

# CASE STUDY

## CollegeScope<sup>®</sup> helps South Louisiana Community College students succeed



South Louisiana Community College (SLCC), established in 1997, was created as a public, two-year institution of higher learning with campuses in Lafayette and New Iberia. In 1999, it joined other community and technical colleges in the state as part of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

On July 1, 2012, South Louisiana Community College merged with Acadiana Technical

Technical College (ATC), making it one of Louisiana's largest, most comprehensive community colleges.

In 2016-17 the school served 8,750 for-credit students, 53% attending full time. Ethnic diversity for SLCC is 38% African American, 51% Caucasian, and the remainder comprised of Latino, Native American, Asian and multiracial students.



Current student population is roughly divided into two segments:

1. Students acquiring credits and grades to transfer into Louisiana institutions
2. Students who are attending the school to earn Associates and Technical degrees from the institution.

SLCC has tried several FYE textbooks for both remedial and a student success programs over past academic years, offered as optional and required courses for credit. The school selected a textbook version of an established FYE student success program which was well received by faculty and students, however there was some controversy over the cost of having to buy and use a physical book. A self-developed course was implemented, which was perceived to be disjointed and was not well received by faculty or students, in addition to being a challenge to maintain.

As a result, the school began to look for an online course that did not require the purchase of a physical text; after a competitive search SLCC selected CollegeScope. It is offered as a 15 week, Freshman 1000 level course for credit.

CollegeScope is integrated into the institution's Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) and allows faculty to track

student progress, communicate with them, and upload grades and comments saving faculty considerable time each week grading students, allowing for more time to comment and communicate with student on their progress. This has been perceived by faculty as a major benefit of the CollegeScope implementation.

Throughout the search for a new freshman seminar book, SLCC wanted a book that was user friendly for both students and faculty. CollegeScope easily integrated with their Learning Management System which allowed assignments and quizzes to automatically populate into each course. This timesaving measure allows faculty to easily access student assignments as well as grade and then upload grades immediately for student viewing. In addition, their Learning Management System automatically notifies students when their grades have been updated.

During the 2016-17 academic year, 2003 first-year students completed the CollegeScope curriculum. On average, students experienced a 17-point increase between pre-chapter survey scores and the post-chapter quizzes, demonstrating mastery of critical Student Success and FYE concepts like study skills, time management and healthy habits.



## CollegeScope has been well received by students...



*“Overall, I like the CollegeScope book provided with this course and I am enjoying the tasks required for its completion. I particularly like how they incorporate Ted talks and links to SLCC resources that I would not have known otherwise is available.”*

*“The CollegeScope book is fairly easy to adjust to and to understand, I like how at the end of each section they ask for feedback.”*

*“CollegeScope is pretty simple and easy to understand. I’m learning new things and am enjoying it so far.”*

*“I am adjusting fine to the CollegeScope book. It is very easy to understand and navigate. It is very informative. I have learned a lot about myself and realize that I am on the correct path.”*

*“I like the College Scope Book, I enjoyed the quizzes that try to give me an idea of my personality and the jobs that would best suit me. One quiz reinforced the choice that I have made in regards to my degree because the position was listed as one of the suggested careers for my personality. It helped make my goals concrete for me in a way.”*

*“CollegeScope is very user friendly.”*

*“The CollegeScope program is extremely interesting. It was actually pretty spot on when it came to assessing my personality type. The fact that this program contains information that we will actually use to succeed in life is probably why I like it so much. I feel I will gain a lot of useful knowledge from this course and the CollegeScope program.”*