Santa Ana College
The Influence of Basic Skills Competency on Success in Core "Gateway" Coursework (Fall 2007), December 2008

Santa Ana College's Matriculation Committee would like to identify courses for which success is highly correlated with basic skills competency. In other words, identify courses for which math, English, or reading competency significantly influences successful completion (A,B,C,CR). Transcripts of Fall 2007 test-takers were evaluated (for the same semester), and those with relatively high enrollment and significant correlation to success are shown in this report.

Summary of Findings

- Overall, course success correlates most highly with math course advisory placements: Anthropology 101, Computer Science 100, Counseling 116, Economics 120, English 101, and Psychology 100.
- Course success correlates with English competency in math coursework (105 and 140) and Psychology 100; reading competency correlates only in math courses 105 and 140.

subject	course		English	Math	Reading
Courses In Which Success Correlates with Basic Skills Competency (Fall 2007 Test-Takers)					
			Correlation of Advisory Course Placement Level with Success		
anthropology	101	**Pearson Correlation**	**0.414**	**.975**[**]	**0.598**
		count	7	5	5
biology	239	Pearson Correlation	-0.333	0.28	-0.579
		count	6	6	6
computer science	100	**Pearson Correlation**	**-0.24**	**.363**[*]	**0.29**
		count	54	45	25
counseling	116	**Pearson Correlation**	**-0.118**	**.235**[**]	**0.076**
		count	194	167	140
economics	120	**Pearson Correlation**	**-0.369**	**.790**[**]	**-0.199**
		count	15	10	10
English	101	**Pearson Correlation**	**-0.026**	**.194**[*]	**0.083**
		count	163	146	87
math	105	**Pearson Correlation**	**.358**[*]	**-0.086**	**.391**[*]
		count	33	32	26
	140	**Pearson Correlation**	**-.595**[**]	**-0.139**	**-.516**[*]
		count	32	29	20
psychology	100	**Pearson Correlation**	**.254**[*]	**.237**[*]	**0.22**
		count	91	71	63
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).					
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).					