# Blackboard®

University of Illinois at Chicago's College of Applied Health Sciences brings state-of-the-art learning to today's students with Jones & Bartlett Learning and Blackboard

THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

JONES & BARTLETT LEARNING
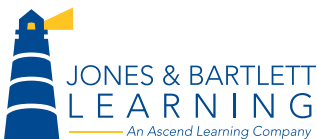*An Ascend Learning Company*

## Challenges

The University of Illinois at Chicago's 15 colleges are "dedicated to the discovery and distribution of knowledge." Part of the school's educational commitment is to train professionals in a broad range of public service disciplines, including those related to healthcare. When the College of Applied Health Sciences began offering online courses and transitioned their face-to-face classes to blended learning, they needed a solution that would meet the needs of today's students for a more engaging learning experience, while also helping instructors provide that experience.

## Solution

Health Information Management faculty tap Jones & Bartlett Learning's Navigate 2 resources – eBooks, assessments, student study aids, tests, simulations, full instructor resources and more – to help ensure that their students have the enriched learning environment students demand. Navigate 2 is tightly integrated with Blackboard Learn, offering students a seamless learning experience. And thanks to Blackboard Collaborate, online learners from around the world are able to attend classes in real time or watch lecture recordings at the time and place of their choosing.

## On campus or online, students look for an engaging experience

When Lois Hitchcock began teaching at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) in 2000, the health information management courses she taught were entirely face-to-face (F2F). Then, in 2009, UIC's College of Applied Health Sciences began offering online programs. Today, the university offers both an online and on-campus bachelor's degree in health information management, as well as a post-baccalaureate certificate that is entirely online. Instructors are responsible for both in person and virtual classes. "If we're teaching on campus, we're also teaching online," Professor Hitchcock says. Over time, the F2F approach transitioned, and all in-person courses are now blended.

"We wanted to make sure that online and on-campus students were exposed to the same materials, so that they are all learning the same things. With a growing body of online resources available, it just made sense to incorporate them into learning for all students," explained Hitchcock. This dovetailed with the fact that today's students are looking for a more interactive and engaging experience than they were in the past. "Nobody wants to listen to us reading PowerPoints," says Hitchcock.

## Navigate 2 provides compelling content that goes far beyond the textbook

The challenge for instructors was creating the required variety of online content and keeping it up to date. That's where Jones & Bartlett Learning's Navigate 2 came into play. "I had been using Shi and Singh's *Delivering Healthcare in America*, a Jones & Bartlett Learning publication, in two of my classes. When Navigate 2 was introduced in 2015, it just made sense to adopt it. The tools are excellent, and it's tightly integrated with Blackboard Learn, UIC's LMS." Navigate 2 provides a rich set of learning tools for *Delivering Healthcare*, as well as other textbooks. These include the eBook version of the text, chapter objectives, vocabulary flashcards, practice activities, assessments, and simulations.

While Navigate 2 is used for both online and on-campus classes, Professor Hitchcock finds it especially compelling for her in-person classes, where she deploys a flipped classroom approach. "I want my students to have read and understood the chapter we're working on before they come to class." Students are required to complete an exercise the night before class. This enables Hitchcock to devote classroom time to different learning activities. When students were studying the history of healthcare, they had breakouts in which the students discussed what was occurring during different decades. When they were looking at current healthcare, Hitchcock had the students go to the computer lab to research and compare different healthcare systems. "I've found that taking this hands-on approach helps the student really learn and acquire a deeper understanding of material than they could by just reading a textbook and taking notes during a lecture." Overall, she finds that her students are more engaged. "When they've done their prework, they get to dive into something more interesting and involving in the classroom. This generation of students isn't interested in writing papers and listening to lectures. They want to be involved," Hitchcock adds.

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**Lois Hitchcock**
Health information management professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago

**Navigate 2 resources**

› eBooks
› Assessments
› Student study aids
› Tests
› Simulations
› Full instructor resources
› and more

*" Having Blackboard Learn lets me be much more organized. When a new semester is starting, I no longer have to search through paper file folders. My syllabi, exercises…everything's there in one place for me to make whatever minor changes I need to make and, 'presto', it's done."*

**Lois Hitchcock**
Health information management professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago

## Integration with Blackboard means a seamless environment for students and instructors

The deep linking features of Navigate 2's integration with Blackboard Learn is key for both instructors and students. "The students have just one place they need to go to, one login they need to know, and they can take care of all their learning in just one place: reading the text book, accessing course materials, taking practice and actual quizzes and tests, finding their grades. It's very easy for students to navigate." Blackboard Learn is also invaluable to instructors. "Having Blackboard Learn lets me be much more organized. When a new semester is starting, I no longer have to search through paper file folders. My syllabi, exercises…everything's there in one place for me to make the changes I need to make and, 'presto', it's done. Grade syncing is also a real time saver: no more copying grades from one application to the next, which is time consuming and has the potential for errors." In addition to using Blackboard Learn, Hitchcock uses Blackboard Collaborate for her online courses. "Our online students are everywhere. While a few attend classes in real time, most learn where and when they can. Collaborate recordings let them do so."

With Hitchcock as a champion, her peers have also adopted Navigate 2. She credits the combination of Blackboard Learn and Jones & Bartlett Learning's Navigate 2 with providing "greater efficiency and productivity for us instructors." For students, it offers the more engaging and interactive experience they're demanding, which leads to deeper learning.

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