

Extended Campus

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UT Evolving for Workers Reskilling in Wake Of Great Resignation

Extended Campus provides programs for employees and employers ready to embrace the future of work

AUSTIN, Texas (Aug. 18, 2022) — The University of Texas at Austin's Extended Campus is responding to demand from workers hungry to upskill, reskill, and continue learning to increase their professional opportunities and earning potential in an ever-changing work environment. The Extended Campus is shifting to lifelong learning opportunities offering new executive development programs, online degree programs, noncredit classes, and professional certifications, making full use of all of UT's available resources.

"The trend over the last 30 years has been for people to increase the number of jobs they have over the course of their lives," said <u>Art Markman</u>, Vice Provost for Continuing and Professional Education and New Education Ventures. "That, combined with the pace of technological change means they can't rely on their four-year college education to sustain them throughout their careers. Universities have had to step up to provide lots of different kinds of training."

Access to lecturers, professors, and industry experts that was once limited to students in traditional degree programs has been opened to organizations and individuals seeking continuing and professional education courses. "We've been trying to give everyone access to those experts, to provide opportunities for people to come and learn from all the professionals the University of Texas can attract," Markman said.

The Extended Campus at UT Austin launched a <u>web-based program finder</u> tool to help nontraditional students, working professionals and other learners up-skill, re-skill and stay ahead of an ever-changing work environment. The new portal includes more than 200 existing and future courses, certificates, graduate programs, webinars, conferences, and other learning opportunities available across campus and online. Information to help connect learners with scholarships and programs to help fund continuing professional education are included.

In fiscal year 2020-21, UT's Extended Campus had more than 76,000 noncredit enrollments, awarded more than 163,500 continuing education units and awarded nearly 19,000 certificates and more than 29,000 academic credit hours.

"We want to help people get to the place where they want to go," Markman said. "Many people are going to need additional knowledge and skills to do that."

About UT Extended Campus

As part of The University of Texas at Austin, Extended Campus draws upon the multiple strengths of the university to develop and offer programs that serve working professionals and lifelong learners in Austin and across Texas. Faculty members, industry professionals and curriculum experts produce courses and programs to benefit students at the high school, college and professional levels. Courses are available on campus, online and on site.