gideon

for microbiology teachers

TEACHING ONLINE MADE EASY

"If you don't know about GIDEON you should definitely look into it."

Dr. Johnny El-Rady, Instructor (Microbiology and Genetics) at the University of South Florida

The COVID-19 pandemic has made digital education tools vital, accelerating digital transformation initiatives in many institutions and prompting others to adopt new and urgent strategies. For medical schools, GIDEON has played an important role in making the transition to digital teaching easier through established online presence, ease of access, and relevant and powerful data, which has made a significant difference for educators like Dr. El-Rady at the University of South Florida (USF).

Teaching courses in microbiology and genetics, Dr. El-Rady has taught over 24,000 students since joining USF in 1997. COVID-19 presented him with the unprecedented challenge to deliver his courses completely online and at very short notice.

"I was given 2 weeks to prepare the syllabus for two courses I needed to run in the fall semester, one in Public Health and the other in Pathogenic Microbiology. GIDEON was the perfect tool to build activities and learning around, it made my job much easier!"

Adding self-guided learning goes a long way to break up days full of virtual meetings and seminars, giving students something fresh and engaging to explore.

"For the Public Health class, I allowed students to explore GIDEON data and create their own projects, to be presented at the end of the semester. That was a brilliant success," said Dr. El-Rady.

The breadth of data available within GIDEON also meant there was something for everyone, no matter what specialty they were interested in.

"We had students interested in pursuing a career in Public Health, those interested in Travel Medicine, and others in Dentistry – all were able to find something of interest to build their work around. Those interested in Dentistry found oral pathogens and oral microbiota and then did a presentation based on that. Others 'adopted' a country, to explore its outbreak history, relevant pathogens, and recommended vaccines. The tools for identifying a disease or microbe were also extremely popular and useful."

Dr. El-Rady at the University of South Florida used GIDEON to move his syllabus online when on-campus classes were stopped due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "The transition was very successful", he says.

GIDEON ADVANTAGE

Real-world context
How dangerous can a pathogen be? GIDEON puts theory into practice with a vast epidemiological data set for 360+ Infectious Diseases, accompanied by over 80,000 prevalence surveys and 25,000+ outbreaks. Students can explore case numbers, deaths, specific populations, and disease vehicles.

Over 2,000 pathogens
GIDEON database contains in-depth phenotype information on over 2,000 medically important bacteria, mycobacteria, and yeasts.

Differential phenotype identification
GIDEON offers a Bayesian analysis-based differential organism identification facility to help students generate a ranked pathogen probability list.

Millions of data points, covering 230+ geographical areas
GIDEON's geographical distribution data set lists over 360 Infectious Diseases, with over 23,000 country-specific notes and an in-depth analysis of global disease spread.