



Santa Ana College
Does Curriculum Change in Selected English/EMLS Courses
Enhance Successful Course Completion?

May 2010

In Fall 2007, faculty implemented a curriculum change that requires students enrolled in English N60, 061 and EMLS 112 to spend an additional 16 hours a semester outside of class time in the Writing Center. In addition to faculty providing structured instruction during these sessions, the students are also welcomed to bring their composition for individualized tutoring. Faculty believes that if students have the additional one-on-one assistance, they can easily identify their writing errors and develop the skills needed to correct them. After three years, faculty wants to know if the changes influence the success rates of those enrolled in these courses. Findings include:

- **Students enrolled in English N60 and EMLS 112 showed minor changes in successful course completion rates compared to those enrolled in the courses prior to the curriculum changes (Fall 2006).**
- **Students enrolled in English 061 for the last three fall semesters were more successful (an average of five percentage points) than those enrolled Fall 2006.**

There may be other intervening variables that faculty should consider when assessing the impact that participation in the Writing Center has on students' success in these three courses; further investigation is recommended.

Comparison of Grade Distributions for Selected English/EMLS Courses
Fall 2006-Fall 2009

	Successful				Total Succ.*	Non-Successful			Total Non- Succ.**	W	Total count
	A	B	C	Cr		D	F	NCr			
English N60											
Fall 2006	4%	19%	31%	0%	55%	11%	11%	0%	22%	23%	464
Fall 2007	6%	21%	21%	0%	48%	14%	10%	0%	24%	28%	459
Fall 2008	6%	19%	30%	0%	55%	11%	11%	0%	21%	23%	513
Fall 2009	5%	19%	32%	0%	57%	10%	10%	0%	20%	24%	514
English 061											
Fall 2006	10%	18%	24%	0%	53%	10%	11%	0%	21%	27%	806
Fall 2007	9%	22%	24%	0%	55%	9%	10%	0%	19%	26%	789
Fall 2008	13%	25%	22%	0%	60%	7%	11%	0%	19%	21%	807
Fall 2009	9%	23%	27%	0%	59%	7%	16%	0%	23%	18%	754
EMLS 112											
Fall 2006	4%	18%	33%	17%	72%	11%	4%	1%	16%	12%	202
Fall 2007	6%	18%	23%	20%	67%	8%	1%	3%	12%	21%	148
Fall 2008	7%	19%	20%	29%	75%	5%	1%	8%	15%	10%	147
Fall 2009	7%	14%	20%	32%	73%	12%	3%	5%	20%	7%	149

*Success includes grade of A, B, C, or Credit

**Non-Success includes grade of D, F, Non-credit