

VIDEO SCRIPT

TITLE: Connecting with Online Learning

V I S U A L

FADE IN:

Students in CIM laboratory

SEQUENCE of students in CIM lab, each working intently on something, face to camera

(Will Naxon holding cactus)

CUT TO over the shoulder shots of each student, showing the online course they're engaged in

A U D I O

Music: Establish and fade under....

NARRATOR:

George is missing an algebra credit she needs to graduate. But with his job and other obligations, he can't make it up in summer school.

Mary loves to draw and paint, and wants to develop her talent, perhaps even pursue an art career. But her school does not offer art classes.

Will has a strong interest in biology. He wants to pursue his studies beyond the high school level - and earn college credit in the process.

Kerice is devoted to music. But she was unable to fit the both music courses she wants and the electives she needs into her schedule.

What's the connection among these different students -- besides their drive to succeed?

They're taking advantage of the many interactive online learning courses available through the *Texas Virtual School Network* -- TxVSN.

V I S U A L

STUDENTS IN HALLWAYS

GRAPHIC: TXVSN LOGO

FLY IN a large selection of course titles

CG: Developed by (pop on list)

> *Texas School Districts*

> *Charter schools*

> *Education resource centers*

> *Other private & public institutions*

STUDENT [Kerice] AND COUNSELOR in meeting room, reviewing her transcript etc.

CG: Each course meets TEKS and national quality criteria for online education.

Parent-student-counselor meeting

Jib shot: CIM lab location with adult mentor assisting students

A U D I O

Established by the Texas Education Agency, TxVSN is the exclusive clearing house for interactive courses covering a wide range of subjects ...

From algebra and art ... to US government and world history ... to foreign languages, driver education *and more.*

Provided by Texas school districts and other educational entities, these online courses offer the subjects, the challenges, and the flexibility today's students want and need to connect with their future.

To enroll, students must register with their campus coordinator -- usually their guidance counselor.

With their coordinator's help, they choose courses that meet their graduation plan requirements as well as their personal goals.

In some districts, students and parents attend an orientation meeting, to better understand the online study process and the commitments required.

Some schools provide a specific location where students can take online courses -- often with a mentor on hand to assist when needed.

V I S U A L

Student studying in different on- and off-campus settings (e.g. school library, living room or den)

Show access through different devices

SCREENSHOTS (webinar capture) of several course presentations showing activities, engagement and interactivity.

Virtual lab activity screenshots

Student engaged in Skype-style call (student with headset) intercut with screenshots

Virtual gallery tour plus online instruction (at <http://youtu.be/BXDEqxN-2U>)

A U D I O

Students also have the advantage of being able to study whenever they have time, and wherever they have an internet connection.

Courses can be accessed using a desktop or notebook computer ... a tablet computer like an iPad ... and in some cases, even a smart-phone.

TXVSN courses offer students a highly interactive learning environment. They engage students through a variety of computer-based teaching techniques. For example ...

This chemistry course enables students to conduct experiments in a virtual lab ...

Students in this language class use voice-over-IP technology to converse with native speakers.

This art course allows students to take virtual tours of important galleries ... as well as learn and practice fundamental techniques.

Using an online application, students in this history course work together to create an interactive historical period map.

V I S U A L

TESTIMONIAL - TBD

CG: TxVSN instructors are state certified for the subject and grade level.

Show VSN student studying on own time.

Superimpose screen shots of curriculum outline on courseware screen

ANOTHER STUDENT working on project (e.g. art assignment)

SUPERIMPOSE screenshots of online exchanges with teacher, other students.

CUT TO screenshot of FTP upload

A U D I O

And this physics course uses a collaborative design program in their project to configure a rocket booster able to lift a specific payload to a specified altitude.

STUDENT describes the engaging and immersive online course experience.

NARRATOR: Courses are conducted by qualified online instructors, who make assignments, answer questions, review the student's work and grade their tests -- just as in a traditional classroom.

In fact, in many respects, an online course is just like an in-person class -- with study assignments, personal projects, lively discussions, and of course, pop quizzes and tests.

The main difference is the way students and teachers interact. Instead of face-to-face, they communicate through live chat sessions, email, online discussion boards, and the phone. Far from being impersonal, this approach actually *enhances* their rapport ...

V I S U A L

TESTIMONIAL - TBD

Show students taking exams with proctor

CG: Passing grades are established by each district according to its requirements.

*STUDENTS in school corridor, atrium or ?
(depending on available footage)*

CIM Lab footage

GRAPHIC: Graph showing statistical outcomes

A U D I O

INSTRUCTOR describes high degree of interaction with online students vs classroom attendees.

NARRATOR: These methods also enable students to work together -- to discuss their subjects, answer each other's questions, and collaborate on projects.

In some courses and school systems, students are required to take a proctored exam at the end of the semester.

Clearly, TXVSN courses offer a great many advantages. The question, though, is *do they get results?* Can students learn as much, and as well, through online study as they do in a classroom?

The answer is, *yes!*

Studies show that students in online courses achieve comprehension and retention rates that are equal to, or higher than, their classroom counterparts. And student who have taken TxVSN courses tell us that they provide the *stimulation* as well as the information they need to succeed.

V I S U A L

TESTIMONIAL MONTAGE

TESTIMONIAL - TBD

*COVERAGE -- CIM lab, off-campus locations,
intercut with screen shots of online courses*

FADE TO BLACK

A U D I O

STUDENTS describe what they were able to achieve.

*COUNSELOR OR ADMINISTRATOR describes the
value of VSN courses to their district or students.*

NARRATOR: For students who want to earn extra credit or pursue advanced knowledge ... to get a head start on college ... to study subjects their school doesn't offer ... or take a class they can't attend in person ... TXVSN offers a real solution -- online courses that provide an effective, enjoyable and convenient way to connect with their future.

To learn more, visit us online at [t-x-v-s-n dot org](http://t-x-v-s-n.org). Or schedule a meeting with your counselor.