

Access to Success Day: Bridge Programs

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Goals

- Provide academic preparation, including study skills, to those SSS & AOC new freshmen testing into English and/or Math 090 & 095 and those with reading comprehension skills at or below the 12th grade level
- Reduce the number of semesters SSS & AOC new freshmen spend in English and/or Math 090 & 095
- Begin to acclimate students to a university environment, e.g., physical setting, expectations, responsibilities

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Baseline Data

- 214 selected for 2005 summer bridge
 - Selected based on placement into English or Math 090 or 095 or reading comprehension score of 12 or lower
- 128 participated in bridge
 - Reasons for non-participation:
 - Unable to commute
 - Need for employment
 - Placement tests taken too late
 - Nelson Denny not taken

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Targeted Improvements

- Instruction addressed two primary areas
 - Content with which students typically have difficulty
 - Content students need to have a good understanding of in order to do well in the course.

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Actions in 2005-06

- Based on placement test scores students were required to attend bridge class(es) in English, reading, math and/or study skills
- At the end of each class students were required to retest in the subject

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Impact

- Student advancement after bridge retesting
 - English (83 remedial students)
 - 21 (25%) advanced at least one course
 - Reading (82 students =/ $<$ 12th grade)
 - 51 (62%) advanced at least one grade level
 - Math (107 students)
 - 38 (36%) advanced at least one course

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Plans for 2006-07

- Change bridge focus to reducing number of semesters spent in remedial level courses
- Possibly lengthen SSS bridge classes
- Instill in students the skills to not only advance but to be successful in their new course placement

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