



**TALLAHASSEE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
Division of Technology and
Professional Programs

Location:

Tallahassee, Florida

Program Enrollment:

1,500 students per year

Success Metrics:

- Exams validate current course curriculum
- Gives students workforce skills in high school
- Industry-recognized certification to build resumes



Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC³) Becomes Part of Required Computer Literacy Course

Tallahassee Community College Validates Basic Computer Skills to Prepare Students for College Studies and Workforce

CHALLENGE

Tallahassee Community College (TCC) serves 20,000 students in Florida with more than 80 associate's degree and certificate programs.

The Division of Technology and Professional Programs offers two computer applications courses to meet student needs. The Computer Literacy course is a general elective for all college students who may need to meet a particular program requirement and also satisfies TCC's requirement for demonstrating computer literacy. The Microcomputer Applications for Business course is for students majoring in any business field and is a required prerequisite at several universities.

TCC administrators wanted to make a distinction between these two courses since both were centered on the Microsoft Office suite. As they began to redesign the Computer Literacy course, the challenge was to ensure the new course aligned with industry needs.

SOLUTION

TCC had heard of Certiport's Internet and Core Computing (IC³) exam at a League of Innovation Conference several years earlier, and they began to explore implementing IC³ certification into the Computer Literacy course.

"IC³ certification was the perfect solution," said Margaret Cooksey, Chair, Computer Literacy and OST, TCC. "The certification is recognized as a global comprehension in digital literacy, so by adopting the exam we could make sure our students met industry needs."

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Learn more about IC³ Certification.
Visit [www.certiport.com/IC³](http://www.certiport.com/IC3)
or call today at **1-800-488-9371**



Administrators and instructors were in agreement, and they redesigned the Computer Literacy course to incorporate IC³. The new course requires students to take the IC³ certification exams as tests in the course.

TCC worked closely with their bookstore and Certiport partner CCI Learning to bundle the IC³ preparation materials with three exam vouchers. The partnership allowed students to get the materials and exams at a reduced cost.

TCC also purchased practice exam vouchers for students in the beginning and ultimately acquired Certiprep licenses for two classroom labs and 15 computers in the Learning Commons to allow students to prepare and practice for the certification exams. The TCC Learning Commons is a comprehensive, integrated learning center that provides learning assistance and resources to all TCC students in the areas of math, science, and communications.

Mona Hamilton, a faculty member who works on the IC³ initiative, says practice exams let students succeed. “We gear our classroom instruction toward our textbook and our exams, but the students really need a space to work on preparing outside the class.”

RESULTS

During the first semester IC³ certification was offered at TCC, 85 Computer Literacy students obtained certification. The popularity of the exam has grown, and in 5 semesters, 539 students have earned certification.

“We get a lot of feedback from students who tell us that getting IC³ certified has helped them in their jobs, or even gotten them a promotion or raise,” said Cooksey. “Many of the students who take the Computer Literacy course go onto further studies, and we believe the technical skills they learn in that course better prepare them for college and the workforce.”

IC³ used to be optional for students, but now TCC is making it an official exam in the Computer Literacy course. “We expect an increase in certifications now that we are making it a requirement,” said Cooksey.

Charles Sanders, a TCC adjunct faculty member and IC³ proctor, says certification is very helpful on his students’ resumes and as they seek jobs or promotions. “One of my students last semester got IC³ certified, turned the certification into his employer and got a \$4,000 pay increase,” said Sanders. “So that, to me, would be an incentive.”

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