BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

http://postsecondary.gatesfoundation.org/digital-learning/

STUDENT SUCCESS

Digital Learning



While many colleges and universities continue to offer classroom-based lectures, not all students benefit from that one-size-fits-all approach. Low-income students are at high risk of falling behind their peers in high-enrollment general education courses, but with the right tools and opportunities, all students can increase their learning and education momentum.

STRUGGLING TO KEEP UP

General education courses serve as a gatekeeper for many postsecondary institutions, posing significant hurdles to low-income and first-generation students.



CHALLENGES INCLUDE:

Large, full lecture halls

Impersonal teaching environments

Lack of flexibility for students juggling work and studies

EXPANDING THE CLASSROOM

Opportunities for online or hybrid learning options yield high success rates for many students.



WHEN STUDENTS TAKE COURSES THAT ENGAGE DIGITALLY AND IN-PERSON:

Content mastery can occur 2x as quickly

Pass rates for at-risk students can increase by 1/3

Degree completion can increase

DIGITAL LEARNING BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Adapting to student capabilities

Promoting active and collaborative learning

Supporting learners with timely feedback and individual support



SOURCES:

http://postsecondary.gatesfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/postsecondarySuccessAdvocacyPriorities2016.pdf

http://postsecondary.gatesfoundation.org/areas-of-focus/solutions/digital-learning/courseware/

https://www.sri.com/sites/default/files/publications/psexecsummary_1.pdf

http://www.sr.ithaka.org/wp-content/mig/reports/S-R_Interactive_Online_Learning_Campus_20140716.pdf