

Increasing Student Engagement at Brazosport College

Mango Languages increases student engagement with classroom, campus, and culture at Brazosport College.

With a student body of over 4,000, Brazosport has a substantial group of international students, speaking languages including Spanish, Japanese, Korean, Malayalam, and Levantine Arabic, along with English.



CONNECTING WITH THE CAMPUS

Meet Brent Cooper, the reference librarian and library service director for Brazosport College. Located in Lake Jackson, Texas, Brazosport College is a public college offering a broad range of courses for students looking to complete Associate's and Bachelor's degrees or to receive occupational certificates.

As the main point of contact for students, staff, and faculty regarding the Brazosport College Library's offerings, Brent is tasked with making sure the library is up to date and full of the resources Brazosport students need for their studies. Brent takes care to ensure the library is an innovative and welcoming center for everyone in the Brazosport community.

BOOSTING ESL/ELL OFFERINGS WITH MANGO LANGUAGES

Without language-learning assistance, Brent felt that international students weren't able to integrate as well into the community — and those who spoke English as a first language were missing out on an important facet of learning. As part of his job, he needed to find a solution that would help Brazosport students communicate with each other easily, no matter what their native language was — and that solution needed to be price-efficient, easy-to-implement, and applicable across language departments, including ELL/ESL classes. After hearing about Mango Languages from others in the academic library sector, he decided the amazing customer service, easy-to-use interface, and inexpensive license might be worth a try. Working with Mango Languages' dedicated reps, Brent made the decision to purchase Mango Languages and implement it as a campus resource.

400+
unique sessions at
Brazosport College

29

avg. minutes per session students used Mango Languages

A SIMPLE, MEASURABLE SOLUTION

The Mango Languages installation was easy for Brent: all he needed to do was purchase the program and set up his administrator dashboard. Then, students could log in on their own, using a computer or the Mango Languages app on their mobile device, and start learning. Brent loved that he could track student usage and activity to see how well Mango Languages was meeting his learning community's needs.

Brent observed over 4,000 unique sessions in Mango Languages within the first year and students spent an average of 29 minutes using the product per session. It was clear Brent had made a wise investment, and student feedback was telling him the same. Soon after installing Mango Languages, Brent saw language departments taking full advantage of the product. Every language department was using Mango Languages in some form, whether by including it as part of their curriculum or offering it as a supplemental resource. Brent even worked directly with one Spanish class to integrate Mango Languages directly into their curriculum, helping the professor use the administrator dashboard to track students' activity, check scores, and integrate the students' progress with Mango into their overall grade. Students appreciated the practical, conversation-based software and told Brent how much they loved the "pizzazz" of the Mango Languages lessons and mascot.

PROVIDING AN "ADDICTING" SOLUTION FOR ELL STUDENTS

In order to get a fuller picture of how Mango Languages was being used in the classroom, Brent sat down with Rosie Kilmer, an ESL/ELL tutor, to learn how she was using Mango to help her students.

As a tutor. Rosie sees students four times a week for three-hour sessions, where she facilitates English language learning for up to 38 students at once. For Rosie, it was imperative that students were exposed to different voices speaking English, so they could learn to understand different tones, accents, and speech patterns. In order to enhance student learning, Rosie implemented a 30-minute Mango Languages lesson into her tutoring sessions. Mango Languages provided students with the exposure to native speakers Rosie wanted — and more. The adult-friendly, real-life approach to language learning helped students without making them feel patronized, and the fact that Mango Languages is available on mobile devices was wildly appealing. Rosie saw students reacting positively to the program, with one even saying he was "addicted" to it!

30

minute Mango Languages' lessons implemented as supplemental learning by Rosie Kilmer, ESL/ELL tutor

THE PERFECT SOLUTION FOR BRAZOSPORT'S NEEDS

Together, Brent and Rosie agreed that as long as Mango Languages was a viable solution for the Brazosport community, they would continue to offer it in the classroom and in the library. Brent will "fight for it" to stay in the library offerings and loves the attention to customer service. Mango Languages has even inspired him to take up a new language himself. After Mango Languages was such a hit with the campus community, he decided to take the *Spanish for Librarians* course a try!

Mango Languages was easily implemented, cost-effective, and impactful — and as an added benefit, Brent saw that not only was it helping to enhance language-learning for students, but it was providing a connection between the classroom and the library. Between bringing classes to the library to help them get started with Mango Languages, to working with instructors on how to customize Mango Languages' offerings to their needs, Brent felt that he had a stronger connection with the rest of the campus.

Mango Languages gave Brent the solution he was looking for to help international and language-learning students at Brazosport College develop the language and culture-learning skills they needed to succeed.

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT



Guided by its core purpose to enrich lives with language and culture, Mango Languages creates practical and engaging online language-learning experiences for libraries, schools, corporations, government agencies, and individuals around the world.

Visit us online at mangolanguages.com for more info.
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