



What Tennessee Tech achieved with Elluminate Live! Academic Edition

The same content and interaction as a traditional classroom

Elluminate *Live!* enables Tennessee Tech to mirror the activity of instructor-led courses—with the same or better results.

Superior user experience, with no learner left behind

Elluminate's live eLearning and Web conferencing solution is easy to implement, easy to access, and easy to use—even from remote areas or across the globe.

Long-term, responsive partner with proven, state-of-the-art technology

Elluminate is committed to the concept of distance education and enhancing the learning experience—providing leading edge technology that works.

Tennessee Tech Delivers Dynamic Interaction Internationally with Elluminate Live!

Ranked among the top southern public universities by U.S. News & World Report, Tennessee Tech is the state's only technological university. Located in Cookeville, the university's mission is to provide leadership and outstanding programs in engineering, the sciences, and related areas that benefit the people of Tennessee and the nation. It also provides strong programs in the arts and sciences, business, education, agriculture and human ecology, nursing, music, art, and interdisciplinary studies. Tennessee Tech serves more than 9,200 students from throughout the state, nation, and many other countries.

The Challenge: Online Interaction, Reliable Connectivity

R.J. Clougherty, Jr., PhD, is the director of the Institute for Technological Scholarship. According to Clougherty, he was looking for technology that would allow students to present online, a requirement for a professional communication course he was teaching via the university's WebCT eLearning environment. "I first saw Elluminate *Live!* demonstrated at a trade show," he explained. "The company allowed me to play around with the software for a pilot period. I showed it to colleagues, and everyone absolutely insisted that we had to get it."

"What appealed to me about Elluminate *Live!* Academic Edition™ was that, unlike solutions from other major vendors, it is geared specifically toward higher education," Clougherty continued. "Also, we have connectivity issues in Tennessee, and if you reinforce the digital divide, you've defeated the purpose of the Internet. From my first test of the product, there were absolutely no issues whatsoever with connectivity, even with dial-up modems in the most rural areas of the state. And the sound quality is exceptional as well."

The Solution: Blended Environment, International Access

"The Institute for Technological Scholarship supports our faculty with Web applications and the like," said Clougherty. "We had an official launch of Elluminate *Live!* three or four years ago, and it has taken off more and more as people see it's available and what they can do with it. Today, we have courses that use only WebCT, those that use only Elluminate *Live!* and those that use a combination of the two environments."

Jeff Plant, PhD, is a full professor for Tennessee Tech, working with technology and distance education and teaching architecture, housing, and design. "I was the first faculty to use Elluminate *Live!* to teach an entire class," he said. "My Contemporary Furnishings and Architecture class uses hundreds of files in digital format. Elluminate *Live!* was perfect for a visually based distance education module. I've liked the product since the first time I used it."

Plant also organized a course in conjunction with Dohto University, a sister institution in Japan. "International Comparative Studies in Japanese and



What makes Elluminate *Live!* the clear choice for live eLearning?

- Crystal-clear audio with voice over the Internet
- User-friendly, intuitive interface that's easy to use and customize
- In-sync communications, regardless of connection speed and quality
- Universal operation in Windows, Mac, and Java Desktop System and Solaris environments
- ESP (Elluminate Sensory Perception) Moderator Tool Set ensures best user experience
- Greatly reduced travel budgets
- No more costly, inconvenient conference calls
- Best-in-class return on investment, with no per-minute charges
- Accessible, responsive customer service

American Architecture was seen as a real innovation, using Elluminate *Live!* to enhance the learning experience for students from both cultures. The students actually taught the classes, preparing the materials and making individual and group presentations. The level of cooperation and interaction among the students surprised even me."

Zentro Satoh, an assistant professor in Dohto University's Department of Architecture, guided the course in Japan. "At first, I was skeptical about eLearning," he explained. "However, after Dr. Plant introduced and explained Elluminate *Live!* I was much amazed. It's interactive and dynamic. All our students are very happy to take part in this course."

The Result: Enhanced Learning Experience, Committed Partner

According to Clougherty, Tennessee Tech President Robert Bell teaches a leadership course in the university's distance MBA program. While the class is offered primarily in the WebCT environment, Bell uses Elluminate *Live!* for discussions and to meet students in real time. "A lot of schools can say they use distance learning," said Clougherty. "Here, we can say that even our president teaches online."

"Tennessee Tech offers a Bachelor of Science program on campus for registered nurses," he continued. "Thirty minutes before a class was going to begin, we heard that a number of students couldn't get there because of job responsibilities. So at a moment's notice, we were able to make the class a hybrid, with the remote students attending via Elluminate *Live!* using their Motion Tablet PCs, which have a pen instead of a mouse. I've even heard that test scores are going up because students can access Elluminate *Live!* recordings to go back and review course material."

"Once I put Elluminate *Live!* on campus, it has grown and grown. This semester, we have 12 to 15 classes being taught entirely or in part with the product," concluded Clougherty. "We're also using it for faculty meetings and faculty development workshops when we can't bring a speaker on campus. There's a very high demand for Elluminate *Live!* at Tennessee Tech, both for regular classes and ad hoc use. Our association with Elluminate has been wonderful. In fact, I'm a founding member of the steering committee for the product's user group, the Elluminati. We think of Elluminate as a partner rather than a vendor."

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