than 700 faculty members have participated in the training programs (developed through a previous FIPSE grant). SIRIUS Academics courses are in use at Florida State College as well as at community colleges and other institutions of higher education. Full information on SIRIUS Academics is available online at www.siriusacademics.org.

After being out of high school
for 25 years, I was
a little timid about returning
to college. **I was an
average math
student** in high school and
I found that the most terrifying
thing about furthering my
education was math.

After taking two SIRIUS
Academics math classes, I can
proudly proclaim that **I am
a math guru!** I have
never seen a math book
or program **more
comprehensive or
user friendly.**

Student in a SIRIUS Academics
mathematics course

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Consortium Membership

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SIRIUS Academics courses are complete course materials packages designed to be taught in any delivery mode—fully online, hybrid/blended, or face-to-face. Each course includes original course content and all supporting materials, including a syllabus, guidelines for instructors, learning activities, and assessments. All materials are digitized and available in most learning management systems.

Emphasis is on the development of highly creative, interactive courses enhanced with technology, making use of the latest research in learning and motivation. The content and pedagogy are developed by teams comprised of faculty, instructional designers, multimedia specialists, quality assurance staff, and external, nationally known content reviewers.

Twenty-five high-enrollment/high student-demand courses have been developed as SIRIUS Academics courses. The following courses are currently available:

Basic Skills

Reading Skills
Introduction to English Composition
Basic College Mathematics
Elementary Algebra
Strategies for Success in College, Career, and Life

Communications, Languages, & Humanities

English Composition I
English Composition II
Introduction to Literature
Humanities: Foundations
Fundamentals of Public Speaking
World Religions
Introduction to Philosophy

Social Sciences, Education, & Business

General Psychology
Human Growth and Development
Human Relations in Business and Industry
Introductory Sociology
United States History to 1865
United States History From 1865 to the Present
Principles of Economics I: Macroeconomics
World Geography

Natural Science & Mathematics

College Algebra
Intermediate Algebra
Elementary Statistics
Topics in College Mathematics
Life in Its Biological Environment
Biology Laboratory



Complete package includes

- Course content
- Learning activities
- Discussion questions
- Assessments

Consortium

Anne Arundel Community College – MD	Langston University – OK
Atlantic Cape Community College – NJ	Lord Fairfax Community College – VA
Burlington County College – NJ	Missouri State University-West Plains – MO
Camden County College – NJ	Morton College – IL
Central Piedmont Community College – NC	Mountain View College – TX
Cumberland County College – NJ	North Central Texas College – TX
Daemen College – NY	Pellissippi State Community College – TN
Essex County College – NJ	Snead State Community College – AL
Florida State College – FL	Southern University at Shreveport – LA
Genesee Community College – NY	Sussex County Community College – NJ
Indian River State College – FL	Union County College – NJ
Ivy Tech Community College – IN	<i>Updated March 2012</i>

CONSORTIUM MEMBERSHIP

Benefits to Participating Faculty in Member Institutions

- \$1,000 per faculty member per year
- Free registration at the *International Conference on College Teaching and Learning*. Visit www.teachlearn.org for more information
- Up to \$500 per faculty member for travel to the conference
- Free faculty training
- Free online career counseling for students

Membership Agreements

- Participating institutions guarantee the participation of five faculty members per year
- Participating faculty members beta test (teach) five sections of SIRIUS Academics courses per year

Patti Levine Brown, MPA, EdS

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Co-Director and Co-Principal Investigator

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WorkSource, Florida Region 8 Workforce Development Board
www.siriusacademics.org
