



EAB

Academic Performance Solutions

Examining Distinct Course Proliferation

March 20, 2018

Today's Presentation



Today's Presenter



Irene Kan
Consultant

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or have additional questions?**

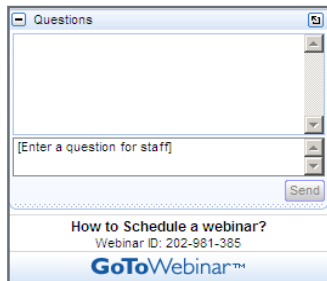
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APS@eab.com

Navigating GoToWebinar

Asking a Question

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Minimizing and Maximizing Your Screen



- Use the orange and white arrow to minimize and maximize the GoToMeeting panel.
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APS Boot Camp for Deans



Webconference Training Series

Five 30-minute sessions led by APS dedicated consultants to demonstrate ways deans can use the APS Platform



Reducing Section Variation in Course Completion | February 27

Prioritize initiatives to increase course completion. ✓



Matching Section Offerings to Demand | March 6

Evaluate opportunities to shift resources from underfilled sections to reduce bottlenecks. ✓



Monitoring Faculty Course Loads | March 13

Assess supply and demand of courses to inform faculty course load decisions. ✓



Examining Distinct Course Proliferation | March 20

Analyze whether or not course offerings are keeping pace with student demand. ✓



Making Data-Informed Faculty Line Decisions | March 27

Find critical metrics that can be used when evaluating faculty line requests.

[Register](#) for the
last session!

Support Development of the Collaborative

Improve Your Proficiency in the APS Platform

Attend Sessions

1

Attend a majority of the series



Register for and join at least four sessions live

Give Feedback

2

Share how you're leveraging APS



Let us know what you found helpful and anything you'd like to see in the future. Provide examples of how you're using the APS Platform.

Earn a Certificate

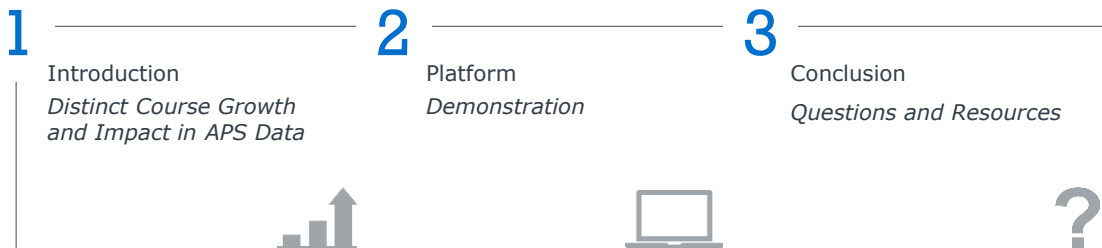
3

Get recognized for your effort!



Share knowledge with colleagues and join future updates on new features

Our Agenda for Today



Costly Proliferation of Low-Demand Courses

More Options, Higher Costs

In effort to increase comprehensiveness, some institutions have added courses without reducing low-demand course offerings.



- Costly excess capacity in some courses
- Diverts resources away from high-demand, high-impact areas
- Challenges student progress

Drivers of Proliferation



Academic Disciplines

Faculty training, hiring, and tenure practices encourage specialization in both research and teaching



Competition for Students

Universities believe that adding more specialized programs will attract students and prepare them better for careers



Incremental Budget Models

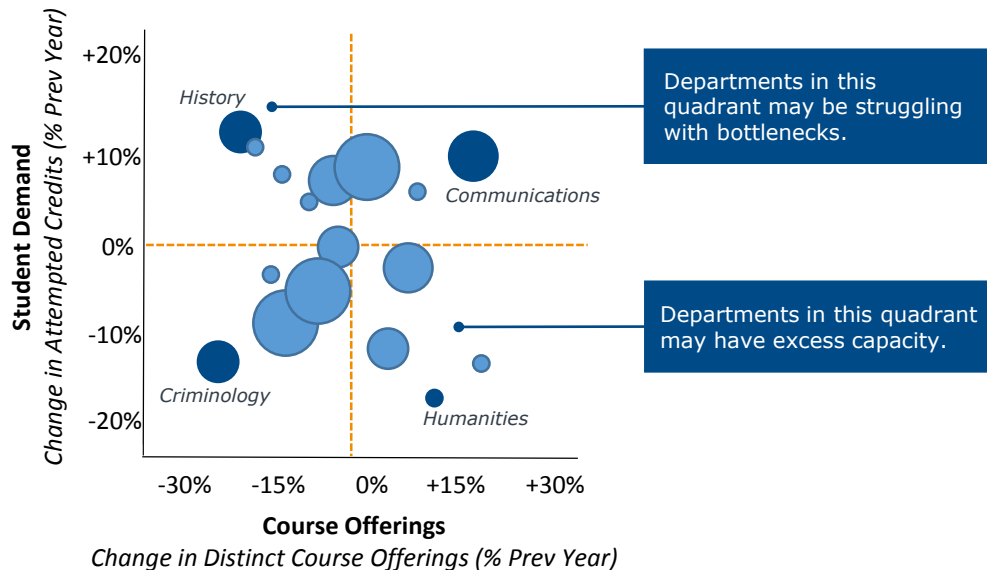
Budget models typically incentivize academics to add new offerings without reducing the old



Source: Breaking the Trade-Off Between Cost and Quality, 2015, Academic Affairs Forum, <https://www.eab.com/members/breaking-the-cost-quality-tradeoff>.

Identifying Mismatches with APS Data

Mismatches Between Student Demand and Course Offerings by Department¹ High Research Comprehensive Institution, AY 2016



1) Analysis of percent change in attempted credit hours and percent change in distinct course offerings from the previous year at a high-research comprehensive in the 2016 academic year.

Diagnosing Course and Enrollment Growth Mismatches



Potential Misalignment of Resources



Course Growth is Outpacing Enrollment Growth

- Excess instructional capacity is unused
- Students accumulate unnecessary credits due to number of course options



- Evaluate fill rates to determine if misalignment is causing underfilled capacity
- Consider offering fewer electives within a department



Enrollment Growth is Outpacing Course Growth

- Increased teaching demand on faculty
- Students aren't able to take courses they need or want to enroll in



- Examine fill rates to identify bottlenecks
- Consider increasing the number of course and section offerings within a department

Source: Breaking the Trade-Off Between Cost and Quality, 2015, Academic Affairs Forum, <https://www.eab.com/members/breaking-the-cost-quality-tradeoff>.

Exploring Distinct Course Growth in the APS Platform 9

Analyze Trends and Impact of Distinct Course Offerings

Compare annual percent changes in course offerings and student enrollment.

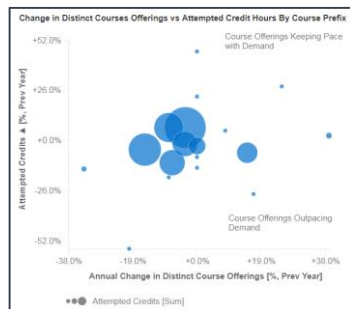


Drill into a course prefix to see annual counts of course offerings by department.



Analyze impact of course growth on fill rates for multi- and single-section courses.

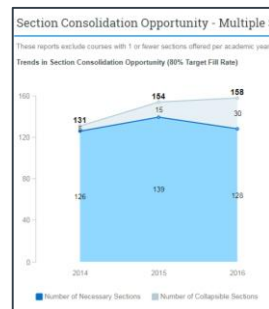
Change in Distinct Course Offerings vs. Attempted Credit Hours



Trends in Distinct Course Offerings By Course Prefix

Department Name	Academic Year		2015		2016	
	Course Prefix	Annual Percent Change	# of Distinct Course Offerings	Annual Percent Change	# of Distinct Course Offerings	Annual Percent Change
Arts and Letters	WIDE	-	1	-	1	+14.0%
	COMM	-5.2%	63	-	63	+14.0%
Communication/Theatre Arts	COMM	-11.1%	31	-	31	-3.1%
	THEA	+1.0%	43	-	43	+2.4%
English	ENGL	+1.0%	62	-	62	-8.9%
History	HIST	-3.0%	47	-	47	-7.4%
Interdisciplinary Studies	IDS	-10.0%	3	-	3	-20.0%
Music	MUSC	-10.0%	24	-	24	-4.0%
	MUSC	-17.7%	75	-	75	-10.0%
Philosophy/Religious Study	PHIL	+10.2%	24	-	24	-7.7%
REL	REL	-14.3%	7	-	7	+10.7%
Political Science/Geog	GOGE	-10.0%	83	-	83	-20.0%
	POLS	+6.0%	30	-	30	-17.0%
Sociology/Criminal Justice	ANTR	-10.0%	2	-	2	+10.0%
	CRJS	-5.0%	37	-	37	+12.1%
	WIDE	-4.4%	26	-	26	-

Section Consolidation Opportunity - Multiple Section Courses

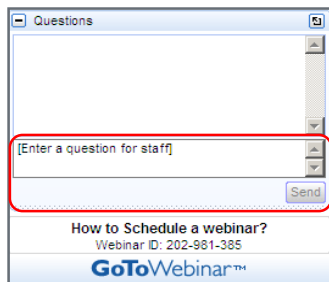




Live Demonstration

How to Ask a Question

To ask the presenter a question, type it into the question panel and press send.



Resources

Aligning Distinct Course Offerings with Enrollment Trends Platform Guide:

- [Download](#) online

APS Boot Camp for Deans Training Series:

- [Register](#) online

AAF Instructional Capacity Playbook:

- [Download](#) online

AAF Breaking the Trade-Off Between Cost and Quality:

- [Download](#) online

➤ Additional questions?

Contact us at: APS@eab.com





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