



Empowering Student Futures:

COLLABORATING WITH
HBCU-MSI COURSE SHARING
FOR STUDENT SUCCESS



Hundreds of colleges and universities are leveraging course sharing to boost student retention and institutional success.

As the creator of the world’s largest course sharing network, the Acadeum team has a deep knowledge of what it takes to successfully implement course sharing to align with your institution’s strategic objectives and goals. Each day, our team helps hundreds of institutions address enrollment challenges and support student progress with course sharing.

Discover how historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and minority-serving institutions (MSIs) are implementing course sharing to boost student progress, improve institutional efficiency, and retain revenue.

TO LEARN MORE, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO
VISIT [ACADEUM.COM](https://www.acadeum.com)

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Introduction

Higher education today faces a host of challenges: affordability, student debt, falling enrollments, rising costs, a growing focus on the ROI of a college degree, and much more.

Given the disruption in the industry and forthcoming demographic shifts, colleges and universities are looking for scalable, affordable, and sustainable ways to attract and retain students, and ensure long-term institutional success.

In the last few years, hundreds of colleges and universities have embraced course sharing with like-minded institutions to:

- + Expand the breadth and depth of academic programs
- + Reach new students and markets
- + Improve student retention and graduation rates
- + Streamline processes made complicated by the transfer system
- + Recover and generate revenue
- + Deliver micro-credentials and stackable certificates

Course sharing is a powerful strategy that is within the reach of every institution.



"If your institution is struggling with limited resources or looking for ways to support traditionally underserved students, course sharing is an effective way to expand your capacity and prioritize student progression."

DR. ROSLYN CLARK ARTIS, JD, EDD
President, Benedict College

How Does Course Sharing Work?

It starts with supporting students

UP TO
43%
OF TRANSFER CREDITS ARE NOT ACCEPTED

This leads to **increased costs and time to completion** for students.
Source: Inside Higher Ed (July 2021)

A STUDENT NEEDS:

- + A required prerequisite for his major
- + To take a course at a flexible time
- + Retake a course they did not successfully complete
- + A course that his home institution doesn't offer
- + To get ahead

Without the stress of navigating the transfer course system...

Institutions use **Acadeum's course sharing platform** to meet the student's need with a pre-approved course taught by a qualified instructor at a like-minded institution.

TEACHING INSTITUTIONS

- + Offer open seats in online courses to partner schools on the Acadeum network
- + Share syllabi, learning outcomes, and faculty credentials for transparency into courses
- + Participate in Acadeum trainings to ensure course quality

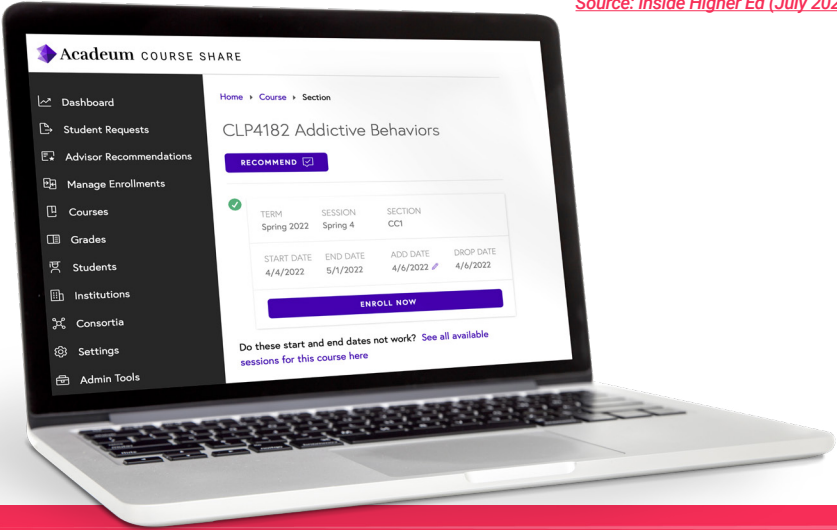
HOME INSTITUTIONS

- + Review and approve courses to enroll students
- + Maintain autonomy and oversight
- + Avoid cumbersome transfer processes that consume staff time

STUDENTS

- + Receive full credit for passed course -Financial aid applies
- + See course grades carry over to their Home Institution transcript
- + Stay on track in their educational journey

Unlike the traditional transfer course process, both institutions earn revenue, either by filling an empty seat or by retaining tuition that would have been lost to transfer.





The Power of a Network

BETTER TOGETHER

Higher education associations and collaborative groups work with Acadeum to help their members bolster student progress and increase access to flexible course options.

The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) partnered with Acadeum in March 2022 to establish the SREB HBCU-MSI Course-Sharing Consortium to enable HBCUs and MSIs to increase access to online courses and create pathways to college completion. As a result, students attending historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions can access an expansive network of courses and stay on track to graduation through this partnership.

Consortial Impact

In the first year, the consortium has:

27

Doubled its membership to 27 institutions

1,461

Shared 1,461 seats, enabling students to access classes unavailable at their home institution

775

Helped solve over 775 course availability roadblocks for students, increasing the ability of member schools to retain students in their current academic program

By working together, HBCUs and MSIs can achieve more as a critical higher education sector and enable more students to succeed.





A Focus on Wraparound Student Support

BENEDICT COLLEGE

Benedict College is invested in developing a robust student support model for course sharing, while discovering best practices through its students’ enrollment experiences. Since its first course sharing enrollment in January 2020, Benedict College students have completed over 542 courses via course sharing with an 82% pass rate, which is significantly higher than the national online course pass rate. Not only has the institution utilized Acadeum’s course inventory during traditional semesters, it also led a winter term initiative, funded by UNCF, to support graduating seniors who needed 1-2 courses to complete their degree on time, thereby reducing their course load in the spring. Since 2020, Benedict College has quadrupled its enrollment during the winter term. The college has a student-centered approach that includes understanding unique home-life situations, varying financial dependencies, and what it means for a student to take or retake a course.



“Ultimately, I would not have been able to take the next step in my education or life goals if I did not have the opportunity to take courses through the consortium.”

MIA DOUGLAS
Class of 2024, Benedict College



Benedict College prioritizes student success by keeping students on their graduation pathways, and course sharing bolsters these efforts. As a result of this emphasis, in May 2023, for its 153rd commencement, Benedict College graduated more seniors than ever. By ensuring students have access to the course options they need to progress in their chosen field, Benedict keeps students on their educational pathway and supports students until they complete graduation.



Meeting Student Needs Through Ideation and Innovation

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

Morehouse began its course sharing journey by offering students courses that are taught seasonally. Morehouse Registrar Marie Brown led a team that strategically mapped out equivalencies and identified which courses Morehouse already accepted through existing articulation agreements. The team then used those identified courses to search for similar courses within the Acadeum network. This mapping exercise benefited Morehouse because it built a preapproved Acadeum course equivalency inventory that meets qualified student needs efficiently during the advising process. By having a list of courses ready and available, it's easy to help students who need a few credits to graduate, face scheduling roadblocks, or must complete required prerequisites.



“The true benefit of course sharing is obviously the sooner a student can complete a degree, the sooner they can become leaders in their communities and their careers.”

DR. MELVIN FOSTER

Associate Professor of Voice and Associate Provost for Student Success, Morehouse College



In the initial phase of its course sharing journey, Morehouse found course sharing to be a great fit for its online programs because the courses work with the existing model of eight-week terms. Morehouse quickly ideated to use Acadeum as a bridge for students who have stopped out and for those students who are furthering their education. Many of Morehouse’s online students are over the age of twenty-six. Some of the students are returning to complete their degree, while others are enrolled because they want to apply for a promotion or be considered for higher levels of leadership. No matter the motivation, the majority of online students are laser-focused on their goal and know their academic pathway. Course sharing provides a bridge between students, academic goals, and Morehouse College. The Morehouse team credited the SREB HBCU-MSI consortium with providing numerous students with the opportunity to graduate. The Acadeum network helped Morehouse expand its academic capacity to accommodate more students on their path to graduation.



Propelling Students on the Path to Graduation

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

Tuskegee University (TU) is realizing many benefits from course sharing, including supporting students who begin jobs and need accommodation for their schedules, empowering nontraditional students returning to the classroom, and keeping students on their scheduled graduation pathway. Dr. Elaine Bromfield, registrar and research assistant professor in the Department of Food and Nutritional Sciences, reflected on the importance of participating in the graduation ceremony and celebration for both students and their families by saying, “Students want to be a part of the graduation celebration. Prior to course sharing, students who were missing a course or two would have to wait almost a year to receive their degree. Acadeum helps us to help students graduate on time and aids in our retention and persistence rates.”



SINCE 2022, TU HAS ALREADY HELPED OVER 100 STUDENTS ON THEIR GRADUATION PATH STAY ON TRACK TO WALK ACROSS THE GRADUATION STAGE.





Improving Student Progress During Summer Term

JARVIS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Jarvis Christian University is a small historically Black college with a dedicated, supportive faculty who go the extra mile to ensure students are successful. “A larger percentage of our students came to Jarvis not necessarily prepared for college-level work,” said Dr. Glenell Lee-Pruitt, president. “Maybe they didn’t expect to go to college or didn’t think they would do well. We help them get where they need to be.” After joining the Acadeum network in 2019, Jarvis saw word of mouth continue to spread through the community, as more students and faculty saw course sharing’s potential. In summer 2022, campus leaders connected 47 students to the courses they needed to catch up or get ahead, tapping offerings from trusted partners on the network.



“I work with fantastic colleagues. Once you can share how [course sharing] can help students move forward, how it complements the work faculty are doing and shows the rigor and availability of courses, it’s really not a hard sell.”

DR. GLENELL LEE-PRUITT
President, Jarvis Christian University





Looking to the Future

Course sharing is about collaborating to do together what institutions struggle to do alone. When joining the Acadeum network, colleges and universities become part of a community of academic champions working together to boost student and institutional success.

We are proud of the institutions and student-centric leaders within the Acadeum network that are creating impact through their collaborative partnerships. HBCUs and MSIs continue to shape the minds and spirits of their students, producing generations of leaders, innovators, and change-makers. Course sharing is a powerful strategy that is within reach of every institution and our team of curricular experts are here to help guide the way.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP | [ACADEUM.COM](https://Acadeum.com)

