



ANALYTICS



Qlik® Academic Program turns data into valuable learning experiences, empowering students and faculty at TTUHSC



About Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Independent from Texas Tech University since 1969, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) graduates the most healthcare professionals in the state of Texas, with more than 28,000 professionals trained to date. Its School of Nursing has been dedicated to training knowledgeable, compassionate nurses and nurse practitioners ever since it opened in 1979.

Through the Qlik Academic Program, Qlik has become a core element of TTUHSC's nursing informatics curriculum, along with other nursing courses, giving students vital hands-on access to data modeling dashboards, visualizations, and management tools. Students are both inspired and empowered, using key visualizations to make data come alive, providing them with a host of valuable insights and opportunities.

“With Qlik, the data really comes alive, and there are so many visualizations. It’s great when students start to see things that they couldn’t with just the raw material.”

Dr. Katherine Taylor Pearson, DNP, RN, NI-BC, CLSSBB, CPBI, CPHIMS, CKM,
Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, School of Nursing



Customer Name
Texas Tech University

Industry
Public Sector

Geography
Lubbock, Texas, USA

- Challenges**
- Develop students' data visualization and analytics skills
 - Complement the nursing informatics course with scenario-based simulations
 - Allow students to apply technology to real-world use cases

Solution
TTUHSC implemented Qlik Sense® as part of the Qlik Academic Program, providing access to both software and learning materials.

- Results**
- Students can build effective use cases quickly and easily
 - Data comes alive with powerful tools and visualizations
 - Powerful skills and portfolios enhance students' resumés

From unique specialty to core requirement

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) is emerging as one of the top institutions in the US and cementing a proud reputation as a dynamic force in higher education. Its Health Services facilities include schools for medicine and dental care, a veterinary program, and a School of Nursing that currently hosts over 800 students.

Dr. Katherine Taylor Pearson teaches in the School of Nursing master's and doctorate programs, focusing on project management, leadership, data visualization, system administration, and analysis, supporting its ever-changing nursing informatics curriculum. For many of Dr. Pearson's students, this represents a unique opportunity.

"Most of the students work full time, and many of them are still at the bedside," she notes. "The nursing informatics courses are a wonderful chance to help them look more closely at the real-life problems they experience and discuss workflow analysis."

When Dr. Pearson started working in nursing informatics some 25 years ago, it was a distinctly unique specialty. Things have since changed significantly, and the topic is becoming increasingly embedded as a basic nursing subject.

"Even our accrediting bodies support nursing informatics; it's become a core requirement of the credential process," Dr. Pearson says. "Many of the nurses we teach have limited informatics background, but they understand the value of technology and want to adapt it to their working world."

And while many nursing students have hands-on experience of day-to-day care, Dr. Pearson notes that traditional preceptor opportunities, in which student nurses are mentored by qualified practitioners, are becoming harder to find.

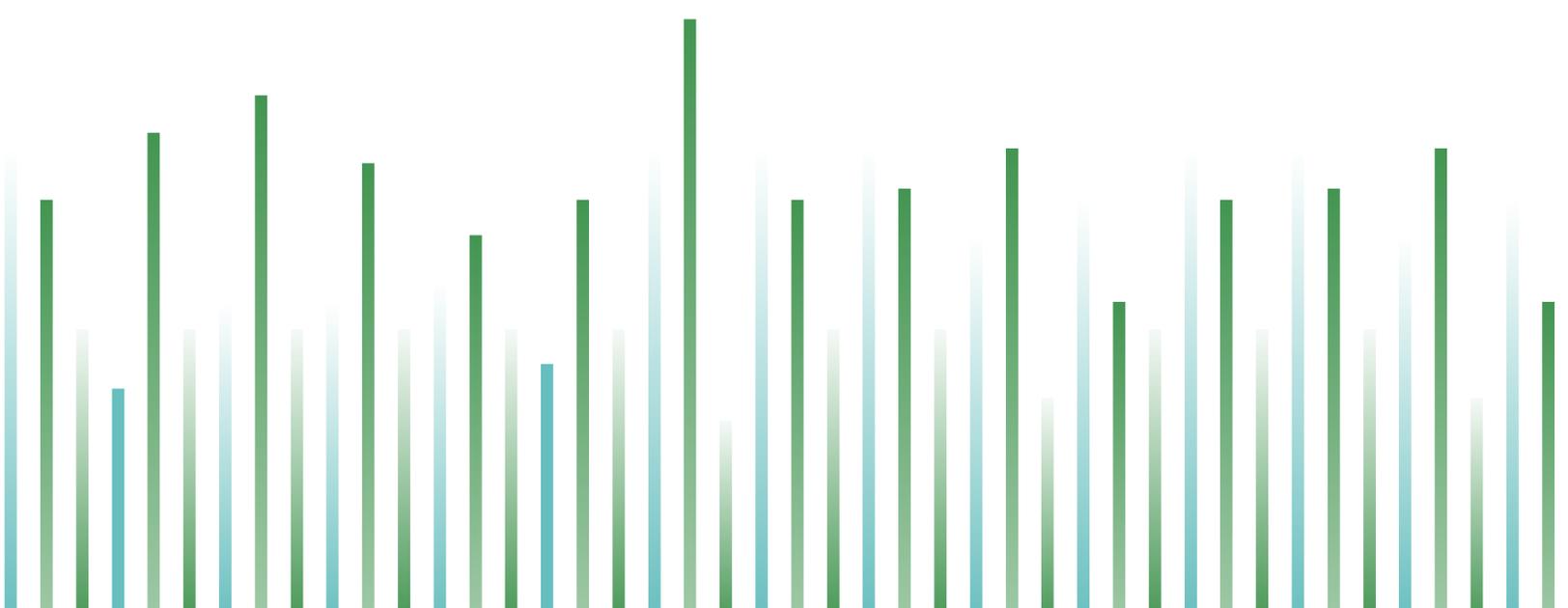
"With the ongoing nursing shortage, qualified preceptors are becoming increasingly difficult to find, especially in specialized areas like informatics," she explains. "At the same time, tighter security standards make it challenging for students to gain on-site access, which is completely understandable. These realities pushed us to find innovative ways to strengthen our curriculum, and that's where the Qlik Academic Program has been a game changer, allowing students to gain meaningful, data-driven experience in a secure, virtual environment."

Enhancing the learning experience

Dr. Pearson already had plenty of Qlik experience: from her time as a Chief Information Officer, where she used Qlik to integrate regional databases, to other projects where Qlik acted as a data backbone, she understood the platform's power.

Fast forward a few more years, and Dr. Pearson found herself taking a data visualization course taught by a Qlik Academic Program Educator Ambassador, Dr. Javier Leon. "That really resonated with me," she recalls. "And when I had the opportunity, I applied to be an ambassador as well."

So, when the time came to choose a data management and visualization tool to complement the nursing informatics course, there was little need to debate which one to choose.





"I knew that Qlik would allow us to bring in data to develop simulations and scenarios that would really enhance the learning experience," Dr. Pearson notes. "It was obvious that it would be a win-win situation to expose our students to that."

Incorporating Qlik into the nursing informatics course with some initial use cases took just a few minutes, and after enrolling in the Qlik Academic Program, Dr. Pearson was able to build a highly effective and comprehensive learning environment.

"The Qlik Academic Program's resources are extremely helpful," she continues. "It provides different suggested lesson plans, which allow us to see a suggested teaching methodology, and the help menus are a great guide for me, the rest of the faculty, and also the students."

Through the Qlik Academic Program, Dr. Pearson and her students receive free, full-year access to Qlik software, training, and other learning resources, including the ability to earn credentials to prove their knowledge of the Qlik product.

Seeing the data come alive

The Qlik Academic Program is now a core element of the nursing informatics curriculum, and even nursing students with little experience of data and analytics appreciate and enjoy Qlik's capabilities.

"Once they gain access to Qlik, students can literally create something more or less immediately, which to me as faculty is irreplaceable," says Dr. Pearson. "Most of them work full time and their time is valuable, so being able to empower them in this way is huge."

One module that Dr. Pearson teaches covers cybersecurity, which involves students carrying out a simulated risk assessment based on historical data, while another involves public health informatics and the potential for possible future pandemics.

"There are thousands of rows of data, but I want students to see them as more than a spreadsheet," says Dr. Pearson. "With Qlik, the data really comes alive, and there are so many visualizations. It's great when students start to see things they couldn't previously see with just the raw material."

A future assignment will also see students creating their own wellness plans, which is becoming an increasingly important topic in nursing.

"I'm showing them how to use the data to see how they're doing and if they're where they want to be," Dr. Pearson adds. "That's really fun because they really enjoy the ability that Qlik gives to manage that information. In fact, I could probably use Qlik in every assignment that we do!"

Inventive, fun, and rewarding

The ultimate outcome, however, is that many students then begin to apply Qlik to their own projects and work, outside the immediate TTUHSC environment.

“If students can show on their resumés that they’ve used Qlik and have a portfolio of assignments, that’s another big win,” Dr. Pearson notes. “It shows they can think critically, they can troubleshoot and solve problems. You can’t put a value on that.”

And as the nursing informatics course continues to evolve, with new use cases and subject areas developing continually, the access to software and learning opportunities that the Qlik Academic Program provides is seen as increasingly valuable by Dr. Pearson.

“I see us transitioning to becoming digital health and AI specialists, and being a Qlik Educator Ambassador gives us a great opportunity to integrate more of the tools that are out there,” she says. “Through the Academic Program, Qlik gives us opportunities to do something inventive, fun, and very rewarding. It’s a wonderful tool and program.”

**Creating a data-literate world,
one student at a time**

[Learn more](#)



About Qlik

Qlik transforms complex data landscapes into actionable insights, driving strategic business outcomes. Serving over 40,000 global customers, our portfolio leverages advanced, enterprise-grade AI/ML and pervasive data quality. We excel in data integration and governance, offering comprehensive solutions that work with diverse data sources. Intuitive and real-time analytics from Qlik uncover hidden patterns, empowering teams to address complex challenges and seize new opportunities. Our AI/ML tools, both practical and scalable, lead to better decisions, faster. As strategic partners, our platform-agnostic technology and expertise make our customers more competitive.

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