



Client: University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

Industry: Higher Education

Client Profile: The nation's first public university; focuses on preparing a diverse student body to become creators, explorers, innovators, and leaders.

CASE STUDY

Modern Tools for Modern Problems

Ensure Your Future Teachers' Success with Microsoft Training

Today, teachers everywhere are faced with similar challenges: how to best support the various needs of their students, how to balance remote and in-classroom instruction, and how to do it all in a way that leaves them time to breathe. Educators at institutions tasked with preparing the next generation of teachers to enter the world of education—and the unpredictable job market—want to ensure their students have the tools they need to be successful educators themselves.

One toolset that many educators value is the Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) certification. Not only does that certification help them stand out in a crowded field, but it also ensures that teachers have skills they can use to navigate modern educational challenges. Microsoft tools, such as Teams, help encourage collaboration among students, allow teachers to reach students no matter where they are, and enable the possibility of more parent-teacher interaction.

With Teams, your campus has a shared workspace for conversations, files, assignments, and meetings. University staff can be more engaged and effective every day by chatting in small groups or collaborating in meetings on a larger scale. Faculty can connect with students in a relevant and meaningful way or share lessons and best practices with colleagues. Students can collaborate with one another through virtual study groups, share notes, or coordinate events.

“We’re teaching students to advocate for themselves.”

Jennifer A. Diliberto, Ph.D.
UNC-CH NC Teaching Fellows Director
HEELS UP Director
Clinical Associate Professor of Special Education

Teaching and Learning Runs Both Ways

When University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill decided to offer Microsoft Innovative Educator training, they turned to the team at Connection. Cindy Daniels and Nicole Caldwell, both MIE Certified Professional Development Specialists, worked with Dr. Jennifer Diliberto to hold a workshop for teaching fellows at the university. Through the program, the college students learned how to use Microsoft’s suite of educational programs to create more accessible, and inclusive classrooms.

Dr. Diliberto feels that these tools are essential for today’s modern classrooms where students may have different learning styles and communication needs. Not only does knowing how to use Microsoft’s apps empower the teachers to better prepare lessons, reach out to students who may be remote, and better organize and evaluate projects—but it also empowers their students, who will learn and grow in classrooms that are as full of technology as the “real world.” With access to this technology, “we’re teaching students to advocate for themselves,” Diliberto said.

Katelyn Rhyne, who completed the program as a junior at University of North Carolina, felt it was an exceptionally valuable experience. “Learning to use the Microsoft tools definitely helped me feel better prepared to be a teacher—and it also helped make me a better student. Being able to use OneNote to organize and share assignments even helped me in my other classes.”

Your Partner in the Future of Education

As a member of the Microsoft Global Training Partner program, Connection can help you leverage new technology and apps through learning consultants that have undergone official certification to deliver training on Microsoft’s behalf. Through courses led by our MIE Certified Professional Development Specialists, you’ll join fellow educators in uncovering the possibilities within Microsoft Office 365 Education, new trends, and more. Together, we can unlock the keys to streamlining communication and collaboration among staff, students, and your school community.

If your institution is interested in offering Microsoft Innovative Educator certification training to your students or faculty, our team at Connection is ready to help. Contact us today to learn more.



Contact us today to learn how professional development through Connection can help your educators find new paths to teaching success.

1.800.800.0019

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