

#### The Problem

#### Two different platforms







**ACG Mail** 

#### **Blackboard LMS**

- Outdated design
- Browsing complexity
- Experiences bugs
- Requires plugin for exams
  - Absence of SSO

#### My ACG Portal

- Outdated design
- Browsing complexity
- Functionality problems
  - Absence of SSO

#### Messages

Deree Student

EXACTLY! 16:40

Maira Kotsovoulou (1 new message)

My favorite students please do not forget that... 15:19

President Horner

Okay sir, I can handle this!

Eleni (2 new messages)

Let's go for a walk after class today! 10:56

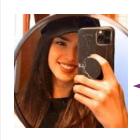
#### Deree Student



Why do we have to type two times our password... For two different platforms?

That's a very good question Deree student!

Deree doesn't have an SSO system, despite the fact that the passwords for myACG and Blackboard are nowadays the same, taken from the very same database server...



I really do not understand what you're talking about... but why not having one site for everything?

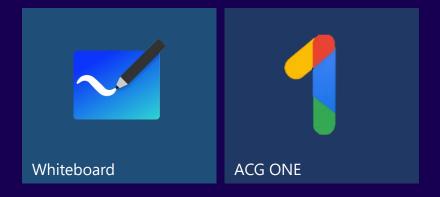
**EXACTLY!** 

#### Whiteboard

 Redesigned platform to merge both Blackboard and myACG functionalities

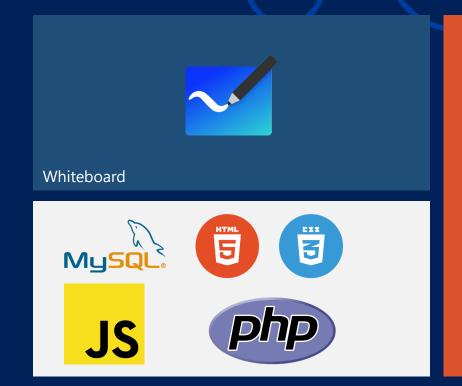
#### ACG ONE

- An SSO platform for students
- A simple yet powerful administrative tool for professors and staff





# The Implementation



The platform has been implemented using

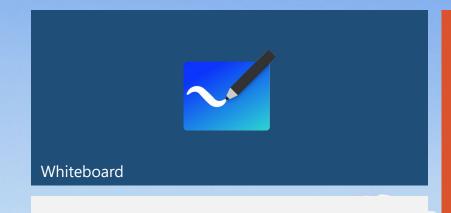
- mySQL Server Database
- HTML 5 and CSS 3 for design purposes
- JavaScript for interactivity in order to implement some functions
  - PHP to process, store and retrieve user data



# SIMPLE – FRESH – VIVID – USER FRIENDLY Design based on Windows 8 Metro UI using Metro 4 CSS Framework



# The Design





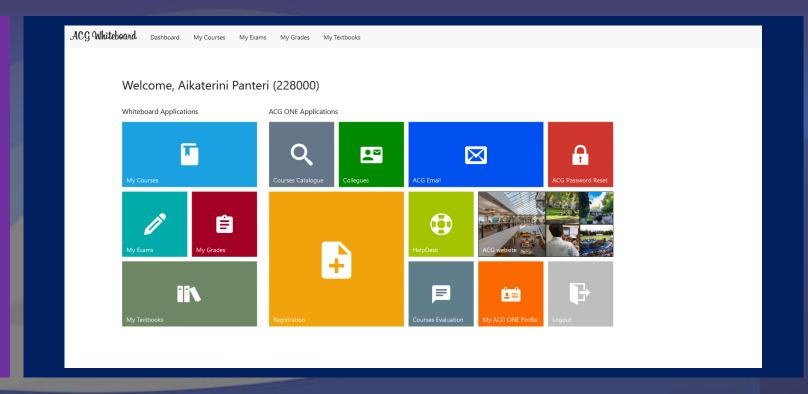
ACG Whiteboard has been designed on the standards of **Metro UI**, introduced for the fist time by Microsoft in 2012, as it was the primary design style of Windows 8.

Metro UI is not so popular among Desktop Users, but for a web environment is ideal as it provides **simplicity** both in terms of appearance and user experience.

### All in ONE for students

When the student logs in to the platform the *Start Menu* on the Dashboard appears with a welcome message which includes the user's name and ID.

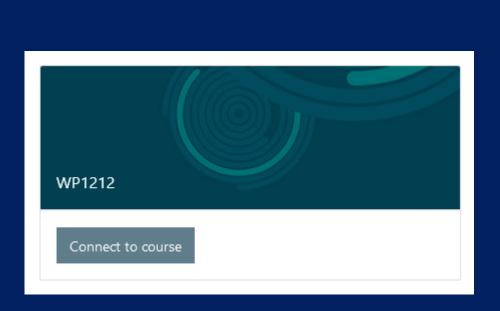
The All-in-One Start Menu provides an easy and beautiful browsing experience with vivid colors and large icons which identify uniquely each function.



# Students:: My Courses

Via the My Courses section of the platform students can connect to their online course easier than ever before.

With just the click of a button the student is redirected to MS Teams, Adobe Connect or Zoom. No extra software or configuration is needed.

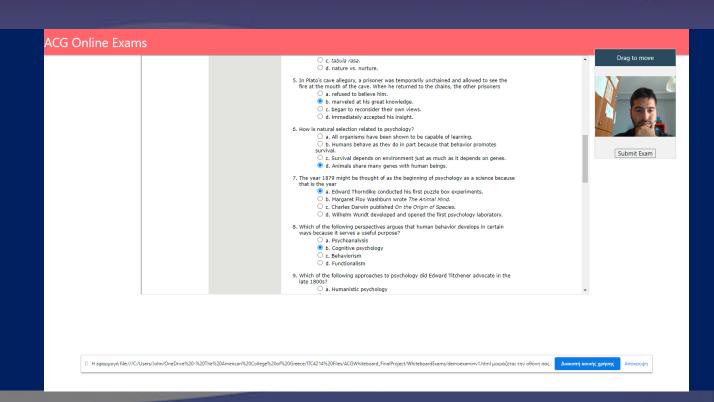


# Students:: My Exams



Online Exams have never been easier for students to take!

Without the need of extra plugins, using any web browser, with security features such as full-screen mode and video, audio and screen recording, the ACG Online Exams Platform (part of ACG ONE) makes exam procedure easier, more secure and more user friendly!



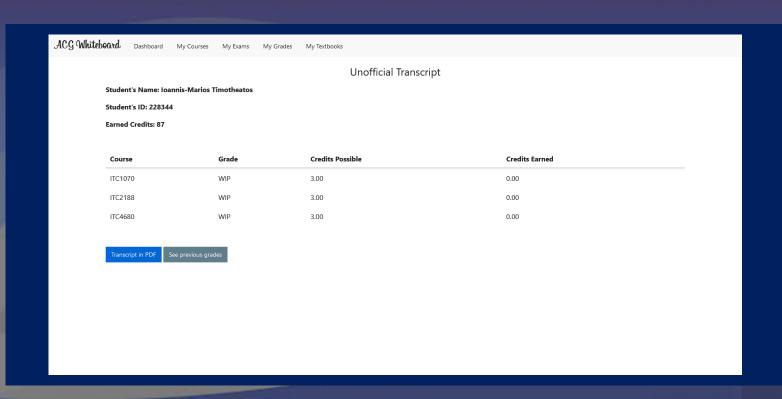
Note: Screen and Video/Audio recording features are not available at the <u>itweblab.eu</u> server due to server's security policy. If the <u>/WhiteboardExams/demoexaminv1</u>.html runs locally these features are running normally!



# Students:: My Grades

Students can access their transcript and see their semester grades directly using the ACG Whiteboard.

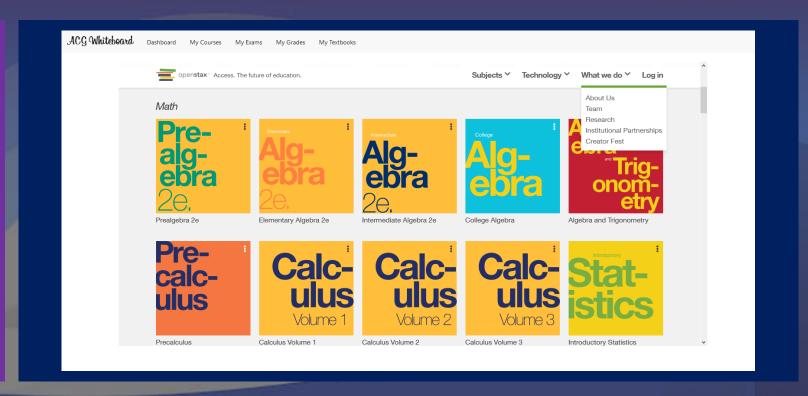
PDF download of the transcript is also available using a JavaScript file which allows the conversion of HTML to PDF.



# Students:: My Textbooks

By integrating the OpenStax textbooks platform to ACG Whiteboard, students can easily see and access their textbooks both in PDF and HTML format.

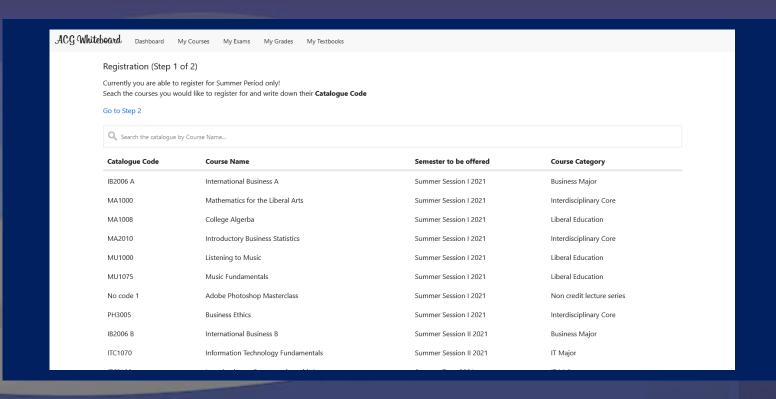
Other textbooks platforms such as VitalSource can also be integrated.



# Students:: Registration (1)

Registration has never been easier! A new simple and safe registration method has been implemented in two steps.

First, the student has to choose his/her courses. This can be done by clicking Registration at the Start Menu and search for available courses at the catalogue shown in the image to the right.



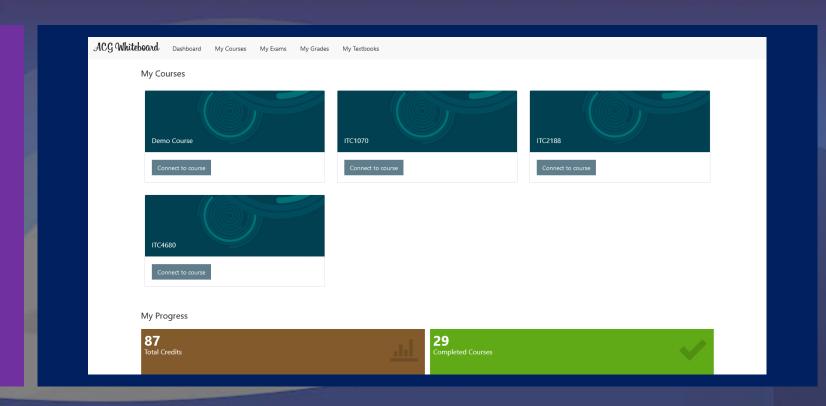
# Students:: Registration (2)

Proceeding to Step 2 the student is being redirected to ACG One in order to finish his/her registration.



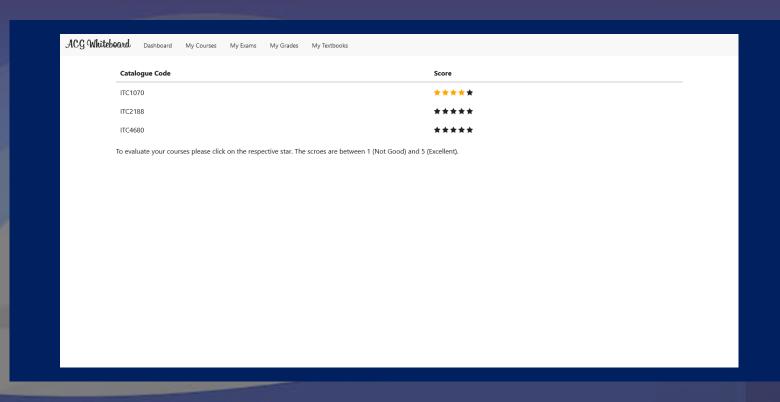
# Students:: Registration (3)

After registration is complete, the students is being redirected automatically to My Courses page to see his new courses.



# Students:: Course Rating

Students can easily rate courses via the ACG Whiteboard. A stars method has been implemented in order to do so providing a simple, comprehensive and easy way of rating.

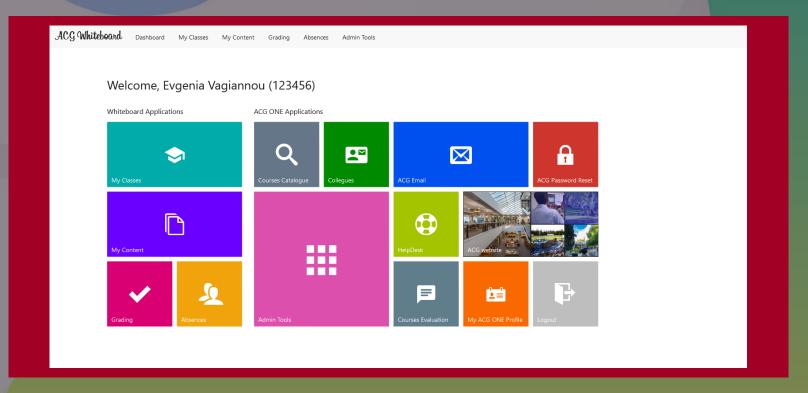


### All in ONE for professors

A different Start Menu appears with different functions and different color scheme.

The menu is role-based so professors have different available functions from students.

ACG Whiteboard is a must have tool for faculty as it gathers all functions a professor need in one place, from classes management to grading and absences.



#### Professors:: Admin Tools

Professors have access to Admin Tools, via which they can add and remove courses and categories.



ACG One - Admin Tools

Go back

Courses Management

Add courses

Remove courses

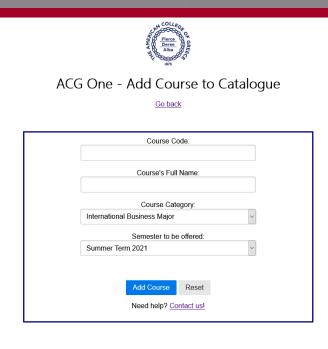
See Courses Catalogue

Categories of Courses

Enter Categories Management

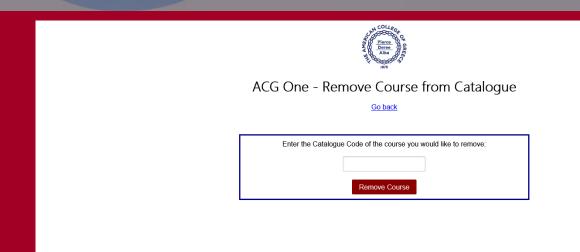
### Professors:: Admin Tools:: Add Course

Adding a course is a very easy procedure. By just completing this form a course can be added directly to the courses catalogue.



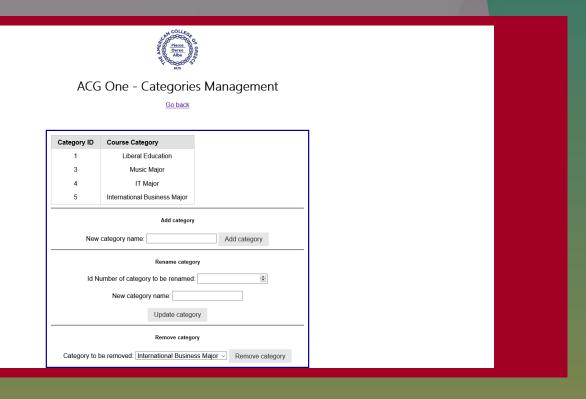
#### Professors:: Admin Tools:: Remove Course





### Professors:: Admin Tools:: Categories

Via a one-page-form professors can add, modify or remove course categories!



ACG One

Let's now see the functionalities of ACG One, common for both students and professors!

**011e**.

### ACG One:: Courses Catalogue

In non-registration period, students and professors can see the course catalogue at any time for future planning or just to browse around available courses.



#### ACG One - Courses Catalogue

Go back

Don't find the course you want? <u>Use search!</u>					
Course Code	Course Name	Semester to be offered	Course Category		
IB2006 A	International Business A	Summer Session I 2021	Business Major		
IB2006 B	International Business B	Summer Session II 2021	Business Major		
ITC1070	Information Technology Fundamentals	Summer Session II 2021	IT Major		
ITC2188	Introduction to Programming with Java	Summer Term 2021	IT Major		
ITC3106	Discrete Mathematics with MATLAB	Summer Term 2021	IT Major		
ITC3233	Data Mining	Summer Term 2021	IT Major		
ITC4680	Artificial Intelligence Principles	Fall Semester 2021	IT Major		
MA1000	Mathematics for the Liberal Arts	Summer Session I 2021	Interdisciplinary Core		

#### ACG One:: Courses Search

The courses catalogue is a really long catalogue, that's why a courses search page has been implemented.

Search is possible either by typing the Course Name, Code, Category or even the desired semester.



Search by any one of these four criteria.  Course Name:  Course Code: WP1212  Course Category:					
Semester: Search					
Search results					
Course Code	Course Name	Semester to be offered	Course Category		
WP1212	Academic Writing and Research	Summer Term 2021	Liberal Education		

### ACG One:: Colleagues Search

How many times your students ask you for your email address? The era of such questions has come to an end!

ACG One provides a contacts search so a student, or professor, can easily find an email address!



## ACG One:: Security

Using PHP Sessions, each page is secure from unauthorized access!

An appropriate message is printed on the screen when someone tries to access restricted access.



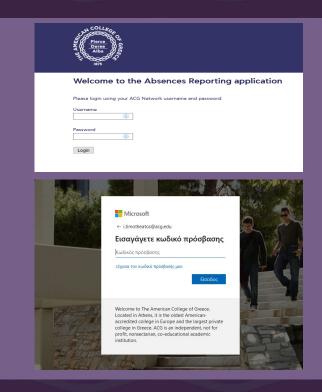
Go back

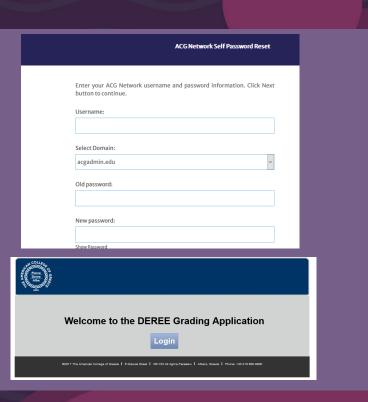
You do not have the necessary access rights to see this page.

If you believe that this is an error, submit a ticket!

## ACG One:: Direct linking to services

ACG One, via ACG Whiteboard, offers a direct access to other services of the college, such as absences and grades report, helpdesk access, email access and password reset!





#### Cost projection

 The platform is administered and hosted internally so no extra costs are expected to be risen for the maintenance of the platform. The IRM department will be responsible for the platform, as it has been for MyACG and Blackboard.

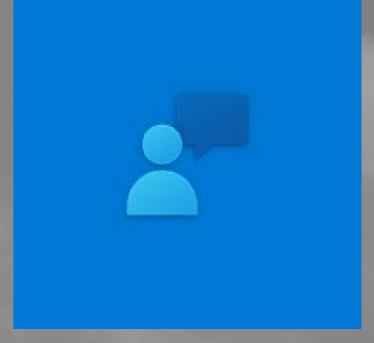






- The rating system has not been fully implemented, a better approach to its implementation and design should be followed for future editions.
- New features such as calendars with students' and professors' schedules can be also added.



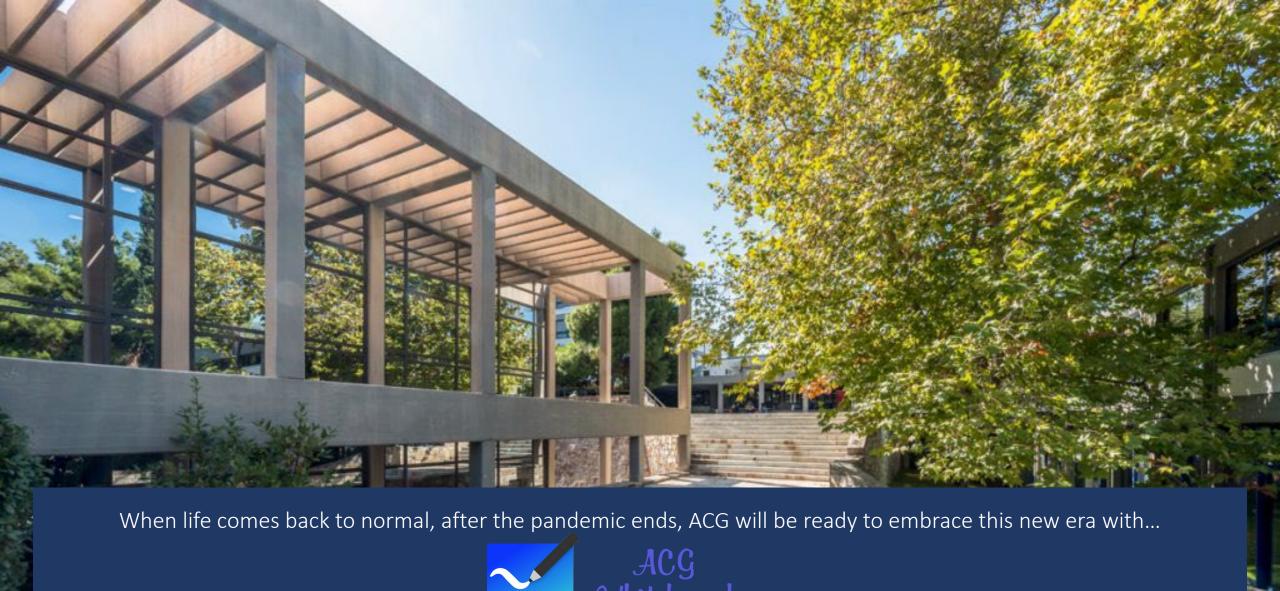




Whiteboard









A redesigned educational experience!