



SUCCESS STORY WITH ACHIEVE **VAUGHN SCRIBNER**

INSTRUCTOR:
Vaughn Scribner

INSTITUTION:
University of Central Arkansas

PRODUCT IN USE:
Achieve Read & Practice

Course Details

I'm currently using Achieve Read & Practice in two courses, but the one I want to address is a small, honors-college boutique course on early American history. My honors college students come in with quite a bit of knowledge, but are still "open books," if you will. We meet in person on Mondays and Wednesdays, and via zoom on Fridays. It is a diverse class of freshmen, all of whom have met the rigorous standards for the university's top-rated honors program. And, while none are history majors, they all offer an intellectual curiosity and work ethic which facilitates in-person and independent research and studying.

Implementation

I use Achieve Read & Practice as a method to fill in any gaps that students might have (both before and after lectures), track their progress over certain themes/topics, and provide them a wholly-beneficial point opportunity. These three advantages are why I chose Read & Practice in the first place, and it ends up being about 15 percent of their total grade. I assign them one section of Read & Practice each week, and they are expected to have it done by the Friday of that week. On Fridays, we review the week's lectures, along with secondary and primary source readings. The Read & Practice assignment informs and supports all of these intersections and goals.

Results

Students seem to really enjoy it—they especially like the ability to reflect upon what they need to research more, in addition to the low-stakes points opportunity. Overall, the honors college students are high achievers and usually earn "A's," so this program only further boosts their knowledge base and confidence. I also like that it gives me a bit of a thematic bench mark for each week.