Introduction: A Missing Math Requirement

The Academy of Allied Health and Science, a part of Monmouth County Vocational School District, is located in Neptune, New Jersey. The 9th through 12th grade school is directed towards students who are interested in medical careers, requiring an application for acceptance from all prospective attendees. The school has consistently been ranked as a top school in the United States, and is currently home to about 280 students. In planning for the current school year, Principal Paul Mucciarone was in search of a math course for juniors who were a year ahead in their math sequence, but could not take AP Calculus until their senior year for scheduling reasons, and he happened upon Edhesive’s brand new AP Statistics offering. In previous years, online coursework had not always worked out well for the Academy of Allied Health and Science, but Principal Mucciarone believed that Edhesive’s model could ultimately be more successful. No certified math teacher was available for the scheduled time slot, so computer science teacher Andrew Judkis was chosen to serve as coach for the course.
Implementation and Success at the Academy of Allied Health and Science

With a small class of seven, Judkis has opted to allow his students to work through the curriculum at their own pace, coaching them as needed. The students take quizzes and tests together in class, and Judkis grades their free response questions. “The students took a bit of time to get comfortable with the format, but now they are doing very well,” reported Judkis. While the students will not be required to take the AP test at the end of the year, they are allowed the option. “All of these kids happen to be very trustworthy and responsible. They’ve also been among the advanced math students since middle school, so it’s no surprise that they’re doing so well,” Judkis explained.

Though statistics may not be the first course that comes to mind when considering careers in STEM fields, Judkis points out that “statistics is obviously tremendously important in medicine. In addition, a lot of current advances in computer science are based on machine learning, which, in turn, is based on statistics. Being comfortable with statistics opens up a lot of possibilities in the computer science world.” About 70% of the Academy of Allied Health and Science’s graduates go on to medical careers, frequently majoring in biology, chemistry, or biomedical engineering in college.

Judkis appreciates the flexibility offered in the online model of Edhesive’s AP Statistics course, noting that “the structure can be a real life saver for a sick student, or a student who needs additional time to learn the material.” Though pointing out that a strong, well-qualified teacher is always the best option, Judkis noted that “Edhesive is a good, solid alternative for Allied. It’s definitely working for our students. Edhesive’s AP Statistics course has been a constructive experience for them.”
Reflection

At the Academy of Allied Health and Science, Edhesive’s blended online model has been an effective learning tool for advanced students. “There are so many situations in which Edhesive could work,” suggested Judkis. “It’s a viable consideration for any school looking to facilitate coursework in Statistics.” So far this semester, 100% of students are passing AP Statistics. “We're happy with it,” Judkis remarked, “It’s been a success.”

Outcomes at the Academy of Allied Health and Science

- 100% of AP Statistics students at the Academy of Allied Health and Science are passing the class.
- Students are appreciating the flexible blended online model.

Highlights for Teachers

- Edhesive is a great option for schools looking to incorporate AP Statistics with a teacher new to the subject.
- The study of Statistics provides students with a necessary foundation in quantitative reasoning, setting them up for future career success.

Edhesive makes online learning accessible, personal, and meaningful. We combine online instruction from nationally recognized experts with the personal support of local teachers, who offer students face-to-face guidance and support.

Ready to find out what’s possible for your school? Email us at info@edhesive.com today.