



Meeting Mandates at Record Speed

When Zane State needed an urgent response to Ohio SB1, they turned to their trusted partners at Modern Campus, who provided the perfect solution - Concourse Syllabus.

The Compliance Crunch

Like many institutions, Zane State College faced the pressure of evolving legislative requirements. Specifically, Ohio's Senate Bill 1 (SB1) mandated strict public access to course information and cost transparency. The college's existing process—relying on faculty to download Microsoft Word templates from OneDrive and submit them for manual approval by the Chief Academic Officer—was proving insufficient.

Despite having a college-wide template, inconsistencies inevitably crept in as documents were revised and adjusted. With the fall semester fast approaching, Zane State needed a solution that would not only ensure every syllabus met the new legislative standards but also streamline the management process for administrators and faculty alike.

Perfect Timing

The team at Zane State had recently chosen Modern Campus to help them streamline processes and create a modern, accessible, and consistent catalog experience. Just days after

SB1 was signed, Duane Stutzman, Zane State's Director of Curriculum, Assessment, Compliance, and Scheduling, noticed a Modern Campus email announcing a series of webinars highlighting their partnership with Concourse Syllabus and their combined efforts to help Ohio institutions address the new mandate. With such significant similarities between what they were hoping to achieve with the catalog and syllabi processes, it seemed worth finding out what Concourse could do.

Two webinars later, Stutzman knew they had found their answer.

"We chose Concourse Syllabus because it allows us to provide true uniformity and consistency across all course syllabi, giving students a clear, predictable structure in every course," he shared. "This level of standardization supports equity, reduces confusion, and ensures every student has access to the same essential information. Not to mention, the platform is easy to use, and the level of support Concourse provides is truly unmatched."

Highlights

Zane State needed a way to ensure compliance with Ohio SB 1 (the Enact Advance Ohio Higher Education Act).

The law creates new requirements for syllabi at Ohio institutions, including public access, archiving, and the inclusion of certain content.

They chose Concourse for their partnership with Modern Campus as well as the the powerful features that addressed their needs.

They implemented the system in record time, with positive feedback from everyone from students to administrators.



A Sprint to Implementation

The timeline was tight. The team targeted an ambitious August 1st rollout for faculty, leaving roughly eight weeks to complete a process that typically takes twelve. To meet this challenge, Zane State chose a streamlined approach to implementation, led by the Duane and Shannon Vernon, the college's Blackboard administrator.

One key to making the process easier for everyone was choosing the correct strategy for adding syllabus. Rather than asking faculty to start from scratch, administrators pre-populated the syllabi with institutional policies, course descriptions, and catalog data. This strategy allowed the college to maintain strict control over legally required content while giving faculty the flexibility to add section-specific details as well as specific course policies that may be unique to that instructor. This balanced approach resulted in the highest quality syllabi in the least amount of time.

The other crucial piece was being able to make required portions of the syllabus public, but Concourse made that a non-issue. The system provided multiple options for public

access to syllabi - including through the Modern Campus catalog - as well as intuitive controls for choosing which parts of the syllabus would be revealed, making it easy to comply with legislative requirements while easing faculty concerns about privacy.

Consistency and Compliance

The sprint paid off. By integrating Concourse directly with Blackboard, the team achieved a seamless deployment where every Learning Management System (LMS) course shell featured a corresponding, consistent syllabus. The shift from manual Word documents to a digital, integrated platform was met with relief.

Post-implementation feedback highlighted the efficiency of the transition, with the team noting it was the least painful implementation they had experienced. Students remarked on the improved uniformity of syllabi across departments. Most importantly, Zane State achieved their compliance goals: consistent syllabi, a streamlined process, and a way to address SB1 requirements a full year before the deadline. That's the power of choosing the right partner - and of syllabus management done right.

About us

Since 2007, **Concourse Syllabus** has been focused on one thing: helping our clients improve syllabus management. We know what it takes to make the syllabus management process smooth and seamless, and we are ready to help you put this powerful tool to work for your institution.

Modern Campus helps 1,700+ higher education institutions attract, engage, and retain learners for life with software solutions that enable a modern student experience. Their clients partner with them for their decades of expertise in helping institutions support the entire learner-to-earner lifecycle of its students.

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"This has been the least stressful and most seamless software implementation I have ever encountered!"

Duane Stutzman
Director of Curriculum,
Assessment, Compliance, and
Scheduling
Zane State College