



TEXAS TECH
UNIVERSITY.

Ellucian customer case study

Banner® Registration gives students at Texas Tech a simple and intuitive way to search and register for classes, and plan ahead.

About Texas Tech University

Texas Tech University is one of the nation's premier research institutions. The university strives to provide the best in facilities and academics, and to celebrate student accomplishment above all else.

Objectives

- Help students register for the courses they need, easily and intuitively
- Deliver a registration experience that appeals to digital natives

Solutions

- Banner Registration
- Degree Works™ Student Educational Planner

Business outcomes

- Student registration experience is intuitive, visual, and much improved
- Advisor access and automated checks reduce registration errors
- Services are always on as new functionality comes up



Creating an easier path to completion

Texas Tech University Enhances the Student Experience with Banner Registration

Registering for courses is much more than an administrative task. It's an important step toward completion. Providing a solution that is intuitive, simple to use, and readily available helps students get the courses they need at the time they need them.

"It's expensive to go to college today. If you can't get your registration and proceed through your coursework in a timely fashion, it can become prohibitively expensive," said Brenda Martinez, associate registrar at Texas Tech University.

Banner® Registration brings together consumer-friendly tools for searching and registering for classes, and for planning ahead, within a single and

straightforward application that is accessible from any device. The application is built with Ellucian Extensible Ecosystem principles (Ellucian XE) that make it easier and more efficient for institutions to deliver new functionality.

Texas Tech students can search for courses by subject, course number, building locations, open sections only, and more. They can click to see more details on a course that are pulled from the course catalog. The information is presented in a familiar calendar view that lets students easily see the schedule they are building and look for conflicts before registering. The software automatically checks students' eligibility for the courses, reducing the chance of errors. When students are satisfied with their schedule, they can easily register and then print or email their schedules.



“Students tell us they love the new search features. They love that they can build a plan and then register from that plan. They love the options; they love the layout. They find it very convenient to be able to see the courses, and see how they’ll feed into a calendar before they ever actually click the final sign up button. That’s been very, very popular. Overwhelmingly they’ve been very positive about the new system,” said Martinez.

Planning ahead

Students also can map out their future schedules to help keep on track to graduate, and lower the chance of missing a required class or an opportunity. Using the friendly “Plan Ahead” feature in Banner Registration, Texas Tech students can create variations of schedules for upcoming semesters and save them as pdfs for future reference.

“It’s incredibly important for everything to be at students’ fingertips. If they can’t get into that class quickly, some other student may take that seat, and that may delay their graduation. Students are very invested in being able to get in there, find what they need, find the exact course to fit their time, their instructor choices and their major, and get that onto their registration so that they can proceed and hopefully graduate in a timely manner,” explained Martinez.

The registration process will be even smoother when Texas Tech integrates Banner Registration with its Degree Works™ Student Educational Planner, a comprehensive academic advising, program planning, transfer articulation, and degree audit solution. Advisors will be able to access and view the students’ plans, giving them an easy path to provide stronger advising. When registration opens for a new term, students can quickly access the approved plan and register for the courses.

“Our advisors really loved the software as they watched the students register online. They can see how much easier it is for the students, so I’m excited to see the piece that’s coming for advisors,” said Martinez.

Texas Tech prides itself on providing the best in facilities and academics. The institution wants to deliver top-notch administrative processes, too.

“Students do everything online, and they have an expectation for how easy and how quick things should be. They expect the very same of the university. They’re coming here to lay the foundation to become experts in their fields, and they feel like the university should be up to that standard,” said Martinez.

“When students can do the business they need to do with the university in a very quick and efficient manner, it frames their experience with the campus overall.... Having systems like Banner Registration that are efficient and quick helps keep a positive viewpoint for their whole experience at Texas Tech.”

BRENDA MARTINEZ, Associate Registrar, Texas Tech University

XE keeps the wheels turning

Texas Tech brought up its new version of Banner Registration while keeping up its existing registration software as a safety net. Running the two Banner applications in parallel was painless thanks to the design principles of the Ellucian XE strategy that lets institutions implement new modules seamlessly and successfully at their own pace, and without the traditional software cycle of version-driven upgrades.

“It was absolutely imperative that we run these in a parallel manner. We couldn’t afford for students to not have access or for even a hiccup in the system. Business cannot grind to a halt. If students needed to go back to something they were familiar with, they could do so,” said Martinez.

The precaution was important; but not necessary in the end. “Most students loved the new system and didn’t go back to the old one. Everything went really smoothly,” said Martinez.

Banner Registration is Texas Tech’s second step on its path to embracing the Ellucian XE strategy. Earlier, they went live with Banner Faculty Grade Entry. The application simplifies grade entry and gives faculty choices for using the tools they like the best, whether that is an Excel sheet or the Learning Management System. Visual and colorful

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indicators show instructors the amount of work they have accomplished, and what is left on their plate. Texas Tech introduced the application during the summer grading period to about 20 instructors who have different experience and comfort levels with technology. The university anticipates full implementation by the end of fall.

“Those that used it found it much more efficient. Being able to upload a spreadsheet instead of having to go down one by one and find their grades was a very popular feature for our instructors,” said Martinez.

Collaborating to build a great product

Martinez takes special pride in the quality of Banner Registration. Texas Tech University was one of 16 institutions from around the world that worked closely with Ellucian to design the software.

“We work with the students every day, so we hear about their complaints and we also hear about the things they love or that they wish they had in the system. So we were able to pass that on. Ellucian was very collaborative with us. I felt like everyone on the committee was able to influence how the product actually works for the people who are going to use it,” said Martinez.

Banner Registration was designed to support the systems and processes of multiple types of institutions throughout the world. It supports flexible academic models including search and select, block, and structured registration.

“When students can do the business they need to do with the university in a very quick and efficient manner, it frames their experience with the campus overall. One bad experience with one office can taint their entire opinion of the institution. Having systems like Banner Registration that are efficient and a quick help keep a positive viewpoint for their whole experience at Texas Tech,” said Martinez.

Customer solution at a glance

Banner Registration
Degree Works™ Student Educational Planner



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ABOUT ELLUCIAN

Ellucian helps education institutions thrive in an open and dynamic world. We deliver a broad portfolio of technology solutions, developed in collaboration with a global education community, and provide strategic guidance to help education institutions of all kinds navigate change, achieve greater transparency, and drive efficiencies. More than 2,400 institutions in 40 countries around the world look to Ellucian for the ideas and insights that will move education forward, helping people everywhere discover their potential through learning.

To learn more, please visit www.ellucian.com