

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Goals VASTS Online Course 2023

Underrepresented Minority (URM) and traditionally underserved student initial engagement in [VASTS Online Course](#)

Goals:

- Increase percentage of URM students beginning VASTS Online Course in 2023 to 25%.
- Increase percentage of Female students beginning VASTS Online Course towards 50% representation, aiming for greater than 45% for 2023.
- Increase number of students in locales (using US Department of Education definitions and geographical data) with low historical representation (Less than 5% of total representation across 2008-2022) in the course
 - Locales and their historical percentages in VASTS:
 - City Small 3% (Goal: 5%)
 - Suburb Midsize 3% (Goal: 5%)
 - Suburb Small 3% (Goal: 5%)
 - Town Fringe 3% (Goal: 5%)
 - Town Distant 2% (Goal: 4%)
 - Town Remote 0% (Goal: 2%)
 - Rural Remote 1% (Goal: 3%)

Lowering attrition rates for Underrepresented Minority (URM) and traditionally underserved students through the time of the VASTS Online Course

Goals:

- Implement student / parent contact procedures that assist students in completing missing coursework within existing course policies without placing undue burden on student
 - Focus will be on reaching out to URM and underserved students who may be overwhelmed with contacts about missing work and providing a path forward to stay in the course
 - Procedures in place will be updated to be more cognizant of student needs in order to increase their effectiveness
- Create relationships with Teachers/Counselors in the schools of URM/underserved students who are at risk of dropping, in order to have a local contact work with the student to continue forward in the course
- Develop personalized assignment submission plans and adjusted deadlines for URM/underserved students who display risk of dropping the program due to overall course load