

How Ranger College Reaches Beyond Its Geographical Location

Sourcing STEM Courses and Increasing Access



COURSE SHARING CHAMPION

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Ranger College (RC) is one of the fastest-growing two-year colleges in the nation. Its location might be rural, but as a Teaching Institution, RC enrolls a vast international student population. RC is also a member of the DigiTex consortium, which powers course sharing among community colleges in Texas. DigiTex focuses on expanding access to STEM courses at rural institutions and ensures every learner in the state has access to in-demand courses, no matter where they live. As a rural school, Ranger College experienced the challenges of finding instructors to teach physics and enrolling enough students to host that course on campus. However, course sharing through the DigiTex consortium allows RC to offer courses like chemistry, physics, and other higher-level math courses.

Course sharing also helps Ranger College find additional sources of revenue. As a Home Institution, RC has made an impact on 136 students since beginning its course sharing journey in 2020. As a Teaching Institution, RC taught 96 students—with a steady increase year-over-year—and generated \$18,000 net new revenue for the college by selling empty seats.

Ranger College Fast Facts



- Ranger, Texas
- One of the fastest-growing two-year colleges
- Started course sharing in the fall of 2020



“As a rural school, we're landlocked. Part of our challenge is finding instructors to teach some higher level science and math courses, and we traditionally haven't had enough students to run a full course. We started course sharing to help us staff and offer chemistry, physics, and higher-level math courses.”

- Gabe Lewis

Course Sharing Opens Doors for Students

As Ranger College utilized course sharing, they saw increased enrollments in the May term that traditionally didn't attract a lot of students. Course sharing freed the college from worrying about whether a course would enroll enough students to be offered on campus and helped expand student access. It has also empowered accurate advising and helps keep students on their academic pathway. Before course sharing, students had more limited access. If they took a course that didn't transfer into their degree program, the student lost time and money. Course sharing expands RC's catalog and enhances transfer pathways.

When asked about the future of course sharing at Ranger College, Gabe Lewis reflected, "I see unlimited potential. It excites me because I'm seeing the potential happen. If you look at course sharing across the board, it's opening doors for the students here."

136

Students impacted
since Fall 2020

"I get excited seeing the impact of course sharing
and the doors it opens for our students."

- Gabe Lewis

Ranger College utilizes course sharing to
generate revenue and save students time and
money as a Home Institution and Teaching
Institution by:

- + Filling open course seats and building alternative revenue streams
- + Facilitating staffing for and offering of higher-level STEM courses
- + Helping students progress on their educational pathway
- + Increasing student access by expanding course catalogs