

Customer Success Story:

Florida Virtual School



K-12 | World Language Credit Virtual Program



Implementing student-centric online blended instruction.

Challenge

Florida Virtual School (FLVS) needed a technology solution to complement virtual instruction that focused on conversational Spanish at beginning levels of study, opening the door for higher levels of study. Requiring alignment to standards, FLVS sought a program that would complement the virtual classroom to deliver a credit-bearing Spanish 1 course to online participants. The school looked for a solution that would emphasize speaking and listening skills as well as provide a motivating, engaging, and interactive environment. With a focus on part-time students, the school wanted a program giving students access to a foreign language course outside of the regular school day. Last, the virtual school needed a solution that could expedite study for participants allowing students to earn credit through a shortened semester offering.

Implementation

FLVS developed a new Spanish 1 course integrating Rosetta Stone® Language Lessons Version 3 with virtual instruction from FLVS teachers. The program required:

- Students to complete the one-credit course in two, 14-week segments
- Pre-test and post-test on course materials
- Prescribed weekly pacing guide that included program activities, practice assignments, reflection activities, and discussion-based assessments
- Regular reporting and analysis of student progress

Benefits

As a result of the Rosetta Stone implementation, FLVS realized the following benefits:

- Increased emphasis on speaking and listening skills
- Expedited offering reducing course completion time by 12.5%
- Complemented virtual classroom pedagogy and delivery with a conversational-focused solution
- Aligned to standards for credit-bearing offering



"The collaboration of Rosetta Stone and FLVS provides students with an immersion program along with award-winning pedagogy that includes student and teacher interaction on a regular basis, relevant standards-based assessments, and collaborative online live lessons."

Pascale Jones,
Curriculum Specialist
World Languages,
Florida Virtual School

Commitment to design

Through a student-centric approach to course development, FLVS follows a well-defined instructional design process when creating a new curriculum. In developing this online Spanish 1 curriculum, the course was carefully crafted around required world language standards. The goal was to ensure that the blended solution of virtual classroom instruction and the Rosetta Stone® solution met requirements for credit. A pacing chart was developed to provide students an outline of weekly curriculum activities and practice assignments, including prescribed Rosetta Stone program components. Live online sessions, facilitated by FLVS language-certified teachers, offer direct instruction each week to reinforce and build upon program content. Understanding the importance of placing strong emphasis on culture and connections, developers created cultural activities in the form of required reflection assignments.

Assessing progress

FLVS included many components for assessing learner progress in the course. First, every student is required to take a pre-test, developed and designed by FLVS instructors, at the beginning of each course segment. A post-test is administered at the end of the segment to measure learner progress and retention. Utilizing Norman Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK) levels, discussion-based assessments (DBAs) are written and included in the curriculum. These activities, facilitated by FLVS teachers, assess spoken language skills. Last, reflection assignments provide evaluation of writing skills by FLVS teachers.

Focus on communication

In addition to communicating course requirements via the pacing chart, FLVS focuses on regular communication with both students participating in the program and their parents. Before a learner can begin study with the course they are required to participate in a welcome call with their assigned teacher, orienting them to course requirements, processes, and expectations. Teachers schedule monthly calls with parents to discuss student performance and to receive feedback on the course in general. FLVS teachers are required to communicate weekly with each individual student and all communication is documented in the FLVS course system. Teachers increase weekly communication with students that have less than a B average, providing individual assistant and prescriptive activities to improve student performance. Through an effective communication plan, FLVS enables student success in the program.

"The combination of the Rosetta Stone product and the expertise of FLVS teachers will give students an opportunity to learn Spanish in a non-traditional conversation-based course."

Pascale Jones,
Curriculum Specialist
World Languages, Florida Virtual School



About Florida Virtual School

Florida Virtual School (FLVS) is an established leader in developing and providing virtual K-12 education solutions to students all over Florida, the U.S., and the world. A nationally recognized e-Learning model and recipient of numerous awards, FLVS was founded in 1997 and was the country's first state-wide, Internet-based public high school. Today, FLVS serves students in grades K-12 and provides a variety of custom solutions for schools and districts to meet student needs.

 www.flvs.net

About Rosetta Stone

Rosetta Stone is a global leader in technology-driven language and learning solutions for individuals, classrooms, and entire organizations.

Our scalable, interactive solutions have been used by over 12,000 businesses, 9,000 public sector organizations, and 22,000 education institutions worldwide, and by millions of learners in over 150 countries.

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