VANGUARD UNIVERSITY

Located in Costa Mesa, California
Private, Non-Profit, 4-year Institution
Qwickly Attendance Pro Licensee since 2020

AT A GLANCE

Vanguard University, a non-attendance-taking institution, implemented HyFlex classes in 2019, combining in-person and online elements for increased flexibility. This case study examines the benefits, challenges, and innovative uses of Qwickly Attendance to track student engagement and improve program effectiveness.

"Student Activity Mode in Qwickly Attendance is a great tool to utilize for Hybrid/Hyflex Courses."

DR. DAVID RHOADS
Director of Teaching Excellence and Digital Pedagogy

BACKGROUND

Dr. David Rhoads, Director of Teaching Excellence and Digital Pedagogy, desired a more efficient way to manage attendance for two similar programs: an 8-week in-person program and an online option. The programs were combined to create a HyFlex format, called Flex-VU, allowing students to choose how they attend class. This offered students convenience and flexibility while maintaining comparable performance.

CHALLENGES

While the HyFlex model proved successful, there were difficulties getting instructors to take attendance. With instructors relying solely on Excel spreadsheets, attendance wasn't taken frequently enough and records lacked specificity for determining attendance fluctuations. This hindered identifying struggling students or ineffective content.

WHY TAKE ATTENDANCE?

Dr. Rhoads emphasized that attendance reporting is not about penalizing students, but about understanding their progress and program effectiveness. Analyzing attendance against grades helps pinpoint potential issues like difficult content or unengaging delivery, prompting content adjustments.

QWICKLY ATTENDANCE: A POWERFUL TOOL FOR HYFLEX MANAGEMENT

To track student engagement, Vanguard University deployed Qwickly Attendance Pro, a tool offering various attendance-taking modes:

- Check-In Mode: Allows students to register their attendance via PIN for in-person or remote sessions.
- Student Activity Mode: Automatically tracks activity on assignments, quizzes, and discussions, offering insights into online engagement.
- Merge Sessions: Combines attendance data from Student Activity Mode (online engagement) with traditional attendance recording, ensuring student presence regardless of physical location.

DATA-DRIVEN IMPROVEMENTS

By leveraging Qwickly Attendance's comprehensive reports, Vanguard University can:

- Identify instructors with low attendance data, prompting discussions and support if needed.
- Correlate attendance patterns with grades, pinpointing potentially problematic classes or instructors.
- Analyze student behavior across HyFlex courses, optimizing their design and delivery.

CONCLUSION

Vanguard University's HyFlex learning model, supported by Qwickly Attendance, demonstrates a commitment to student success and efficient program management. By prioritizing flexibility, gathering data-driven insights, and focusing on learning outcomes, Vanguard University ensures an engaging and valuable educational experience for all.

Learn more about how Vanguard University uses Qwickly to track Attendance at:

HTTPS://IFD.VANGUARD.EDU/RESOURCES/TRACK-ATTENDANCE-WITH-QWICKLY/

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