

Epsilen: It's how you learn.



While learning may be a personal journey of growth, at its core, it's a social activity. Studies show that we learn through interactions with others - both inside and outside the classroom. And as current technologies show, today's learners are particularly attuned to the importance of social connections.

Epsilen understands the social factors that are critical to learning. That is why we have designed a unique social learning environment with personalized learning tools that give educators and students access to the fastest growing learning network in the world.

"In their fullest implementation learning communities not only change the manner in which students experience the curriculum but also the way they experience learning. They do so by employing pedagogies of engagement, such as cooperative and problem-based learning, that require students to collaborate and become accountable for the learning of the group and classroom peers."

— Vincent Tinto, Syracuse University, February 2011
Taking Student Success Seriously in the College Classroom

Over One Million Users in 138 Countries

Epsilen is becoming the largest global learning community with a growing membership of more than one million registered users in K-12 and higher education in over 138 countries.

Epsilen understands the importance of providing educators and institutions with the tools they need to make learners successful over their lifetimes. By helping to streamline course administration, content, course deployment, and grading, Epsilen finds a growing number of educators selecting its innovative



For more information, please contact us at **1-877-505-5063** or **sales@epsilen.com**, or visit **epsilen.com**.

technologies for teaching and learning. In addition, institutions are adopting Epsilen products that support advising and student support, as well as institutional effectiveness.

Epsilen's Social Learning Environment

Epsilen was developed in response to the shift in education toward the critical need to increase the focus on the learner and learning outcomes, unlike traditional Learning Management Systems which focus primarily on the course. Faculty and students at Indiana University – Purdue University, already versed in learning tools such as SAKAI and Angel, contributed to the design of Epsilen. As a result, The New York Times, an entity already established in the education space, saw the uniqueness and approach of the Epsilen Environment, and became a majority owner in 2007.

Two words are at the center of Epsilen's value: learner and engagement. The Epsilen Environment actively engages the user throughout the learning process by focusing on the core aspects of engagement, defined as the four P's: Persistence, Performance,

Engage

- ▶ Epsilen's **ePortfolio** helps keep students **engaged** by allowing learners to manage their complete educational profile online - all of which is available to them for life, and at no cost to the individual user.
- ▶ Epsilen's **Assessment Portal** enables institutions to **measure effectiveness** by quantifying student and institutional success in meeting educational outcomes.

Retain

- ▶ Epsilen's **Advising solution** focuses on student persistence and success by enabling advisors to be alerted to **at-risk students, intervene, remediate and offer tracking**.

Educate

- ▶ Epsilen's **Learning Management System** enables institutions to offer online courses coupled with **access to content** for teaching, learning and research.

Epsilon: It's *how* you learn.

Presence, and Participation. These are the building blocks of a learner's success.

Epsilon helps learners succeed by providing them with the tools they need to progress their learning paths. Epsilon helps institutions succeed by increasing retention rates and keeping their students on track to graduation - all of this in a scalable, hosted environment that helps lower technology costs while accelerating implementation times.

Engaging the Learner

Unlike most Learning Management Systems, which provide students with access only during the time they are actively enrolled, Epsilon provides learners with access for life. "We recognize that learning is a lifelong process," says Epsilon CEO Evan Nisonson. "We believe it's an important differentiator that students can engage with one another outside of a class - and not just with one another, but with the entire global Epsilon community. We see a lot of students coming back, years later, to evaluate their work and revisit their conversations, posts and collaborations. We know this is a high priority for learners today, and a strong contributor to student success."

A key differentiator in the Epsilon Environment is the learner's ability to contribute to his or her own progress while creating a lifelong record of learning. Through Epsilon's ePortfolio, students and faculty can store materials to showcase their performance by means of an ever-growing collection of multimedia artifacts, course-created materials, blogs, discussions, wikis, and more. In addition, through the use of Epsilon's Learning Matrix, students can measure their own progress, and compare it to that of fellow learners. At the same time, institutions need to provide their faculty and administrators with the ability to evaluate the effectiveness of courses, programs, and how well the institution itself is performing. Epsilon's Assessment Portal provides that ability by offering a repository and reporting tool that enables colleges and universities to organize assessment data efficiently. Tightly integrated with Epsilon's other solutions, and building on its Learning Matrix platform, Epsilon's Assessment Portal enables administrators to make data-driven decisions.



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Retaining the Learner

Integrated into the Epsilon Environment is the Advisor Portal, a unique toolset that provides students with insight into their own progress, while also providing valuable information to educators and those charged with supporting student success. The Advisor Portal monitors a variety of data and alerts students directly when they may be at risk. And, it provides them with a range of resources that offer assistance. The portal also accumulates and analyzes data that helps institutions spot trends in learning and make needed changes to the process.

Educating the Learner

The Epsilon platform offers all the tools normally found in traditional Learning Management Systems, such as gradebooks and course flow systems. Those core elements are supported by the many other components that make the Epsilon Environment unique and comprehensive in its approach.

Another valuable benefit of the Epsilon Environment is access to The New York Times Content Repository - giving students and staff access to all multimedia materials produced by the publishing company since 1851. For example, instead of just reading Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, students can actually discover how journalists of the day reported the event.

Ease of Use and Unparalleled Support

Because Epsilon is a hosted, online solution, institutions have the dependability and flexibility to focus entirely on its use and not its maintenance. And Epsilon's record of customer support, delivered by knowledgeable staff with K-12 and higher education experience, is unparalleled.

Epsilon's leadership has strong expertise in software development and technology management and keeps the company focused on the specific value that technology can bring to the learning experience. "Epsilon focuses on "the how" and not "the it" of the educational process," says Nisonson. "We enable interaction, collaboration, and engagement. It's not about the technology. It really is about the learning experience."

About Epsilon, LLC

Serving educators and students in over 600 K-12 and higher education institutions worldwide, Epsilon provides a social learning environment with personalized tools to enhance the teaching and learning experience. Epsilon also offers clients access to The New York Times Content Repository, a rich collection of digital resources and learning objects. Epsilon is majority owned by The New York Times Company. Visit www.epsilon.com