How a tech startup founder discovered his passion at NAU

I decided that I was going to succeed in school, and I did. NAU was the right choice for me.

Alex Lasheen
B.A.S., Technology Management, 2013

Meet Alex

Alex Lasheen lives in Phoenix, Arizona where he recently launched his online business. He earned his associate degree at Paradise Valley Community College, then he entered the Technology Management program in 2012 through The Extended Campuses of Northern Arizona University.

Worth the Risk

Alex was missing something in his life. After finishing his associate degree, he wasn’t sure where he wanted his life to go. “I looked at a lot of different colleges,” he says. “But none of them felt right. I needed a plan.”

He went to his friends and family for help and someone suggested NAU. “My parents and friends agreed that earning my bachelor’s degree at NAU was a great idea,” Alex says. “I had a good support system when I made the decision.”

Alex was uncertain about going back to school, but NAU helped him every step of the way. “The advisors were very proactive,” he says. “Transferring was a smooth and easy process.”

He always liked technology, but talking to his NAU advisor helped him realize the opportunities he had by pursuing an IT career. “NAU helped me figure out what really interests me.”

NAU’s Technology Management program focuses on creating solutions for current issues facing the IT field, from technology and policy to business and administration. It was designed for professionals like Alex who want to excel in IT leadership positions.
Finding Community

From the beginning, Alex found NAU to be a supportive community. He received individual attention from his instructors as well as made connections with his classmates. “Going back to school felt like a risk, but as soon as I started taking classes, it felt right.”

Taking most of his classes online, Alex didn’t find the distance to be a barrier when it came to talking with his peers. “Often my classmates reached out to me for advice because I did well in class,” he says.

Ready for the Future

Since launching his online business, Alex has put his IT skills to the test. “In the real world, you don’t have steps or instructions on how to do things. You’re left there to figure it out,” he says. “My classes prepared me for that.”

That’s not the only thing keeping him busy. Alex is also pursuing internships in the IT field to get his foot in the door. “I’m excited to find what’s out there for me.”

NAU’s 90/30 Degree Options

This unique bachelor’s degree option lets students like you:
- **Save money** on tuition by transferring up to 90 credit hours.
- **Stay local** by completing your NAU credits online or at a local community college.
- **Advance your career** in Technology Management, Occupational Education, Emergency Management and other growing fields.

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- Hospitality
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**Online:** Learn anywhere with high-quality online classes.

**In-Person:** Take class in person at one of NAU’s 30+ campuses.

**Blended:** A mix of in-person and online coursework.

Learn More

To find out more about NAU–Extended Campuses, including its degree options, locations and affordable tuition:

- **Visit:** nau.edu/extended
- **Call:** (800) 426-8315
- **Email:** extended.campuses@nau.edu
- **Go:** Visit your local NAU campus

“NAU gave me the tools I needed to succeed in the real world. It was challenging yet very rewarding.” — Alex Lasheen

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