

Offering flexibility through MATC Online

Delivering online tools to students with geographic and time constraints

Manhattan Area Technical College (MATC), located in Manhattan, Kansas, aims to provide quality technical and general education to prepare students for careers in various technological fields. With around 500 students and 38 instructors, and about 70-80 course offerings per year, MATC offers associate of applied science degrees and technical certificates in specialties such as air conditioning and refrigeration, building trades, practical nursing and welding technology.

The faculty and staff members are constantly looking for ways to provide a comprehensive program and continue to improve all aspects of programs within the college. This can prove daunting, as many students face time restrictions. Since 2004, MATC has been meeting the needs of its students with the assistance of Axio, or MATC Online.

MATC utilizes Axio's course management tools to deliver an interactive, Web-based classroom experience to students. This allows students with time and geographic location constraints to enhance their learning with the flexibility of learning over the Internet using the course organizer, modules, calendar, profiles, chat room, white board, file drop box, e-mail instructor, groups and gradebook.

Online distance students can access assignments by going to the Modules tool, and can drop off their assignments via the E-mail Instructor tool. Students who are enrolled in on-campus classes also benefit from Axio, as their instructors can post modules that will complement in-class discussions. Students and teachers can also communicate through the use of Axio's chat room tool or message board.

"Axio Learning complements my in-class teaching by allowing me the opportunity to supplement my courses with on-line information, quizzes and assignments that are available at any time to the student. Many times, course lecture information that I have given to the student may not be totally clear and by having that information available or supplementing it with more learning activities, it allows for a much greater opportunity for student success. I am using the Axio Learning more extensively this semester and I have been very pleased with the role it has played in my students' success this semester."

Monty Enright
MATC CAD Drafting Instructor