

Hawai'i Cloud Innovation Summit 2023

Business School & the Cloud

Integrating AWS Academy into the Curriculum

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Personal background

- 20+ years of DoD & IT
- University of Tulsa (2013-2023)
- University of Hawai'i (8/1/23 -)
- Master of Science in Information Systems (MSIS) | The Shidler College of Business (hawaii.edu)
- Undergraduate and graduate MIS & MSIS courses (data networks, cybersecurity, enterprise architecture, programming)



Why this matters to Students & Businesses?

Students

- Not just for IT-related students; the global economy runs in the Cloud
- Access to current “cutting edge” skills and technologies
- Experiential hands-on labs using real AWS tools and infrastructure
- Recognized course completion badges and internationally-valued technical certifications
- Advantage for internships and new-hire positions

Businesses

- Interns and newly-graduated employees with distinguishable baseline skills and knowledge
- Identify students / employees that put in the extra effort
- Less of your time and money getting new employees up to speed on Cloud business model and tools

What I like about AWS Academy

- Free
- Important skills and subjects
- VERY affordable certification exam fees
- Easy to enroll students (analytics)
- Customizable Canvas platform
- ** Constantly updated material **

ACFV2EN-9603 > New Analytics

Average Course Grade 89.57%
COURSE CONCLUDED

Course Grade Weekly Online Activity **Students** Reports

Oct 25, 2021-Jul 10, 2023

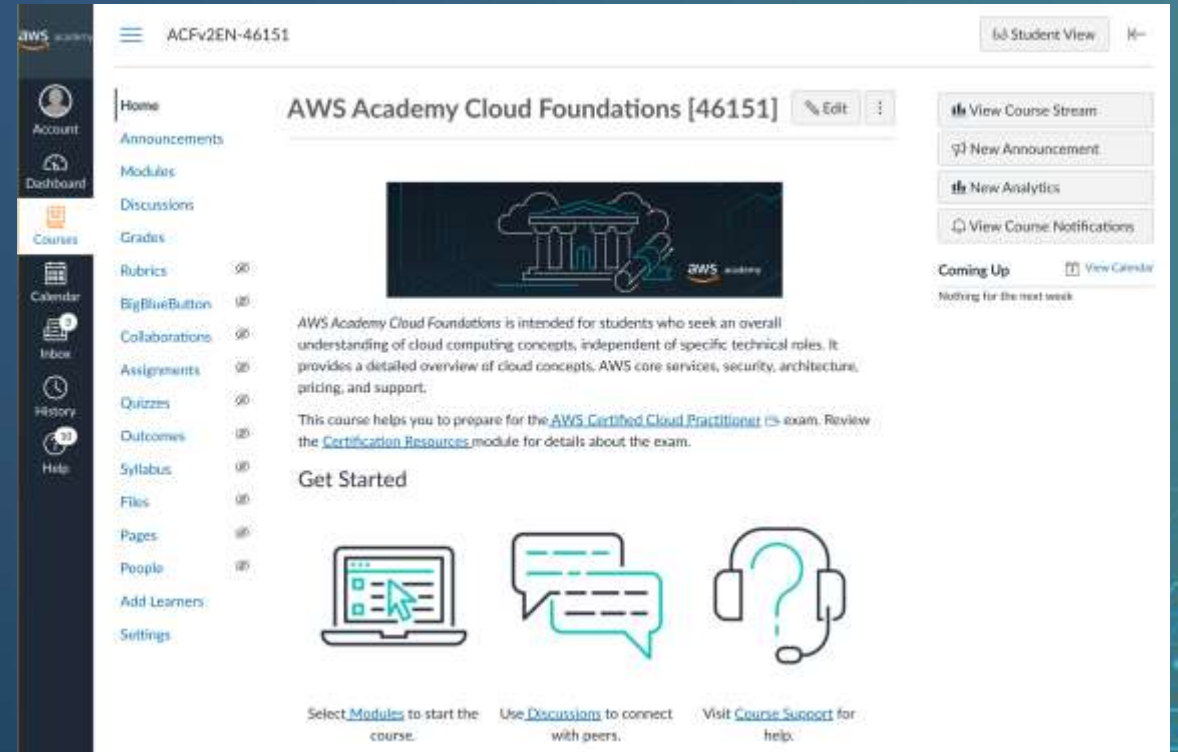
All Sections Add a Section, Student

Students (45)	Grade	% On Time	Last Participation	Last Page View	Page Views
AL	90%	100%	Nov 2, 2021	Jan 31, 2022	197
LL	93%	100%	Nov 26, 2021	Dec 23, 2021	128
KL	100%	100%	Oct 28, 2021	Dec 14, 2021	226
BM	93%	100%	Nov 2, 2021	Jan 24, 2022	167

Past AWS Academy usage

AWS Cloud Foundations material integrated into

- System Administration (TU): 150+ undergrad students (2 years)
- Enterprise Systems Management (UH): 7 in SP23



Current & Planned AWS Academy usage

Current AWS Academy Usage

- FA23: Incorporate AWS Cloud Concepts, Economics, and Billing into BUS 311 (Information Systems for Global Business Environment)
- FA23: Voluntary full AWS Cloud Foundations course open to all UHM Business students
- FA23: AWS Cloud Architecting course and certification for MSIS student (pilot)

Future plans and aspirations

- For-credit Cloud Business 1 (AWS Cloud Foundations) and Cloud Business 2 (AWS Cloud Architecting) courses
- New MSIS elective based on AWS Data Engineering course
- Incorporate more AWS Academy short-form courses into MIS & MSIS curriculum (Cloud Security, Machine Learning Foundations and NLP)

Things to consider....

- UHM is not the first to do this... many other 4 year + universities are benefiting from AWS Academy (such as LSU)
- Instructors should be qualified on any AWS Academy courses they teach
- AWS moves fast & the AWS Academy curriculum changes with it – Instructors need to keep up with the changes
- If you don't require students to take the actual certification exam as part of their grade, > 80% will not
- Exam vouchers (50% off) available for AWS Academy member institutions, but not free – how will students pay for the cert exams if required?
- Finding your AWS Academy CPOC is not easy
- Use the AWS Academy LMS full or in part? Instructor-led or all asynchronous online?
- AWS certifications help students get interviews for internships and jobs. How do you make them aware?

“ Just wanted to thank you for the awesome practice you gave me with the AWS cloud practitioner cert, made my life super easy to get the Azure equivalent in 2 days ”

Ryan D.

Former student

Want to know more about the excellent MIS and MSIS students and curriculum at the Shidler College of Business? Of course you do...

- Email: sa8@hawaii.edu
- [Management Information Systems Major | The Shidler College of Business \(hawaii.edu\)](#)
- [Master of Science in Information Systems \(MSIS\) | The Shidler College of Business \(hawaii.edu\)](#)

Please submit your feedback. Thank you!



<https://www.pulse.aws/survey/RNKJJHKD>

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Thank you!

