



How South Louisiana Community College

# Streamlined Manual Processes to Improve Efficiency & ROI

## OVERVIEW

Like many higher education institutions, SLCC originally relied on manual scheduling processes. A spreadsheet-based approach made adjustments difficult and time-consuming. Ad-hoc email requests meant spreadsheets became quickly outdated as a result of the real-time, swift adjustments to the schedule. It was also challenging for average users to perform predictive analytics without the application of extensive time and know-how. This often resulted in SLCC rolling the past term's schedule over to a new year with no way to determine what was most effective for students.



Ad Astra has helped us build a dependable experience for students. We no longer need to rely on anecdotal evidence because we have the ability to show a report and build a customizable framework.

Courtney Schoolmaster  
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

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## About South Louisiana Community College

The institution has campuses in eight parishes and serves more than 15,000 urban and rural students each year. SLCC features an early college academy serving high school students, adult basic education services, traditional associate degree and technical diploma tracks, and a corporate college for short-term training.

With a mission to transform and enrich the lives of individuals and communities, SLCC provides skills and knowledge through a dynamic learning environment where students can realize their potential, compete in today's global economy, and strive toward solving the complex problems of tomorrow.

## SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

- Desire to shift away from manual scheduling processes
- Difficulty keeping up with multiple scheduling changes
- Over-reliance on anecdotal evidence to make decisions
- Need for customization solution unique to SLCC



## THE SOLUTION

SLCC worked with Ad Astra to organize and automate its institution's scheduling processes in a way that builds in high levels of customization.

Ad Astra's solution helped SLCC engineer a better process - one that removed the mechanical work of scheduling. What used to take the efforts of three full-time employees has now been transformed into a manageable, user-friendly solution. Easy-to-produce reports featuring real-time analytics now replace aging spreadsheets.

The use of Astra Schedule also allowed more staff members the ability to assume a shared responsibility for scheduling, management, and retention. In order to circulate the updated process, Courtney Schoolmaster, SLCC's Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, adopted a scaffolded training approach beginning with department chairs. This included exercises on how to make and share a filter and how to report out findings. The software's user-friendly design has enabled the group to build upon their skills to then tackle enrollment ratios and DFW rates.

“Of all the software implementations I've managed, Ad Astra's has by far been the best. They never push back on the “crazy” ideas I have for customization, and the dedicated, ongoing partnership with SLCC makes it feel like we're in this together.

Courtney Schoolmaster

## RESULTS

01

### Reduction in cancelled classes

Number of cancelled classes fell from 15 to 2

02

### Decrease in staff scheduling workload

Significant reduction in hours spent on scheduling

03

### Enhanced ability to track success metrics

Team can drill down into DFW rates and enrollment ratios



## PRODUCTS AT A GLANCE

### Momentum Year Analysis

Use momentum year metrics to create early intervention strategies based on year-over-year longitudinal metrics.

### Monitor, Align, & Predict

By leveraging historical course enrollment patterns and student academic history that highlight misaligned offerings, course scheduling teams can build a student-friendly, efficient course schedule. Track registration to make real-time changes to the schedule.

### Astra Schedule

Whether you're an academic or event scheduler, you get critical information within one enterprise solution to help develop an effective and efficient schedule.

Ready to learn more about how Ad Astra can help you streamline processes and achieve a student-centered schedule? Talk to a scheduling expert today!