



Community College to University English Transitions

This report describes student transition in English from DeAnza Community College to San Jose State University. Data are available from 1996 through 2006 for the community college and 2003 through 2007 for the university. For students who transitioned in this time period:

- 5,297 students transitioned between the two institutions during the time period studied
- 8% of transitioning students complete an English course at the university level,
- The time between the last English course in community college and first university English course ranges between 0 and 7 years, with a mean of 1.5 years,
- 43% percent of students complete at least 56 units before transition, and the average units completed is 59.

The following table may provide an indication of the degree of alignment between community college and university English curriculum. The table should be read row wise by selecting a community college English level and reading across that row to see what percent of those students took a given level of English in the university as their next English course. Success is defined as earning a grade of C or better. For students who took English at the university:

- Between two thirds and three quarters of students who successfully complete Remedial or Degree Applicable English at the community college level enroll in a composition course as their first university English course.
- The success rates for these groups of students are about the same at just over 75%.
- Students who complete a transferable English course are much less likely enroll in composition, and much more likely to enroll in upper division Creative Writing or Literature classes at the university level.
- About 90% of students are successful at any Creative Writing/Literature class, regardless of the last community college English course level completed.
- Male and white students are more likely to attempt higher levels of English at the university than other students.

It is possible that students completed additional English classes at other institutions in between the community college and university classes shown in this report. Please note that the categories have been assigned by research staff and will need to be verified by local faculty.

Course Transition Matrix

		First English class attempted at CSU			Count
		Composition	Lower Division	Upper Division	
Highest level of English in community college successfully completed	Remedial	*	0%	*	6
	Degree Applicable	76%	*	*	17
	Transferable	38%	16%	45%	411
Total		174	69	191	434

*Cell counts suppressed when cell size is 5 or less