

De Anza College Office of Institutional Research and Planning

To: Veronica Acevedo Avilla, Chair, Reading Department

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Subject: Placement Exams, Enrollment and Success Rates of Students in Reading Courses

Highlights:

- Overall, students who took a Reading course in their first year were more successful than students who waited until their second year. However, on a course by course basis, there was a great deal of variance in success rates for students who took the course in their first or second year.
- There is a significant difference in success rates for students who took the pre-collegiate course in their first year and their success in EWRT1A.
- A larger proportion of students (76%) are enrolling in the courses in which they were placed in their first year rather than waiting until their second year.
- Of the 1,348 students that placed into a basic skills Reading course prior to enrolling, 837 (62%) enrolled in EWRT1A within 2.5 years, and 694 (51%) passed EWRT1A within 2.5 years.
- Students who enrolled in a Reading course within their first year exhibited success rates in EWRT1A at 88%, above students who waited until their second year to take a Reading course who exhibited a success rate of 79% in EWRT1A. This difference is statistically significant at the .05 level.

Methodology

The Reading department requested an analysis that tracks first time students who took the placement exam and placed into a Reading course. They would like to know the success rates of students who took the course within the first year of enrollment compared to students who wait and take a Reading course in their second year of enrollment.

In fall 2010, there were 3,612 first time students enrolled at De Anza. 2,711 (75%) of these students took an English placement exam, of these students, 1,623 (60%) placed into a basic skills Reading course. Of this group, 1,348 (83%) students took the placement exam the spring or summer prior to enrolling in the fall. The 1,348 students that took the exam prior to enrolling in the fall is the cohort that was tracked in this analysis.

The analysis includes the courses which students enrolled in their first and second year based on their placement exam score. Their success rates in the courses in which they were enrolled were also provided. These students were also tracked to success in EWRT1A, EWRT1B and EWRT2 within 2.5 years.

When did they take their placement exam?

Table 1. First-time Students in Fall 2011 – Quarter in Which They Took the Reading Exam

| | Placement Percent | |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Prior to 2009 | 24 | 1% |
| Winter 2010 | 72 | 4% |
| Spring 2010 | 727 | 45% |
| Summer 2010 | 621 | 38% |
| Fall 2010 | 91 | 6% |
| Winter 2011 | 38 | 2% |
| Spring 2011 | 9 | 1% |
| Summer 2011 | 8 | 0% |
| Fall 2011 | 9 | 1% |
| Winter 2012 | 5 | 0% |
| Spring 2012 | 6 | 0% |
| Summer 2012 | 6 | 0% |
| Fall 2012 | 7 | 0% |
| Total | 1,623 | 100% |

Note: Includes the most recent test that was taken.

- Of the 1,623 students that took the exam, 1,348 (83%) were placed into a pre collegiate reading course in the summer or spring prior to enrolling in the fall.

Where did they place?

Table 2. Placement Results for First-time Students - Exam Taken in Spring or Summer 2010

| | Placement Percent | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| EWRT211/READ211 or LART211 | 832 | 62% |
| EWRT200/READ200 or LART200 | 188 | 14% |
| EWRT200/READ211 | 142 | 11% |
| READ211 | 121 | 9% |
| EWRT211/READ200 | 64 | 5% |
| READ200 | 1 | 0% |
| Total | 1,348 | 100% |

- 62% of students were placed into EWRT211/READ211 or LART211, 14% placed into EWRT200/READ200 or LART 200 and 11% were placed into EWRT200/READ211.

Do students who place into a lower level course wait longer to take the course?

Table 3. Placement Results for First-time Students by Year Enrolled in Reading Course

| | First Year | | Second Year | |
|----------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Placement | Percent | Placement | Percent |
| EWRT211/READ211 or LART211 | 628 | 60% | 181 | 51% |
| EWRT200/READ200 or LART200 | 123 | 16% | 55 | 20% |
| EWRT200/READ211 | 103 | 13% | 38 | 14% |
| READ211 | 83 | 5% | 19 | 5% |
| EWRT211/READ200 | 49 | 5% | 24 | 10% |
| READ200 | 1 | 0% | | |
| Total | 987 | 100% | 317 | 100% |

Note: Does not include students who were placed into a course but did not enroll in the first 2 years.

- 76% of students enrolled in a Reading course in which they were placed within their first year.
- Enrollment in a course within the first or second year did not vary much based upon where students were placed with the exception of EWRT211/READ211 or LART 211 where a higher proportion of students enrolled in the course in their first year.

How successful were students in Reading courses based on when they took them?

| | Success | | Non Success | | Withdraw | | Total | |
|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|----------|---------|--------|---------|
| | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent |
| First Year | 844 | 80% | 220 | 14% | 96 | 6% | 1,160 | 100% |
| Second Year | 266 | 73% | 73 | 17% | 43 | 10% | 382 | 100% |

- Students who took a reading course in their first year were more successful than students who waited until their second year. Though the difference is not statistically significant.
- Non success and withdraw rates were higher for second year students than student who took it in their first year.

How successful were these students in college level EWRT courses?

Table 4. EWRT Success Based on Students Taking a READ Course in Their 1st or 2nd Year

| | | Success | | Non Success | | Withdraw | | Total | |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| | | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent |
| EWRTD001A | First Year | 328 | 88% | 24 | 7% | 17 | 5% | 369 | 100% |
| | Second Year | 300 | 79% | 38 | 11% | 33 | 10% | 371 | 100% |
| | No READ Enrollment | 66 | 70% | 17 | 17% | 14 | 14% | 97 | 100% |
| | Total | 694 | 81% | 79 | 10% | 64 | 8% | 837 | 100% |
| EWRTD001B | First Year | 25 | 90% | 3 | 10% | | | 28 | 100% |
| | Second Year | 187 | 84% | 15 | 8% | 20 | 8% | 222 | 100% |
| | No READ Enrollment | 89 | 76% | 11 | 8% | 17 | 15% | 117 | 100% |
| | Total | 301 | 82% | 29 | 8% | 37 | 10% | 367 | 100% |
| EWRTD002. | First Year | 87 | 89% | 10 | 7% | 6 | 4% | 103 | 100% |
| | Second Year | 210 | 91% | 9 | 4% | 11 | 6% | 230 | 100% |
| | No READ Enrollment | 70 | 86% | 9 | 10% | 5 | 4% | 84 | 100% |
| | Total | 367 | 89% | 28 | 6% | 22 | 5% | 417 | 100% |
| Total | | 1,362 | 83% | 136 | 9% | 123 | 8% | 1,621 | 100% |

Note: No READ enrollment means they placed into a Reading course but did not enroll in one in their first or second year. Includes students who enrolled in an EWRT course within 10 quarters who took a Reading course in their first or second year.

Students who took a Reading placement exam were tracked from fall 2010 to winter 2013 to enrollment in EWRT1A. This showed that out of the 1,348 students who took the READ exam, 837 (62%) enrolled in EWRT1A. Of the 1,348, 694 (51%) students successfully completed EWRT1A.

- Students who enrolled in a Reading course within their first year exhibited success rates in EWRT1A at 88%, above students who waited until their second year to take a Reading course who exhibited a success rate of 79% in EWRT. This difference is statistically significant at the .05 level.
- Both groups were above the success rates of student who placed into a Reading course but never enrolled in a Reading course, this group exhibited success rates of 70% in EWRT1A.
- The difference in success rates between students who took a Reading course in their first year and those that did not take a Reading course was statistically significant at the .05 level.

For EWRT1B, students who took a Reading course in their first year exhibited success rates of 90% compared to students who took Reading in their second year at 84%. Both groups had higher success rates than students who placed into a Reading course but did not enroll in a Reading course. These differences were not statistically significant.

For EWRT2, students who took a Reading course in their first year or second year had about the same success rates, but both groups had higher success rates in the course than students who placed into a Reading course and did not enroll in one. These differences were not statistically significant.

Did students enroll in EWRT211/READ211 or LART 211 which they were placed?

Table 5. Course Enrollment of Students Placed into EWRT211/READ211 or LART211

| | | Placement Percent | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|------|
| First Year | EWRTD200. | 10 | 1% |
| | EWRTD211. | 548 | 37% |
| | LARTD200. | 4 | 0% |
| | LARTD211. | 71 | 5% |
| | READD200. | 7 | 0% |
| | READD211. | 446 | 30% |
| | Total | 1,086 | 74% |
| Second Year | EWRTD200. | 4 | 0% |
| | EWRTD211. | 91 | 6% |
| | LARTD211. | 25 | 2% |
| | READD200. | 2 | 0% |
| | READD211. | 115 | 8% |
| | Total | 237 | 16% |
| No Reading Enrollment | | 143 | 10% |
| Total | | 143 | 10% |
| Total | | 1,466 | 100% |

Note: May include duplicate students counts.

- 62% of students placed into EWRT211/READ211 or LART211, of these students, 72% enrolled into the courses they were placed in the first year.
- 37% enrolled in EWRT211 in the first year and 30% enrolled in READ211 in the first year, while 5% enrolled in LART211.
- 16% of students enrolled in EWRT211/READ211 or LART211 in their second year.
- Overall, 88% of students enrolled in either EWRT211, READ211 or LART211 within their first 2 years, 2% enrolled in a different pre-collegiate level course, and 10% did not enroll in a pre-collegiate level course.

**How successful were students in EWRT211/READ211 or LART211 which they were placed?
Does their success vary when they take the course in their first or second year?**

Table 6. Course Success of Students Placed into EWRT211/READ211 or LART211

| | | Success | | Non Success | | Withdraw | | Total | |
|-------------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|----------|---------|--------|---------|
| | | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent |
| First Year | EWRTD200. | 7 | 70% | 3 | 30% | | | 10 | 100% |
| | EWRTD211. | 433 | 79% | 80 | 15% | 35 | 6% | 548 | 100% |
| | LARTD200. | 3 | 75% | 1 | 25% | | | 4 | 100% |
| | LARTD211. | 61 | 86% | 7 | 10% | 3 | 4% | 71 | 100% |
| | READD200. | 5 | 71% | 2 | 29% | | | 7 | 100% |
| | READD211. | 370 | 83% | 47 | 11% | 29 | 7% | 446 | 100% |
| | Total | 879 | 81% | 140 | 13% | 67 | 6% | 1086 | 100% |
| Second Year | EWRTD200. | 2 | 50% | 2 | 50% | | | 4 | 100% |
| | EWRTD211. | 72 | 79% | 14 | 15% | 5 | 5% | 91 | 100% |
| | LARTD211. | 23 | 92% | | | 2 | 8% | 25 | 100% |
| | READD200. | 2 | 100% | | | | | 2 | 100% |
| | READD211. | 83 | 72% | 19 | 17% | 13 | 11% | 115 | 100% |
| | Total | 182 | 77% | 35 | 15% | 20 | 8% | 237 | 100% |
| Total | 1,061 | 80% | 175 | 13% | 87 | 7% | 1,323 | 100% | |

- The students that enrolled in EWRT211 in their first or second year exhibited success rates of 79%, in this case, success rates did not vary.
- Students who enrolled in READ211 in their first year exhibited success rates of 83%, higher than students who waited until their second year (72%). However, this difference was not statistically significant.
- Students that enrolled in LART211 in their first year exhibited lower success rates (86%) than students who took it in their second year (92%). This difference was not statistically significant.

Did students enroll in EWRT200/READ200 or LART200 which they were placed?

Table 7. Course Enrollment of Students Placed into EWRT200/READ200 or LART200

| | | Placement Percent | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|------|
| First Year | EWRTD200. | 88 | 21% |
| | EWRTD211. | 44 | 10% |
| | LARTD200. | 33 | 8% |
| | LARTD211. | 11 | 3% |
| | READD200. | 61 | 14% |
| | READD211. | 43 | 10% |
| | Total | 280 | 65% |
| Second Year | EWRTD200. | 15 | 4% |
| | EWRTD211. | 32 | 7% |
| | LARTD200. | 2 | 0% |
| | LARTD211. | 3 | 1% |
| | READD200. | 17 | 4% |
| | READD211. | 23 | 5% |
| | Total | 92 | 21% |
| No Reading Enrollment | | 56 | 13% |
| Total | | 56 | 13% |
| Total | | 428 | 100% |

- 14% of students placed into EWRT200/READ200 or LART 200 of these students, 43% enrolled into the courses they were placed in the first year.
- 21% enrolled in EWRT200 in the first year, 14% enrolled in READ200, and 8% in LART200 in the first year.
- In the second year, 4% enrolled in EWRT200 and 4% in READ200.
- Overall, 51% of students placed into EWRT200/READ200 or LART 200 enrolled one of the courses which they were placed in their first 2 years while 36% enrolled in a different pre-collegiate course, and 13% did not enroll in a pre-collegiate level course.

**How successful were students in EWRT200/READ200 or LART200 which they were placed?
Does their success vary when they take the course in their first or second year?**

Table 8. Course Success of Students Placed into EWRT200/READ200 or LART200

| | | Success | | Non Success | | Withdraw | | Total | |
|-------------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|----------|---------|--------|---------|
| | | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent |
| First Year | EWRTD200. | 61 | 69% | 25 | 28% | 2 | 2% | 88 | 100% |
| | EWRTD211. | 32 | 73% | 9 | 20% | 3 | 7% | 44 | 100% |
| | LARTD200. | 30 | 91% | 3 | 9% | | | 33 | 100% |
| | LARTD211. | 9 | 82% | 2 | 18% | | | 11 | 100% |
| | READD200. | 41 | 67% | 17 | 28% | 3 | 5% | 61 | 100% |
| | READD211. | 32 | 74% | 7 | 16% | 4 | 9% | 43 | 100% |
| | Total | 205 | 73% | 63 | 23% | 12 | 4% | 280 | 100% |
| Second Year | EWRTD200. | 11 | 73% | 2 | 13% | 2 | 13% | 15 | 100% |
| | EWRTD211. | 18 | 56% | 9 | 28% | 5 | 16% | 32 | 100% |
| | LARTD200. | 2 | 100% | | | | | 2 | 100% |
| | LARTD211. | 3 | 100% | | | | | 3 | 100% |
| | READD200. | 9 | 53% | 6 | 35% | 2 | 12% | 17 | 100% |
| | READD211. | 12 | 52% | 5 | 22% | 6 | 26% | 23 | 100% |
| | Total | 55 | 60% | 22 | 24% | 15 | 16% | 92 | 100% |
| Total | 260 | 70% | 85 | 23% | 27 | 7% | 372 | 100% | |

- Students that enrolled in EWRT200 in their first year exhibited success rates of 69%, lower than students who enrolled in the course in their second year (73%). This difference was not statistically significant.
- Students who enrolled in READ200 in their first year exhibited success rates of 67%, higher than students who waited until their second year (53%). This difference was not statistically significant, largely due to the small sample size.
- The sample size for LART200 is too small to draw any conclusions about their success rates.

Did students enroll in EWRT200/READ211 which they were placed?

Table 9. Course Enrollment of Students Placed into EWRT200/READ211

| | | Placement Percent | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|------|
| First Year | EWRTD200. | 86 | 26% |
| | EWRTD211. | 55 | 16% |
| | LARTD200. | 3 | 1% |
| | LARTD211. | 10 | 3% |
| | READD200. | 12 | 4% |
| | READD211. | 73 | 22% |
| | Total | 239 | 71% |
| Second Year | EWRTD200. | 14 | 4% |
| | EWRTD211. | 29 | 9% |
| | LARTD211. | 3 | 1% |
| | READD200. | 2 | 1% |
| | READD211. | 16 | 5% |
| | Total | 64 | 19% |
| No Reading Enrollment | | 33 | 10% |
| Total | | 33 | 10% |
| Total | | 336 | 100% |

- 11% of students placed into EWRT200/READ211, of these students, 48% enrolled into the courses they were placed in the first year.
- 26% enrolled in EWRT200 in the first year, and 22% enrolled in READ211 in the first year.
- In the second year, 4% enrolled in EWRT200 and 5% in READ211.
- Overall, 57% of students enrolled in the course they were placed within their first two years, 33% enrolled in a different pre-collegiate level course, and 10% of students did not enroll in any pre-collegiate course.

How successful were students in EWRT200/READ211 which they were placed? Does their success vary when they take the course in their first or second year?

Table 10. Course Success of Students Placed into EWRT200/READ211

| | | Success | | Non Success | | Withdraw | | Total | |
|-------------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|----------|---------|--------|---------|
| | | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent | Grades | Percent |
| First Year | EWRTD200. | 75 | 87% | 7 | 8% | 4 | 5% | 86 | 100% |
| | EWRTD211. | 44 | 80% | 8 | 15% | 3 | 5% | 55 | 100% |
| | LARTD200. | 3 | 100% | | | | | 3 | 100% |
| | LARTD211. | 8 | 80% | 2 | 20% | | | 10 | 100% |
| | READD200. | 9 | 75% | 3 | 25% | | | 12 | 100% |
| | READD211. | 58 | 79% | 11 | 15% | 4 | 5% | 73 | 100% |
| | Total | 197 | 82% | 31 | 13% | 11 | 5% | 239 | 100% |
| Second Year | EWRTD200. | 11 | 79% | 2 | 14% | 1 | 7% | 14 | 100% |
| | EWRTD211. | 20 | 69% | 7 | 24% | 2 | 7% | 29 | 100% |
| | LARTD211. | 3 | 100% | | | | | 3 | 100% |
| | READD200. | 2 | 100% | | | | | 2 | 100% |
| | READD211. | 14 | 88% | 1 | 6% | 1 | 6% | 16 | 100% |
| | Total | 50 | 78% | 10 | 16% | 4 | 6% | 64 | 100% |
| Total | | 247 | 82% | 41 | 14% | 15 | 5% | 303 | 100% |

- Students that enrolled in EWRT200 in their first year exhibited success rates of 87%, higher than students who enrolled in the course in their second year (79%). This difference was not statistically significant, largely due to the small sample size.
- Students who enrolled in READ211 in their first year exhibited success rates of 79%, lower than students who waited until their second year (88%). This difference was not statistically significant, largely due to the small sample size.