

# Success Story

## Liberty University



**“Students have told me that they come to college not knowing how to study for that level of learning, but using Connect has taught them study habits/ways of learning that they take to future classes, even in classes that do not offer Connect.”**

Sundi Donovan

### ***Connect Facilitates Focused Teaching and Seamless Transitions***

#### **Challenge**

Sundi Donovan needed a course management and adaptive learning solution to help her customize lectures and deal with how the pandemic had impacted her students' learning.

#### **Solution**

McGraw Hill Connect<sup>®</sup>, SmartBook<sup>®</sup> 2.0, and Tegrity Campus

#### **Result**

With Connect, Donovan has enhanced her teaching style, and students are better prepared for class.

## The Challenge

### *Professor Seeks Technology Tools to Overcome Significant Challenges*

Donovan teaches General Psychology and Developmental Psychology to more than 1,200 students annually with a goal of helping students apply the tools of Psychology in their life as well as in the lives of those they help. Donovan was spending too much time trying to cover all the topics in lectures to classrooms of 125-300 students while dealing with the impact of the pandemic on her students' learning. These effects included students not being used to a classroom setting, taking notes, strict deadlines, or reading textbooks. There was an increased self-report of anxiety, and students were registering for in-person classes yet preferring to watch/attend online. Donovan needed a course management and adaptive learning solution to overcome the challenges presented over the past two years due to the pandemic with excellent support and customer service.

## The Solution

### *Connect Provides the Tools Needed to Enhance Lectures, Manage Exams, and Build and Deliver Courses with Flexibility*

Donovan had to greatly slow down her in-class lectures due to students not being used to taking notes in class. Assigning **SmartBook** chapters enabled the students to cover the material. "I am so thankful for Connect and SmartBook for helping me be able to focus on specific topics in the classroom yet know that the students will be covering all the topics in the textbook to the appropriate depth for the level of class," remarked Donovan.

Because Donovan had to provide students with both in-class and online options, the video capture tool within Connect, **Tegrity Campus**, was of immense help. Donovan was able to use past recorded lectures and create new recordings. When necessary, Donovan also recorded her in-class lectures.

**"I was able to set these recordings up as an assignment with due dates, go into those lectures, and cut/edit them as needed."**

Donovan utilizes **course build and delivery tools** within Connect. When creating exams, Donovan appreciates being able to narrow down the questions to level of difficulty and topic. "Areas I could not cover in class, I was able to choose just a couple of important questions on those specific topics and put in a pool," stated Donovan. Creating an assignment or lecture in one class and then being able to move and or copy to other sections and classes along with access to past class materials has been a timesaver for Donovan. "It is such a help to go into past classes from years ago and still access material that I want to continue to use," noted Donovan.

## The Results

### *Connect Improves Course Delivery and Impacts Student Success*

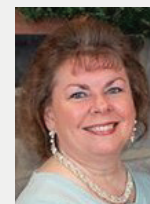
Connect has helped Donovan quickly adjust to changes that have occurred each semester over her teaching career. "There have been instances where I have had to quickly change from either in-person to online, or vice-versa over the last year, and the tools in Connect and outstanding customer service have helped make the transitions seamless," remarked Donovan.

Donovan challenges students while also building their confidence with SmartBook. Students appreciate the SmartBook meta-cognitive function that adapts to the individual students and helps students better understand what they know and what they don't know.

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**Connect has been an immense help to me as I have had to change my teaching style and content to adapt for first-year students who were either mostly online their last two years of high school or did not have classes in those years.**

Sundi Donovan



**Sundi Donovan**

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