Accelerated Summer College

What is self-paced e-learning?

One of the key features of the Accelerated Summer College (ASC) program is its use of innovative “self-paced learning platforms” blended with mentorship by faculty.

The ASC model addresses some of the key drawbacks of online education while making good use of its best features and the highly effective “flipped classroom” teaching style.

You may have heard about common challenges around purely online learning:

1. Student retention
2. Procrastination, staying motivated
3. Completion rates

The ASC self-paced e-learning platform addresses these issues by incorporating the best of leading textbook publisher content (in innovative online adaptive learning modules and etextbooks) together with face to face classroom time with ASC faculty mentors. These revolutionary new adaptive learning modules adapt to the student’s individual learning style and work by “...ensuring that each student is deliberately practicing the concepts that they need to learn or are struggling with, and identifying and bringing back the content that the student is most likely to forget.”¹ The “flipped classroom” model is well described in an Educause Learning Initiative document:

“The value of a flipped class is in the repurposing of class time into a workshop where students can inquire about ... content, test their skills in applying knowledge, and interact with one another in hands-on activities. During class sessions, instructors function as coaches or advisors [ASC faculty mentors], encouraging students in individual inquiry and collaborative effort... As on-site experts, instructors suggest various approaches, clarify content, and monitor progress.”²

By utilizing this “flipped classroom” with designated face to face instructor time together with the best of e-learning platforms, ASC faculty address the primary challenges of online learning head on. Students are actively involved with their instructors and classmates and the instructor regularly monitors the student’s progress as he or she works in the online learning modules (and can address any issues early on). We are also confident that the program’s high level of student engagement, personal attention from our faculty mentors, regular face to face classroom time and experiential learning opportunities will dramatically improve student success.

² Educause Learning Initiative. 7 things you should know about Flipped Classrooms. February 2012.