Digital Coursepacks with Embedded Instruction & Annotation for Pediatric Nursing Students

Overview

Access Copyright partnered with a post-secondary institution that offers a range of programs and study options across a variety of disciplines and is one of the largest colleges of its kind in Canada.
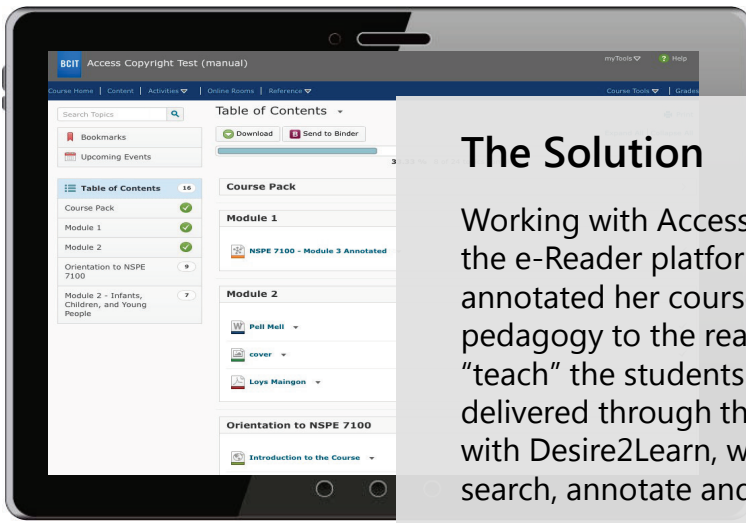
A distance education course in Pediatric Nursing participated in the pilot. Students in the course were provided the opportunity to use a digital coursepack offered through the course website on the college's learning management system.

The Challenge

Previous sessions of this online course in Pediatric Nursing relied on printed coursepacks created and distributed under the Access Copyright licence. The instructor was ready to experiment with a digital version of her coursepack, provided it could meet the following requirements:

- Integrated with Desire2Learn, the college's learning management system.

- Students could annotate and highlight as they read.

- Material could be accessed through the course module for each week of study.

- Professor could embed instructional notes to guide students as they read.

The Solution

Working with Access Copyright, who partnered with the e-Reader platform RedShelf, the instructor annotated her coursepack, adding a layer of custom pedagogy to the readings, enabling her to further "teach" the students as they read. The content was delivered through the RedShelf platform, integrated with Desire2Learn, where students were also able to search, annotate and highlight material for themselves.

The Results

Results and feedback were obtained from a survey that was distributed by the professor with a response rate of 40%. Overall, students liked the pre-annotated content. They liked the fact that the content was accessible within their course website. Many students had positive comments about the highlighting feature. The professor noted that the quality of the students' responses to assignments was vastly improved over previous years and she attributed that to the fact that she had an opportunity to "teach" students through the use of the annotations that she added.

Q What features did you like and use most with the E-Reader?

"Accessibility ."

" liked that the readings were annotated. This allowed me to focus on the content that was most applicable and relevant for my learning."

"I liked the ability to highlight online."

"...having everything at my fingertips."

"I liked having my instructor's highlights and comments."

"Has highlights already in the articles for clarity and focus."

"The opportunity of the instructor to add notes and point out the importance, especially in very long articles."

For more information or to find out how your institution can participate in a pilot, contact us at info@accesscopyright.ca