

Orientation Options Follow-up May 1998

During summer 1997, several additional options in addition to two-hour orientation sessions were offered to students. It should be noted that any students receiving assessment at Harbor College attends an orientation lecture immediately following the assessment session. These options are in addition to that session. Five options have been evaluated for retention and persistence:

Personal Development 1, Introduction to College, 1 non-transferable unit;
 Personal Development 4, Career Planning, 1 transferable unit
 Personal Development 17, College Survival Skills, 1 transferable unit
 Developmental Communications 23, Techniques of Learning, 3 non-transferable units (NDA)
 Option 2, A week-long open workshop with various components

**Table 1. Comparison of Student Persistence and Retention
by Orientation Option**

Measure	P D 1	P D 4	P D 17	Dev Com 23	Option 2	Total
Number of Sections F 97	2	1	5	1	1	10
Number of Students F 97	31	25	92	21	30	199
Average Number of Students/class	15.5	25	18.4	21	30	19.9
Percent of First Semester Students F 97	55%	56%	72%	48%	80%	66%
Retention (Completed course)	87%	84%	96%	90%	100%	93%
Persistence (Enrolled S 98)	90%	92%	79%	81%	97%	85%
Persistence of First Semester Students	88%	86%	76%	90%	96%	83%

Fall 1997 overall first time students were 28% of students. 60% were continuing. Spring 1998 Continuing
