

Access to Success Day: Gateway Course Redesigns

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Goals

- To help students meet the GER math competency goal more quickly
- To see if this goal can be accomplished by increasing student contact hours and using more individualized instruction

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Baseline Data

Of the entering first year students for Fall 2005...

... about 10% placed into Math 090 (Basic Mathematics)

... about 19% placed into Math 095 (Beginning Algebra)

Historically, 30% of entering first year students are in non-credit math courses.

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Targeted Improvements

- Improve student proficiency with basic arithmetic and algebraic skills
- Reduce the time needed to meet mathematical skills competency requirement for graduation

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Actions in 2005-06

Math 090/095 and Math 095/105 courses were created

- ACT scores and math placement test scores determined eligibility
- Advisor involvement required
- Each course met twice per day for five days a week with high teacher to student ratio
- Individual study plans were created using ALEKS

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Impact

38 students total

- Only one student did not complete either course
- One additional student only completed the first course
- 37 students received As in first course
- 27 students received As in the second course
- 25 students completed BOTH courses before the end of the semester with 20 of these students actually done by Dec 1 (primarily Math 95/105 students)

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Plans for 2006-07

Expansion of program

- Aim to reach 100-120 students in the fall semester
- Increase the number of students moving from regular Math 090 courses to Math 095/105 in the spring
- Reformulate student eligibility requirements based on spring course outcomes for this year's students
- Identify suitable computer lab space

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