



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

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In Fall 2007, faculty implemented a curriculum change that requires students enrolled in English N60 and 061 and English for Multilingual Students (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 welcome 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:

- Successful course completion rates for English N60 compared to those enrolled in the courses prior to the curriculum changes (Fall 2006) show minor progress.
- Students enrolled in English 061 during the last five fall semesters were more successful (an average of two to seven percentage points) than those enrolled Fall 2006.
- Grade distributions for EMLS 112 also show promising growth (from a drop in five percentage point the first year of implementation to an increase of one to nine percentage points in the following three fall semesters).

There may be other intervening variables that faculty may want to consider when assessing the full 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 2010

	Total Grades Given	% Successful			Total Success	% Non-Successful		Total Non-Success	W
		A	B	C/Credit		D	F/Non-credit		
English N60									
Fall 2006	464	4%	19%	32%	55%	11%	11%	22%	23%
Fall 2007	459	6%	21%	21%	48%	14%	10%	24%	28%
Fall 2008	513	6%	19%	30%	55%	11%	11%	22%	23%
Fall 2009	514	5%	19%	32%	56%	10%	10%	20%	24%
Fall 2010	436	7%	16%	32%	55%	10%	17%	27%	18%
English 061									
Fall 2006	806	10%	18%	24%	53%	10%	11%	21%	27%
Fall 2007	789	9%	22%	24%	55%	9%	10%	19%	26%
Fall 2008	807	13%	25%	22%	60%	7%	12%	19%	21%
Fall 2009	754	9%	23%	28%	59%	7%	16%	23%	18%
Fall 2010	799	10%	24%	25%	59%	10%	11%	21%	20%
EMLS 112									
Fall 2006	202	4%	18%	50%	72%	11%	5%	16%	12%
Fall 2007	148	6%	18%	43%	67%	8%	1%	12%	21%
Fall 2008	147	7%	19%	49%	75%	5%	10%	15%	10%
Fall 2009	149	7%	14%	52%	73%	12%	8%	20%	7%
Fall 2010	154	10%	25%	46%	81%	3%	7%	10%	9%