

# Prior English Enrollments

## for Students Passing English 101

The following is a cohort study of the students who enrolled in English 101 during Fall 2003 or Spring 2004. The students who received a passing grade in English 101 were then tracked backward through all of the sessions and semesters ending with Fall 2001 in order to determine their prior enrollment in English 21 and 28. The enrollments in English were only tracked for enrollments at Harbor College, and thus enrollments at other community colleges were not considered. It is important to note when looking at these numbers that they are just numbers, and the college and the English discipline need to study them to determine whether they are good or bad. No consideration has been made to determine if students who may or may not have had some sort of special educational intervention succeed at a rate exceeding the general college population of English students. These numbers should be considered as the base data from which other studies and discussions need to take place.

During Fall 2003 and Spring 2004 a total of 1,387 students received some sort of a grade in English 101. Those students who are in the cohort described below are highlighted in the following grade distribution for these 1,387 students.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A	281	20.3%
B	289	20.8%
C	232	16.7%
D	98	7.1%
F	145	10.5%
I	17	1.2%
W	325	23.4%

Of the 1,387 students who attempted English 101, 802 or 57.8% earned a passing grade of A, B or C and would thus be able to transfer to a four-year college or university. Notably, 23.4% (325 students) were awarded a W, and another 17.6% (243 students) earned a grade of D or F.

The 802 students who earned a passing grade in English 101 were tracked backward through Fall 2001 to determine the number of students who had received passing grades of A, B, C or P in English 21 or A, B or C in English 28 prior to passing English 101. This period of time is long enough to capture any prior English enrollments at Harbor College. These students were not tracked at other community colleges to determine if they had completed the lower levels of English elsewhere.

Looking backward at the English enrollments for the 802 students who had passed English 101 in Fall 2003 or Spring 2004 the following prior enrollments in English 21 and 28 were found. The data is only for the students who received passing grades of A, B or C in English 28 and grades of P, A, B or C in English 21. Some of the students may have earned D, F or W grades in English 21 or 28, but these were not considered in this study.

<u>English 21</u>	<u>English 28</u>	<u>English 101</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
X			411	51.2%
X	X		307	38.3%
X	X	X	80	10.0%
X		X	4	.5%

The data shows that 51.2% (411 students) did take any of the lower levels of English prior to passing English 101. A total of 387 students (48.3%) successfully passed English 101 after taking English 28. Of these 387 students, 307 (38.3%) only took English 28, and 80 students (10.0%) took both English 21 and English 28. An additional 4 students (.5%) passed English 101 after only taking English 21.

# Students Who Progress

## from English 21 through English 101

The following is a cohort study of the students who enrolled in English 21 during Fall 2001, Winter 2002 or Spring 2002. The students who received a passing grade in English 21 were then tracked through all of the sessions and semesters ending with Spring 2004 in order to determine their enrollment patterns in English 28 and 101. The enrollments in English were only tracked for enrollments at Harbor College, and thus enrollments at other community colleges were not considered. It is important to note when looking at these numbers that they are just numbers, and the college and the English discipline need to study them to determine whether they are good or bad. No consideration has been made to determine if students who may not have had some sort of special educational intervention succeed at a rate exceeding the general college population of English students. These numbers should be considered as the base data from which other studies and discussions need to take place.

During Fall 2001, Winter 2002 and Spring 2002 a total of 673 students received some sort of a grade in English 21. This course is a pass/no pass class, and thus the most normal grades seen would be a P (pass), N (no pass) or W (withdrawl). These have been highlighted in the following grade distribution for these 673 students.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
P	367	54.5%
A	21	3.1%
B	1	.1%
N	132	19.6%
F	9	1.3%
I	1	.1%
W	142	21.1%

Of the 673 students, 389 or 57.7% earned a passing grade of P, A or B and were thus able to progress to the next level of English. Notably, 21.1% (142 students) were awarded a W, and another 20.9% (141 students) earned a grade of N or F.

The 389 students who earned a passing grade in English 21 were then followed forward through Spring 2004 to determine the number of students who subsequently received a passing grade of A, B or C in English 28 or 101. This period of time is long enough to capture any additional English enrollments at Harbor College. These students were not tracked at other community colleges to determine if they completed a higher level of English elsewhere.

By the end of Spring 2004 the following enrollments in English 21, 28 and 101 were found for the 389 students who had passed English 21 in Fall 2001, Winter 2002 or Spring 2002. The data is only for students who received passing grades of A, B or C in the higher levels of English being studied. Some of the students may have earned D, F or W grades in English 28 or 101, but these were not considered in this study.

<b>English 21</b>	<b>English 28</b>	<b>English 101</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
X			158	40.6%
X		X	11	2.8%
X	X		100	25.7%
X	X	X	120	30.8%

The data shows that 40.6% (158 students) did not successfully complete any level of English higher than English 21. An additional 25.7% (100 students) passed only English 28. These 100 students would be able to earn an Associate degree from the college even though they would not be able to transfer to a four year school. A total of 131 students (33.6%) successfully passed English 101 and would be able to graduate with an Associate degree and transfer to a four-year college or university. Of these 131 students, 11 did not take English 28 at Harbor College prior to passing English 101. Notably of the 398 students in the cohort being tracked 231 (59.3%) would be able to receive an Associate degree.

# English Placements

## of Recent High School Graduates

### What English Placements Do We Find for Recent High School Graduates?

The level of English preparedness for students who are recent graduates of the local high schools is always a concern of the college. This study looks at the English assessment levels for recent high school graduates who enrolled at Harbor College in Fall 2004, Spring 2004, Fall 2003 or Spring 2003. For this analysis students were selected who had graduated from high school no more than two years before first entering the college and undergoing assessment. During these four semesters a total of 5,394 students fit this profile. Of these 5,394 students a total of 3,714 (69.4%) came from the 14 high schools listed below. Of the 5,394 who fit the profile for the study: 2,107 underwent the Matriculation assessment process for the college, and 1,597 (75.8%) of the assessments were from the 14 high schools listed below.

The placement levels for the 1,597 students which were recent graduates of the 14 high schools and for whom an assessment was available were further analyzed as to the percent at each English placement level by high school of graduation. Not every student who was assessed was assessed in English, in as much as some students elected to take only the Math assessment, and these students are noted in the data base utilized for this analysis as having completed the Matriculation assessment process for the college. It is important to note when looking at these English Placement percentages by high school that they are just numbers, and the college and the English discipline need to study them to determine whether they are good or bad, and whether students being placed in the levels are prepared or not. One of the important goals of Matriculation is to insure that the placements made through the assessment process are appropriate. These numbers should be considered as the base data from which other studies and discussions need to take place.

When looking at placement levels one can not judge the overall effectiveness of the any of the high school English programs. No determination has been made of which specific English courses these students took while in high school. It is possible for the English or Counseling staff to manually examine the individual high school transcripts of these students to determine the level of high school English completed.

High School	Number Assessed
San Pedro	389
Banning	350
Carson	257
Narbonne	212
Peninsula	81
Torrance	54
Gardena	53
South Torrance	50
Mary Star	39
West Torrance	27
Redondo	25
Palos Verdes	22
Bishop Montgomery	20
North Torrance	18

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Source: Los Angeles Harbor College Institutional Research Data Review, Report 09a, by Len Isaksen, May 17, 2005

# English Placements

## of Recent High School Graduates

### Percentage Being Placed at Each English Level

High School	(code definitions below this table)									
	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	11	
San Pedro	26.0%	51.7%	13.1%	.3%		.3%	.3%		8.5%	
Banning	8.9%	49.4%	28.9%	3.1%	.3%	.6%	.9%	.9%	7.1%	
Carson	13.2%	53.7%	26.8%	.4%	.4%		.4%		5.1%	
Narbonne	18.4%	50.9%	19.8%	1.9%	.5%		1.9%		6.6%	
Peninsula	34.6%	39.5%	13.6%						12.3%	
Torrance	16.7%	68.5%	9.3%	1.9%					3.7%	
Gardena	13.2%	37.7%	30.2%	3.8%		5.7%	3.8%	1.9%	3.8%	
South Torrance	22.0%	50.0%	8.0%	2.0%		2.0%			16.0%	
Mary Star	28.2%	48.7%	7.7%						15.4%	
West Torrance	29.6%	55.6%	14.8%							
Redondo	24.0%	60.0%	8.0%						8.0%	
Palos Verdes	27.3%	54.5%	4.5%						13.6%	
Bishop Montgomery	45.0%	40.0%							15.0%	
North Torrance	38.9%	38.9%	11.1%						11.1%	

The following are the definitions for the English placement codes. These are the recommendations that are given to students after they have completed the assessment process at Harbor College.

Code	Recommended English Course Placement
1	English 101
2	English 28 or English 31
3	English 21 or English 73
4	Developmental Communications 20
5	Developmental Communications 35
6	English Referral, No English Placement
7	English 86
8	English 85
9	English 84
10	No ESL Placement
11	Not Assessed in English

Note: No students assessed at Level 6 or Level 10