



Research  
Department

# REPORT

## Santa Ana College School of Continuing Education Progression through Noncredit ESL Course Sequence

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Santa Ana College School of Continuing Education (SAC-SCE) offers a variety of English as a Second Language (ESL) courses designed to accommodate the needs of non-native speakers of English at basic, intermediate, and advanced levels of proficiency. The programs offered include general ESL, academic ESL, vocational ESL, as well as family literacy and citizenship. Each fall semester, SAC-SCE serves about 2,000 ESL students and most of these students enroll in the general ESL program. In addition to course enrollment and success rates for this program, this report details student progress through the program's course sequence as an indicator of institutional effectiveness. General ESL course offerings range from ESL Literacy (ESL 399) to ESL Intermediate 3 (ESL 480). Student transcripts enrolled in this sequence for fall 2014, 2015, 2016 were analyzed to identify enrollment trends and sequence progress. This report only covers first time students enrolled in the each of course of the ESL sequence program. The following student outcomes are reported for all three cohorts:

- Initial course enrollments and success rates,
- Course success rates within one year for the initial course as well as the next higher level courses,
- Course success rates within two years for the initial course as well as the next higher level courses
- Enrollment into the Adult Basic Education (ABE), High School Subjects (HSS), Career Technical Education (CTE) and/or college credit program.

### **Summary of Results:**

Due to the nature of the ESL program (open entry/exit), noncredit students usually do not to complete the entire ESL sequence. Moreover, the majority of these students remain in the ESL program just enough time to acquire the desired skills to achieve their personal and/or educational goal which may be to transition to college credit, improve language skills, increase civic involvement and/or to gain employment.

On average, there are about 2,000 students who enter the general ESL program at SAC-SCE for the first time. Overall, about one-third (31%-37%) of these students successfully complete their initial course.

### **Initial Course**

- About one-third of the students successfully complete their initial course of enrolment on their first semester attempt across all cohorts analyzed (Fall 2014 – 33%, Fall 2015 - 37%, Fall 2016 – 31%).
- Within one year of their initial semester, ESL students' success rates of the initial course of enrollment increase another 4%-7% (Fall 2014 – 37%, Fall 2015 – 42% and Fall 2016 – 38%).
- Within two years, the overall success rates increase another 1%-2% (Fall 2014 – 39%, Fall 2015 – 43%).

**Progress through ESL Sequence within two years of the initial ESL enrollment:**

- About two-fifths of the noncredit ESL students progress to the next level of ESL (Fall 2014 – 39%, Fall 2015 – 40%).
- More than one-fifth of the ESL students progress to the second higher level of ESL (Fall 2014 - 20%, Fall 2015 - 22%).
- Few students (5%-6%) progress to the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> levels of higher ESL courses.

**Progress to ABE/HSS/CTE/College Credit within two years of initial ESL enrollment:**

- Overall, less than 10% of the ESL students enroll in ABE courses.
  - At least one-quarter of the Intermediate ESL 3 students enroll in ABE courses.
- Very few ESL students enroll in HSS (1%) and college credit courses (1%).
- None of the ESL students enroll in CTE courses.

## Santa Ana College School of Continuing Education

Fall 2014 Cohort - Initial Semester				ESL Course Completed Within One Year (Fall 2014 to Summer 2015)					ESL Course Completed Within Two Years (Fall 2014 to Summer 2016)								
Course Level	Enrolled	Completed N	Completed %	Same Level	1 Level Higher	2 Level Higher	3 Level Higher	4-6 Level Higher	Same Level	1 Level Higher	2 Level Higher	3 Level Higher	4-6 Level Higher	ABE	HSS	CTE	College Credit
ESL 399 - ESL Literacy	4	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
ESL 410 - Beginning ESL 1	529	174	33%	38%	31%	12%	1%	0%	39%	37%	25%	5%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
ESL 420 - Beginning ESL 2	558	133	24%	27%	28%	7%	1%	0%	28%	32%	14%	4%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
ESL 430 - Beginning ESL 3	475	156	33%	36%	41%	9%	0%		37%	51%	21%	5%		4%	0%	0%	1%
ESL 460 - Intermediate ESL 1	283	92	33%	39%	30%	9%			40%	36%	20%			14%	1%	0%	0%
ESL 470 - Intermediate ESL 2	290	126	43%	48%	29%				49%	36%				20%	3%	0%	6%
ESL 480 - Intermediate ESL 3	171	75	44%	56%					61%					29%	6%	0%	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2310</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>2%</b>

Fall 2015 Cohort - Initial Semester				ESL Course Completed Within One Year (Fall 2015 to Summer 2016)					ESL Course Completed Within Two Years (Fall 2015 to Summer 2017)								
Course Level	Enrolled	Completed N	Completed %	Same Level	1 Level Higher	2 Level Higher	3 Level Higher	4-6 Level Higher	Same Level	1 Level Higher	2 Level Higher	3 Level Higher	4-6 Level Higher	ABE	HSS	CTE	College Credit
ESL 399 - ESL Literacy	6	2	33%	33%	0%	33%	0%	0%	33%	0%	33%	0%	0%	17%	0%	0%	0%
ESL 410 - Beginning ESL 1	451	147	33%	35%	29%	12%	0%	0%	35%	37%	21%	5%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%
ESL 420 - Beginning ESL 2	412	142	34%	39%	29%	10%	1%	0%	42%	38%	21%	7%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
ESL 430 - Beginning ESL 3	408	181	44%	51%	41%	12%	1%		52%	49%	25%	6%		4%	0%	0%	0%
ESL 460 - Intermediate ESL 1	317	88	28%	32%	28%	12%			32%	30%	23%			10%	3%	0%	2%
ESL 470 - Intermediate ESL 2	267	124	46%	51%	37%				54%	48%				16%	3%	0%	1%
ESL 480 - Intermediate ESL 3	212	83	39%	45%					45%					25%	6%	0%	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>1%</b>

Fall 2016 Cohort - Initial Semester				ESL Course Completed Within One Year (Fall 2016 to Summer 2017)					ESL Course Completed Within Two Years (Fall 2016 to Summer 2018)								
Course Level	Enrolled	Completed N	Completed %	Same Level	1 Level Higher	2 Level Higher	3 Level Higher	4-6 Level Higher	Same Level	1 Level Higher	2 Level Higher	3 Level Higher	4-6 Level Higher	ABE	HSS	CTE	College Credit
ESL 399 - ESL Literacy	20	4	20%	20%	20%	15%	0%	0%	These rates will become available at the end of Summer 2018.								
ESL 410 - Beginning ESL 1	569	143	25%	30%	22%	7%	1%	0%									
ESL 420 - Beginning ESL 2	492	158	32%	37%	28%	12%	0%	0%									
ESL 430 - Beginning ESL 3	458	151	33%	37%	27%	7%	0%										
ESL 460 - Intermediate ESL 1	299	97	32%	41%	28%	7%											
ESL 470 - Intermediate ESL 2	268	99	37%	46%	28%												
ESL 480 - Intermediate ESL 3	196	73	37%	47%													
<b>Total</b>	<b>2302</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>									