

dashLabs



Case Study for



**U.S. NAVAL
SEA CADET CORPS**

CHART YOUR COURSE

eLearning Course Development

2020 - 2021

DASHLABS ENGAGEMENT WITH USNSCC

Summary

About the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC)

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) is a non-profit youth leadership program based on the principles of the US Navy and is intended for youth ages 10 to 18. Established in 1962, the USNSCC is supported by the Department of the Navy and the Navy League of the United States. The program is administered by a small National Headquarters staff. Our field staff is comprised of an all-volunteer force of over 3,300 dedicated adults from all walks of life. Through partnerships with our nation's armed forces, we provide exciting training and leadership opportunities to thousands of cadets based in local units throughout 46 States, Guam and Puerto Rico.

About the Project

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, organizations like the USNSCC were met with the challenge to take training courses that are typically taught in the classroom and in the field into virtual spaces. In an effort to continue support of its program volunteers and participants, USNSCC recognized a need for virtual learning modules that encapsulate the existing adult volunteer onboarding and orientation experiences that have previously been delivered via live in-person instruction. DashLabs supported this effort by providing instructional systems design services to map their existing content into instructional categories, align the key topics with supporting exercises and resources, and then package the finished product into engaging, interactive, self-paced instruction. Each module was custom built with engaging opening media to build excitement around the mission and experience of their volunteers and participants. The modules continued with media-rich, interactive eLearning segments that brought together key topics that each adult volunteer should know prior to engaging in their role with the USNSCC. By providing these modules as pre-packaged eLearning, USNSCC was able to free up resources, money, and time spent preparing adult volunteers across the country and can further ensure that each person's foundational knowledge is at the same level prior to delving into further prep and training.

The DashLabs Approach

DashLabs has support government and government-support clients for more than a decade, which is evidenced by our unique approach to working with similarly highly visible clients and stakeholders. A common challenge can be centered in availability—availability of existing content, availability of subject matter experts who can share viable information from which to create new content, remaining up to date with the ever-changing titles, acronyms, and policy requirements, ensuring sensitive subjects are covered with care and accuracy, and choosing didactic imagery and media that accurately reflects the exact specifications in accordance with policy. This means that we cannot simply take on stock images or rest assured that policies mentioned in existing materials are relevant with changes in administration and management. We therefore do our due diligence to apply empirical research efforts to ensure we arrive to every discussion prepared to discuss topics with subject matter experts in a way that demonstrates that we've done our homework and can make the most of their limited availability by not losing valuable time asking open-ended questions that lead through an inductive discovery process that results in a series of phases to chop it back down to the essentials.

Because our expert teams are well versed in cross-disciplinary approaches that fuse together cognitive science, design and technology, and pedagogical methodology, we are skilled at approaching stakeholders when we are prepared to lead them through a deductive process of tapering bodies of information down until it becomes essential learning content. From there, we build. Such was the case with this project.

Example Course Flow:

