



NETAPP UNIVERSITY

# The NetApp Academic Alliances Program

Developing Tomorrow's Data Management Professionals Today

## Key Benefits

- Easily integrate storage industry content and best practices into your classes.
- Access professionally developed web-based courses and labs.
- Extend students' learning with easily deployed NetApp software simulation tools.
- Enhance your students' value in the job market with an industry recognized certification.
- Take advantage of program resources at no cost to qualified institutions.

Shared-service infrastructures, cloud computing, and big data are all changing the way we process, store, and use data. In today's IT landscape, organizations are rapidly deploying hybrid cloud infrastructures, and experts anticipate that by 2016 more than half of all IT services will be delivered through the cloud.<sup>1</sup> As the "Internet of Things" comes fully into being, tens of billions of new devices will generate information that will need to be stored, processed, managed, and analyzed.

All of this is fueling the need for more storage and data management experts and for new approaches to managing IT services and infrastructures. To accommodate these industry shifts, today's students in information technology and information services (IT/IS) programs need to learn new technologies, terminologies, and skills to manage massive amounts of data in private, public, and hybrid cloud environments.

## Keep Your Curriculum Current with Industry Practices

Students who understand the emerging architectures and business models of today's evolving IT environments will be better equipped to succeed as they enter the workforce. It is critical for IT/IS programs to provide course content that reflects the new IT landscape and prepares students for today's cloud-centric, storage-intensive computing environment. Despite the fact that data volumes are expected to grow by 76% in the next 12 to 18 months, storage and data management practices are often only lightly touched upon in many IT courses and programs, if they are covered at all.<sup>2</sup> NetApp can help.

## Add Industry Expertise and Resources at No Cost

The NetApp Academic Alliances Program is an industry-academic partnership that provides faculty and students with highly relevant instructional materials, hands-on labs that use industry-leading storage management software, and even the opportunity to earn an entry-level storage certification. The program offerings are designed to integrate seamlessly into existing courses, or they can be used as the foundation to develop dedicated enterprise storage/cloud infrastructure courses.

Teaching and curriculum resources include:

- Interactive web-based courses that enable faculty to enrich and expand their classroom content
- Software simulators that can be easily deployed in a lab or virtual machine to give students hands-on learning experience with industry-leading storage management software
- Case studies, white papers, and analyst reports that bring current, real-world examples and insights into the classroom
- The NetApp Certified Storage Associate (NCSA) certification, an accelerated track of study with web-based training and self-paced virtual labs specifically designed to provide college and university students with their first industry credential



Easy to integrate  
web-based courses



Foundational-level Storage  
Associate certification,  
with self-paced labs



Virtual software simulators  
for student exploration



Flexible content and materials  
that cover varying  
levels of technical depth

## Comprehensive Portfolio of Teaching Resources

### Prepare Students with In-Demand Skills

Chances are that your students will soon use NetApp® technology in their IT careers. As a leader in storage and data management, we continually work to deliver the next generation of products, services, and solutions that extend the global value of and demand for NetApp skills.

Some of our recent accomplishments include being:

- The #1 converged storage solution for public cloud infrastructures<sup>3</sup>
- The world's #1 open network branded storage operating system<sup>4</sup>
- Microsoft's Private Cloud Partner of the Year
- The first data management company to build an ecosystem around a private cloud storage solution with Amazon Web Services
- A partner of leading IT companies, including Cisco, Citrix, Oracle, SAP, and VMware

In today's IT world, storage is fundamental to business efficiency, flexibility, and innovation. Shouldn't it also be fundamental to your IT curriculum?

"I have been using NetApp resources for over two years and integrated the NCSA program into the curriculum for my Data Storage and Disaster Recovery class. The NCSA has added a key dimension to our students' ability to provide comprehensive IT solutions that address the needs of today's digital economy."

Dr. David Hua, Assistant Professor, Department of Technology,  
Ball State University

### For More Information

Learn more about the NetApp Academic Alliances Program:  
[www.netapp.com/us/company/leadership/academic-alliances/index.aspx](http://www.netapp.com/us/company/leadership/academic-alliances/index.aspx)

3. IDC Bi-Annual Storage Demand Survey 2013 ([www.netapp.com/us/company/news/press-releases/news-rel-20131211-136507.aspx](http://www.netapp.com/us/company/news/press-releases/news-rel-20131211-136507.aspx))

4. IDC Worldwide Quarterly Disk Storage Systems Tracker Q4 2012, March 2013

### About NetApp

Leading organizations worldwide count on NetApp for software, systems and services to manage and store their data. Customers value our teamwork, expertise and passion for helping them succeed now and into the future.

[www.netapp.com](http://www.netapp.com)