



ALAMO
COLLEGES

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

Developmental English

English, Communications, Foreign Languages, ESOL & Reading, and Sign Language Degrees and Programs

	<p>Developmental English Student Learning Outcome</p> <p>Students will develop and write organized MLA-formatted essays which include a specific and provable thesis statement, topic sentences, and supporting examples.</p> <p>Students will edit their work to eliminate sentence structure errors and grammar mistakes, including sentence fragments, run-on sentences, punctuation errors, verb tense-shifting, subject-verb agreement errors, incorrect pronoun usage, and incorrect word choice.</p>
	<p>Courses in the degree plan that address this outcome: Basic English I 0300 & Basic English II 0301</p>
	<p>Assessment Measure for this Outcome</p> <p>Writing samples from ENGL 0301 will be assessed using the following method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All English 0301 students are required to take a departmental exit exam at the end of the semester. Students are required to write an essay which demonstrates college-level writing skills. The exam will be graded by other English 0301 instructors on a pass-fail basis. Students must pass the exit exam in order to pass the course.• Exit exams will be scored by 2 instructors from the exit exam grading panel. Each instructor will assign a score from 1-4 using the attached rubric. The scores will be combined to determine the final score. A combined score of 5-8 is passing; a combined score of 1-3 is failing. Scores of 4-4.5 are reviewed by the instructor of record who then determines if the student is writing at college-level based on the student's portfolio.• 7 sections will be randomly selected and reviewed to determine the number of students eligible to take the exam and the percentage of students who passed the exam within each grade level (How many students with a final average of A passed the exam? How many with a final average of B passed the exam? And, how many with a final average of C passed the exam?)
	<p>Achievement Target for this Measure</p> <p>The grade distribution will indicate higher Pass rates for the Exit Exam. For example, students making an "A" are more likely to pass the Exit Exam than those who earned a "B" or "C".</p>
	<p>Findings: 7 sections were randomly selected; total of 80 students</p> <p>22 students earned an A, so 28% of the sample 29 students earned a B, so 36% of the sample 27 students earned a C, so 34% of the sample</p>



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Related Action Plans

The learning outcome will be split into three outcomes for the next assessment cycle and the findings by outcomes will be reported.

1. Students will develop and write organized MLA-formatted essays
2. Students' writing will include a specific and provable thesis statement, topic sentences, and supporting examples.
3. Students will edit their work to eliminate sentence structure errors and grammar mistakes, etc.

Currently piloting new curriculum, which closely mirrors Northwest Vista College's Developmental English curriculum. NVC has had an 85%-95% success rate using this new curriculum.

Lead & FT Faculty will review the results and make changes as appropriate to curriculum.

We are in the process of modifying the exit exam to be in alignment with the exit exam instrument used at Northwest Vista College.