

Introduction

One of the Achieving the Dream (AtD) objectives is to increase the percentage of students who enroll in and successfully complete gatekeeper courses. The AtD initiative defines gatekeeper courses as *first level curricular courses that students must pass before enrolling in more advanced courses in their major field*. Academic Affairs identified the six gatekeeper courses that appear in this Fact Sheet. One measure of the effectiveness of CCP's AtD initiatives is tracking student success over time in the six CCP gatekeeper courses.

Overall Pass Rates in Gatekeeper Courses

Final course grades of A, B, and C are considered successful course outcomes. There were 4,676 first-time CCP students in fall 2007 and 45.5 % enrolled in English 098 during the term (Figure 1). A little more than half (54.7%) of these students ended the course with a grade of A, B, or C. Another 13% withdrew from the course. Other than Math 118, success rates in fall 2007 were higher in college-level courses than in developmental courses. Students in Math 118 courses were least likely to be successful.

Overall, success rates across all gatekeeper courses were lower in fall 2007 (55.8%) than in the preceding three fall terms combined (58.2%). The decline in success rates was most pronounced in Math 118. Other than CIS 103, success rates in all gatekeeper courses declined over time. While rates of individual course withdraw fluctuated over time, the overall course withdraw rate was consistent (11.9%).

Figure 1: Fall 2007 First Time Cohort

| Course | Enrolled | Percent of Total First Time Students | Percent Passing With A, B or C Grade | Percent W |
|-------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Math 017 | 1143 | 24.4% | 52.3% | 11.3% |
| Math 118 | 777 | 16.6% | 45.5% | 12.1% |
| English 098 | 2128 | 45.5% | 54.7% | 13.7% |
| English 101 | 708 | 15.1% | 67.2% | 10.0% |
| Biology 106 | 121 | 2.6% | 71.9% | 6.7% |
| CIS* 103 | 366 | 7.8% | 69.4% | 8.5% |
| TOTAL = | | | 55.8% | 11.9% |

Figure 2: Fall 2004 , 2005 and 2006 First Time Cohorts

| Course | Enrolled | Percent of Total First Time Students | Percent Passing With A, B or C Grade | Percent W |
|-------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Math 017 | 2204 | 16.6% | 56.4% | 11.4% |
| Math 118 | 2888 | 21.8% | 54.8% | 15.0% |
| English 098 | 4960 | 37.4% | 56.5% | 11.1% |
| English 101 | 2358 | 17.8% | 69.3% | 11.0% |
| Biology 106 | 276 | 2.1% | 75.0% | 8.7% |
| CIS* 103 | 1440 | 10.9% | 67.4% | 11.4% |
| TOTAL = | | | 58.2% | 11.9% |

* Computer Information Science

Gatekeeper Pass Rates by Gender within Race

Since the AtD initiative is particularly concerned about student groups that have faced the most significant barriers to success in higher education, AtD focuses participating colleges on disparities in student outcomes in order to begin to close achievement gaps. Figures 3 and 4 contain gatekeeper course success rates for student groups defined by gender within race. In fall 2007, black female students were most at-risk of not succeeding in the six gatekeeper courses. This was also true in preceding terms. Asian and white females consistently preformed above the institutional average in the gatekeeper courses.

Figure 3: Fall 2007 First Time Cohort

| | Female | | | | Male | | | | Institutional Average |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Asian | Black | White | Hispanic | Asian | Black | White | Hispanic | |
| Math 017 | 59% (n=16) | 48% (n=178) | 63% (n=108) | 49% (n=37) | 71% (n=17) | 41% (n=79) | 57% (n=49) | 25% (n=16) | 52.3% |
| Math 118 | 68% (n=19) | 58% (n=103) | 70% (n=90) | 44% (n=18) | 63% (n=19) | 48% (n=54) | 62% (n=62) | 30% (n=7) | 45.5% |
| English 098 | 67% (n=38) | 50% (n=355) | 74% (n=200) | 58% (n=74) | 68% (n=48) | 44% (n=165) | 59% (n=88) | 56% (n=35) | 54.7% |
| English 101 | 81% (n=13) | 64% (n=102) | 75% (n=123) | 65% (n=22) | 47% (n=8) | 56% (n=42) | 69% (n=76) | 44% (n=4) | 67.2% |
| Biology 106 | 100% (n=8) | 60% (n=19) | 86% (n=21) | 100% (n=4) | 100% (n=1) | 75% (n=9) | 44% (n=4) | 50% (n=1) | 71.9% |
| CIS* 103 | 75% (n=6) | 64% (n=60) | 86% (n=61) | 81% (n=13) | 66% (n=8) | 58% (n=32) | 57% (n=28) | 83% (n=5) | 69.4% |

Figure 4: Fall 2004 , Fall 2005 and Fall 2006 First Time Cohorts

| | Female | | | | Male | | | | Institutional Average |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Asian | Black | White | Hispanic | Asian | Black | White | Hispanic | |
| Math 017 | 79% (n=33) | 55% (n=765) | 67% (n=378) | 60% (n=121) | 68% (n=41) | 42% (n=349) | 54% (n=217) | 46% (n=55) | 56.4% |
| Math 118 | 67% (n=103) | 54% (n=618) | 59% (n=526) | 48% (n=108) | 66% (n=94) | 47% (n=473) | 54% (n=482) | 56% (n=75) | 54.8% |
| English 098 | 66% (n=101) | 56% (n=1632) | 70% (n=775) | 58% (n=250) | 53% (n=115) | 44% (n=855) | 55% (n=514) | 52% (n=134) | 56.5% |
| English 101 | 76% (n=42) | 63% (n=515) | 76% (n=588) | 74% (n=81) | 61% (n=46) | 59% (n=248) | 71% (n=448) | 72% (n=47) | 69.3% |
| Biology 106 | 78% (n=9) | 67% (n=72) | 87% (n=69) | 78% (n=9) | 75% (n=8) | 59% (n=32) | 77% (n=30) | 100% (n=5) | 75.0% |
| CIS* 103 | 78% (n=46) | 62% (n=429) | 77% (n=255) | 78% (n=49) | 64% (n=36) | 54% (n=250) | 75% (n=180) | 78% (n=36) | 67.4% |

* Categories highlighted in red fall below the institutional average