College English Placement
Faculty Survey & Outcomes Assessment

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Fall 2009 College English Placement Criteria for Ramapo College of NJ

- SAT-Critical Reading score ≥ 560
- ACT Composite score ≥ 26
- ACCUPLACER i3 Scores
  - Reading Comprehension ≥ 80
    - Fall 2010 Reading Comprehension ≥ 84
  - WritePlacer Essay ≥ 5
The Questions

- Faculty claim that students in their College English courses are not prepared: true or false?
- How do we know if students are being appropriately placed into College English?
- Should we use an essay cut score of 5 or 6 or 7?
The Answers

- Conduct a Faculty Survey to Assess Students’ Preparedness Level
- Follow-up with Assessment of Final Course Grades
Fall 2009 Survey Design

- 35 sections of College English
  - A total of 728 students enrolled
- 26 Writing Faculty Teaching
- Levels of Student Preparedness
  - Under-prepared
  - Correctly placed
  - Over-prepared
- Essay Score: WritePlacer i3
  - Not included on survey
Overall Survey Results

- 73.1% (19) Faculty response rate
- Data collected for 71.3% (519) students

According to participating English faculty:
- 87.5% (454) correctly placed
- 11.8% (61) under-prepared
- .8% (4) over-prepared
Survey Results for WritePlacer i3

- Of the 519 students in the study, 238 were required to write an essay
- According to the participating English faculty:
  - 86.5% (206) correctly placed
  - 12.6% (30) under-prepared
  - .8% (2) over-prepared
Survey Results for SAT-CR Score

- Of the 519 students in the study, 228 were exempt from placement testing based on SAT-CR Score of 560 or higher

- According to participating English faculty:
  - 91.2% (208) correctly placed
  - 7.9% (18) under-prepared
  - .9% (2) over-prepared
Outcomes Assessment

- The measure of a student’s ‘success’ or ‘failure’ in College English course is determined by the final course grade achieved.
A total of 728 students were enrolled in College English during fall 2009. (37 students withdrew and 1 student received an incomplete.) Of the remaining 690 students:

- 67.8% (468) achieved a grade of B or above
- 89.7% (619) achieved a grade of C or above
- 93.3% (644) achieved a grade of C- or above
Outcomes for ‘Correctly Placed’ Students

According to the Faculty Survey, 454 students were ‘correctly placed’. (1 student received an incomplete and 3 students withdrew). Of the remaining 450 students:

- 71.1% (320) achieved a grade of B or above
- 92.4% (416) achieved a grade of C or above
Outcomes for ‘Under-Prepared’ Students

According to the Faculty Survey, a total of 61 students were ‘under-prepared’. (10 students withdrew.) Of the remaining 51 students:

- 25.5% (13) achieved a grade of B or above
- 62.7% (32) achieved a grade of C or above
Outcomes for Survey Non-Response

A total of 7 English faculty did not complete surveys for their classes. This represents a total of 209 missing surveys. (24 students withdrew)

Of the remaining 185 students:

- 70.8% (131) achieved a grade of B or above
- 90.3% (167) achieved a grade of C or above
How are decisions made?

- Anecdotal evidence
- Research & Data Analysis
At Ramapo College of NJ
Decisions are based upon data

- Essay i3 cut score of 5 remains in effect for fall 2010
- A follow-up study is currently under discussion for fall 2010
Thank you!

I hope the information was informative & useful.

Any questions??