

Provide free, online tutoring to students in area schools, allowing current graduate students who are practicing teachers to contribute lesson plans and get practice and investing in future students.

CURRENT CHALLENGE:

At the school of education, we spend every minute researching and implementing the best pedagogical strategies to equip our future teachers with the skills they need to reach and teach k-12 students.

Despite our best efforts, many teachers are overwhelmed by the disengaged, resistant and underprepared student populations in area schools.

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

I believe that we can help our teachers not only through preparing them to be excellent educators, but by providing free online tutoring to students in area schools. Both multiple subject and secondary faculty can contribute to building a free online school for students where they can access curriculum, taught by faculty, in various subject areas similar to what Khan Academy is doing. Our graduate students who are practicing teachers can contribute lessons as part of their training and we can quickly build a database of K-12 digital lessons.

BENEFITS TO FRESNO STATE:

By providing resources, access, and expert help to area students, we create goodwill in the community and with local schools.

By preparing students to engage in and enjoy school, we help students to learn and lighten the load of our future teachers, whose classes will be better prepared and have resources at their disposal.

As high school students make use of our school, we create a pipeline of well prepared students who enter our undergraduate programs with a better foundation.

By incorporating digital lesson creation into our graduate programs, we allow our students to practice their pedagogy and their technology skills while helping their future students.

A free online school would put Fresno State back on the map as a people's university that serves those who most need it by providing a local resource for academic help.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION