

November 20, 2008

TO: Jerry Rosenberg
Dean, PSME Division

FROM: Andrew LaManque, De Anza Research
Sharon Su, Student Assistant

SUBJECT: Knowledge of Special Math Programs Survey

A 15 questions survey was sent to 692 De Anza College students that received a grade of D, F, NP, or W in Math 112 (Elementary Algebra) or Math 210 (Elementary Algebra) during 2007-2008 (Fall, Winter, Spring). The sample did not include students in MPS, EnableMath, or Learning Community Sections.

Sixty-two students responded resulting in a response rate of about 9%. The respondents included more Vietnamese students than the sample (17% vs 8%) and less Latino/a students (21% vs 28%). In addition, less male students responded than were found in the sample (34% vs 55%).

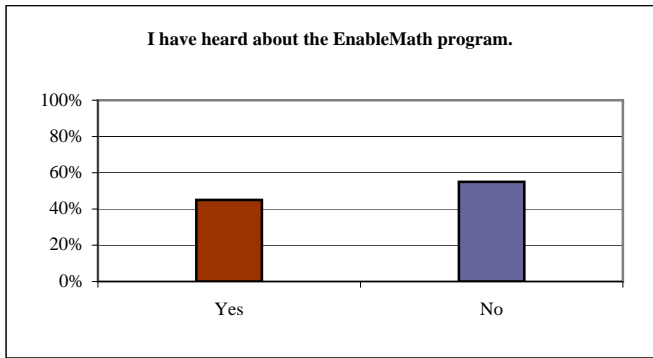
A majority of respondents indicated that they were not aware of the EnableMath or Math Performance Success programs.

Other important observations include:

- 27 out of 60 (45%) of the respondents had heard about the EnableMath program.
- 20 out of 60 (33%) had heard about the Math Performance Success (MPS) program.
- 48 out of 59 (81%) of the respondents responded “No” to the question: “I know that over 90% of students in MPS pass their course.”
 - For the students that reported knowing about MPS, 11 out of the 20 (55%) indicated being aware of its high success rate.
- 51 out of 61 (84%) of the respondents responded “To transfer to a 4 year school” to the question: “What is your goal in attending classes at De Anza?”
- 38 out of 60 (63%) of the respondents indicated taking COUN100 – Orientation to College.

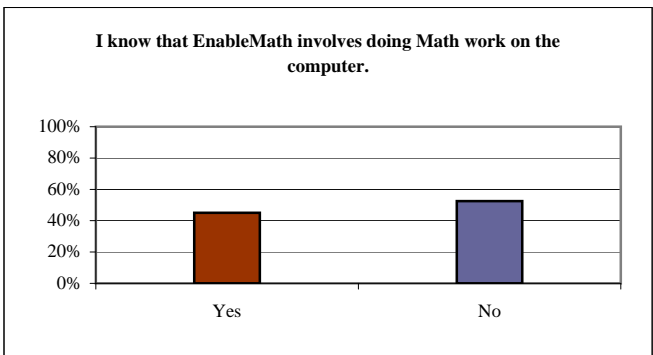
1. I have heard about the EnableMath program.

Responses	Number	Percentage
Yes	27	45%
No	33	55%
Total	60	100%



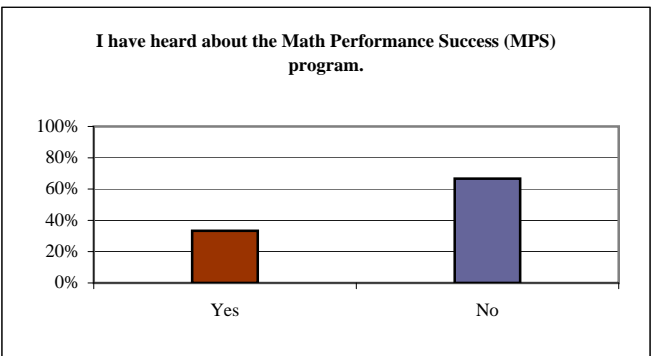
2. I know that EnableMath involves doing Math work on the computer.

Responses	Number	Percentage
Yes	27	45%
No	32	52%
Total Missing	2	3%
Total	61	100%



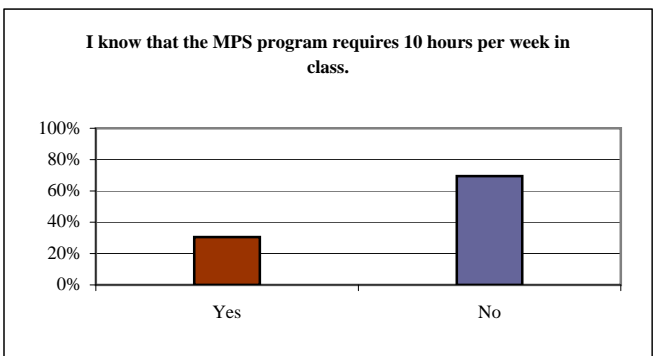
3. I have heard about the Math Performance Success (MPS) program.

Responses	Number	Percentage
Yes	20	33%
No	40	67%
Total Valid	60	100%
Total Missing	2	
Total	62	



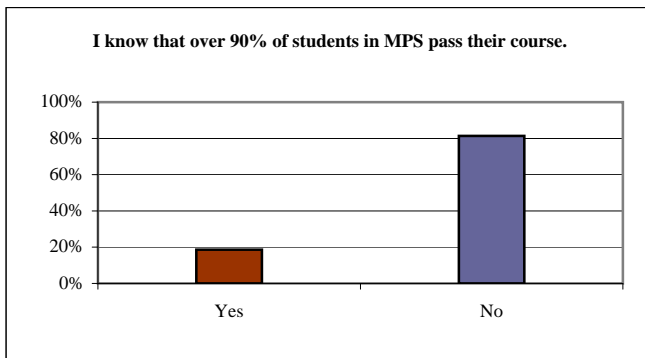
4. I know that the MPS program requires 10 hours per week in class.

Responses	Number	Percentage
Yes	18	31%
No	41	69%
Total Valid	59	100%
Total Missing	3	
Total	62	



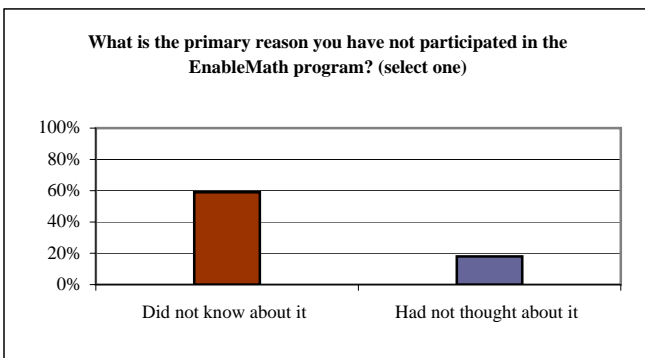
5. I know that over 90% of students in MPS pass their course.

Responses	Number	Percentage
Yes	11	19%
No	48	81%
Total Valid	59	100%
Total Missing	3	
Total	62	



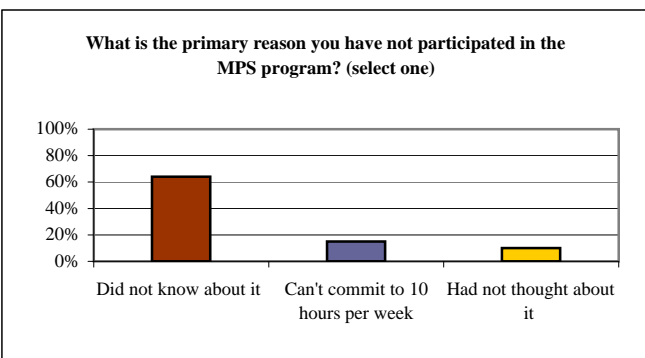
6. What is the primary reason you have not participated in the EnableMath program? (select one)

Responses	Number	Percentage
Did not know about it	36	59%
Classes were full	2	3%
Classes not offered when I needed	6	10%
Uncomfortable using a computer	6	10%
Had not thought about it	11	18%
Total Valid	61	100%
Total Missing	1	
Total	62	



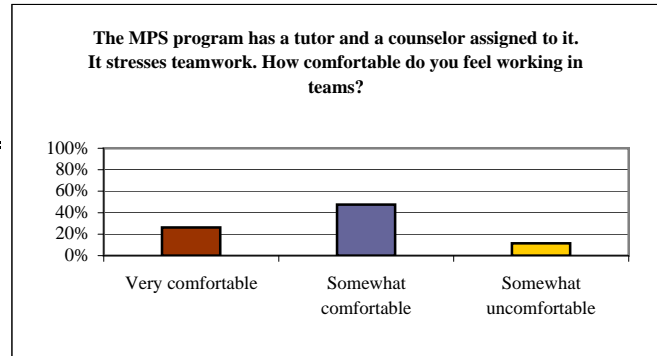
7. What is the primary reason you have not participated in the MPS program? (select one)

Responses	Number	Percentage
Did not know about it	38	64%
Classes were full	2	3%
Classes not offered when I needed	5	8%
Can't commit to 10 hours per week	9	15%
Had not thought about it	6	10%
Total Valid	60	100%
Total Missing	2	
Total	62	



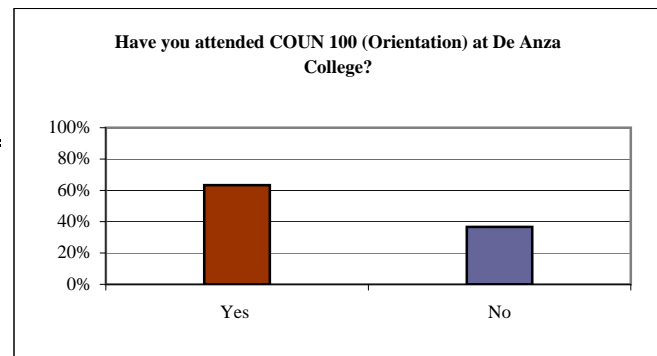
8. The MPS program has a tutor and a counselor assigned to it. It stresses teamwork. How comfortable do you feel working in teams?

Responses	Number	Percentage
Very comfortable	16	26%
Somewhat comfortable	29	48%
Somewhat uncomfortable	7	11%
Not comfortable	4	7%
Not sure	5	8%
Total Valid	61	100%
Total Missing	1	
Total	62	



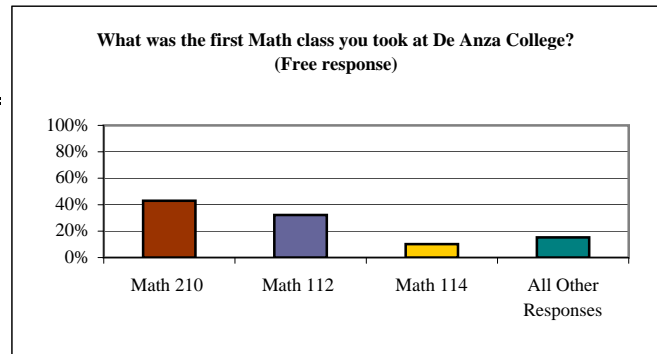
9. Have you attended COUN100 (Orientation) at De Anza College?

Responses	Number	Percentage
Yes	38	63%
No	22	37%
Total Valid	60	100%
Total Missing	2	
Total	62	



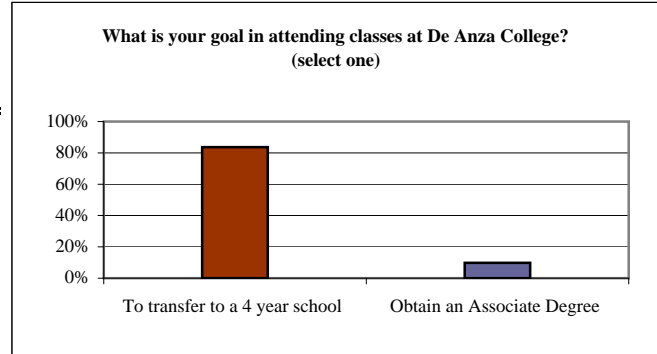
10. What was the first Math class you took at De Anza College? (Free response)

Responses	Number	Percentage
Math 210	25	43%
Math 112	19	32%
Math 114	6	10%
All Other Responses	9	15%
Total Valid	59	100%
Total Missing	3	
Total	62	



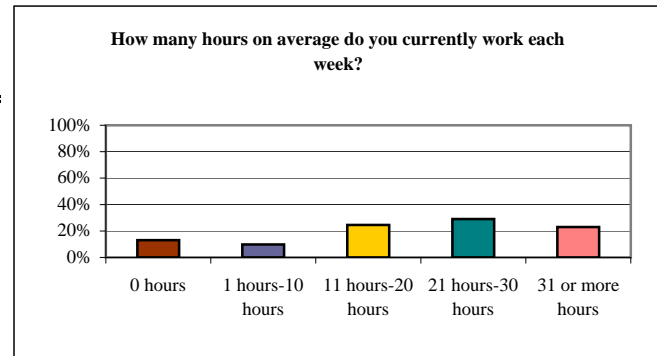
11. What is your goal in attending classes at De Anza College? (select one)

Responses	Number	Percentage
To transfer to a 4 year school	51	84%
Obtain an Associate Degree	6	10%
Obtain a Certificate	2	3%
Take a few classes to get job skills	2	3%
Total Valid	61	100%
Total Missing	1	
Total	62	



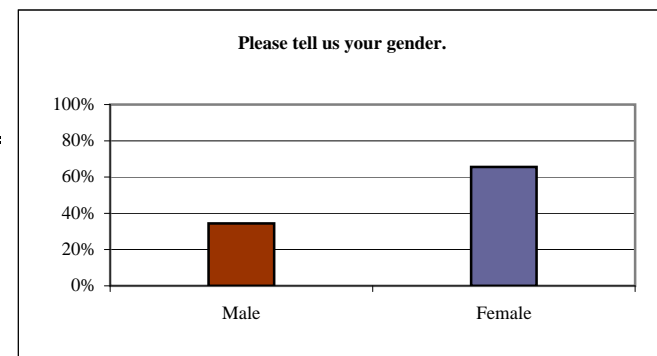
12. How many hours on average do you currently work each week?

Responses	Number	Percentage
0 hours	8	13%
1 hours-10 hours	6	10%
11 hours-20 hours	15	25%
21 hours-30 hours	18	29%
31 or more hours	14	23%
Total Valid	61	100%
Total Missing	1	
Total	62	



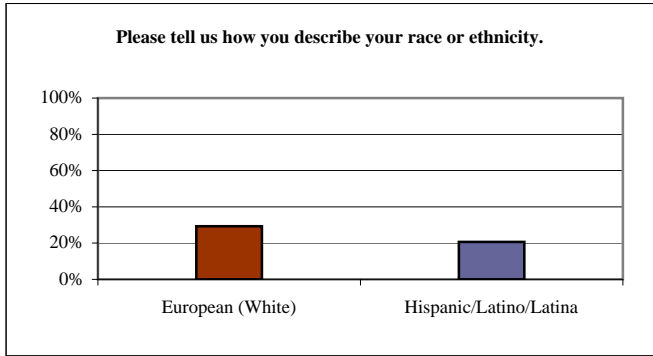
13. Please tell us your gender.

Responses	Number	Percentage
Male	21	34%
Female	40	66%
Total Valid	61	100%
Total Missing	1	
Total	62	



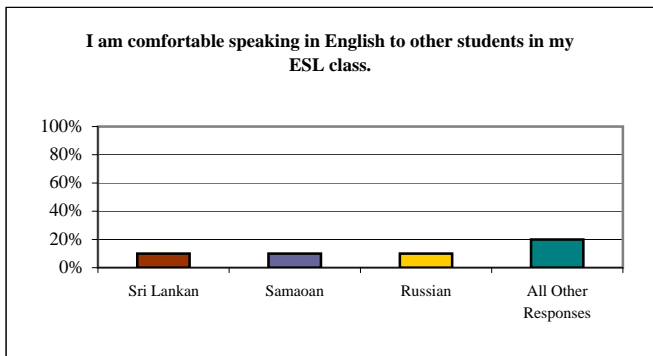
14. Please tell us how you describe your race or ethnicity.

Responses	Number	Percentage
European (White)	17	29%
Filipino	5	9%
Hispanic/Latino/Latina	12	21%
Middle Eastern	4	7%
Vietnamese	10	17%
Not listed above	7	12%
All Other Responses	3	5%
Total Valid	58	100%
Total Missing	4	
Total	62	



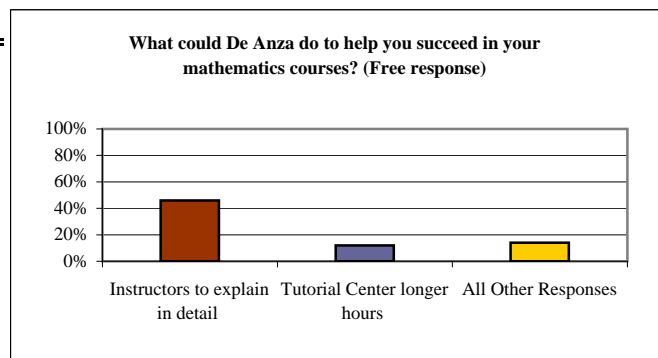
14a. Please tell us how you describe your race or ethnicity.
(If not listed above please enter here:)

Responses	Number	Percentage
Sri Lankan	1	10%
Samaoan	1	10%
Russian	1	10%
All Other Responses	2	20%
Total	10	100%



15. What could De Anza do to help you succeed in your mathematics courses? (Free response)

Responses	Number	Percentage
Instructors to explain in detail	23	46%
Tutorial Center longer hours	6	12%
No problem	5	10%
More classes at different times	5	10%
Inform students about programs	4	8%
All Other Responses	7	14%
Total Valid	50	100%
Total Missing	12	
Total	62	



Full Resposes (Questions 10 and 15)

10. What was the first Math class you took at De Anza College?

Math 112
Pre-Algebra
math112
prealgebra
math 112
Math 112
Math 210
210
210
Math 210
Math 112
114
math 112
integrated math 112
Math 210
110
210
Math 210
math 200
Pre algebra
Math 112
MATH 112
Calculus 1B
math 114
Math 210
math 114
210
math112
math 112
math 114
math 212
math112
math 210
pre Al.
math 112
pre-algebra
math 212
math112
210
Math112
112
pre algabra
math 114
210
Pre-Algebra
210

I forgot
 Math 112
 Math 200
 Math 114
 Algebra
 210
 pre algebra
 math112
 210
 elementary algebra
 math 112
 math210
 pre-algebra

15. What could De Anza do to help you succeed in your mathematics courses?

Better teachers that help students succeed.

One on one tutoring.

get better teachers

I took the math 2 times, but I'm not getting the chance to take it again because i exceeded the amount. i need the chance to be able to get it don with. i cant go to another college, DE Anza is the closest one to me. students should do homework more to improve math skills and the teachers should give out extra credits ften to help students get more interest in studying math.

De Anza is doing a great job. Just make students attend tutoring if they need assistance.

I would have been happy to get an answer when I applied to get help from the Maths program.

Maybe some instructors should explain the class better. It has happened to me before that I have a question and the teacher asks me to go to the lab after class and not take her time.

Make sure the counsellor's ALWAYS mention you need a trigonometry or statistics course in order to transfer, not just mention the courses you need for an AA.

Any available program to help student understand the basic of math.

make more classes available at night.

Let's just say I'll pay the teacher a couple dollars..!!!

Make the Math easier. Offer more help to people of middle age just stating college who cannot remember all the terms as easily as the younger generation.

Give out more information about other succellfull classes, such as the MPS programe. I have never heard of it and it sounds like a good way for someone like myself to learn. I work over 40 hours a week, and live a half hour a way from school (North end of Fremont) and find it difficult to get to the tutor's you have. On-line computer tutoring is a great way to stay connected with my learning.

make math tutorial center stay open longer on Mondays and Tuesdays and Fridays... good idea to have tutorial center open on Saturdays for those like me who work full time to take advantage of.

None.

I have taken math class at De Anza and I feel that most of the math teachers have a little skill of teaching math. Thank you.

get better math teachers!!!

De Anza needs better math teachers. It's hard to comprehend most things when you don't understand what they're saying and they have a very bad attitude.

Ask teachers to give inputs and informations about these kind of things instead of sending out surveys like this.

group oriented classes

Have teachers that speak clearer and maybe with not thick accents. One of the main problems I've had with learning Math is that I simply could not understand what the teacher was saying, and when I would ask the

teacher to repeat themselves, they would become angry with me, thinking I wasn't paying attention. go slowly and dont assume the students know everything. Dont give so many tests, especially on a quarter system, students dont have enuough time to absorb the information if they are constantly worried about tests that is why I am going to another college now that is on the semester program because math is difficult already, and cramming in all of these tests in a quarter system is too much for someone that works like me. Smaller classes, more attentive/approachable teachers.

Better class times.

de anza has a very good study environment because it does not matter where i am on campus there is definitely a place for me to just sit down quietly and do my homework. de anza also offers tutoring program from monday to saturday which is really helpful to math students who have question about their lecture or homework. after their classes they can just go straight to the math tutoring center and there will absolutely be someone who is willing to take time and effort explaining the problems to the students. math teachers also are very pleased to stay over for a few minutes after class to give answers to those who have math questions or just general questions.

Teacher that have pateints with teaching the course.

Just because there are programs provided does not mean we know about them. Posting up signs and having only counselors tell students about these programs is not enough. Teachers should be required to tell students as well.

well ive had really bad luck in all my math classes at deanza. normally i enjoy all my classes and my teachers but for some reason the math teachers at deanza are, well less than satisfactory. ive always had trouble in math and need clear and precis instruction when i comes to math. every math teacher i have had either didn't want to take the time to answer my questions or just didnt care all together. if you want to help people succeed in math, i dont just suggest tutors, i think you should have more qualified teachers. have the math classes go at a slower pace and not cover so much material in such a short time frame. they do a good job

I would like it if we work in more participated team work help and the instructors to ease deadlines and exams to a pace that can fit everyones learning abilities and help students understand the lectures more advance. This is because alot of students do not like math and if the teacher's were to do what i mentioned above, it would be a big improvement.

Help me to pass all of my math classes so I could transfer out of De Anza to go to CSU Long Beach for my journalism major.

offer math...all yeaf r long

Not sure. Mr. Shirley told me of a counselor to speak to and that he will explain the MPS program to me and hopefully get me into Mr. Shirley's Spring Math10 class.

lower math book prices

not much you have tutors and the teachers are great!

A better teacher. My first math class with de anza was the worst classroom experience of my life. I hate to drop names, but he really needs a mention. Dr. Weusi Puryear was a terrible math instructor. Math has never been my strong point. i took his class for half a quarter then dropped it. Out of disgust i have never taken another math course at de anza again.

Help motivate people who are shy to come & get help with math.

Explain things in a way that students will understand and do not rush through the material.

I am done with Math...

offer more math courses because alot of math classes are full

focus the math on the students rather than some weird agenda that jumps all over the book and gets us confused, AND USE DECENT BOOKS!!! I'm taking classes at West Valley because nothing at De Anza I've tried worked for me in the math department, and it's not without my trying. Me and other EDC students felt like we were being encouraged out of the MPS program for not performing well enough on exams, and the Enable Program is *NOT* friendly to certain types of learning disabilities or people who have repetitive stress injuries in the arms.

Possibly provide finite math under the MPS program, if you don't already.

get tutoring hours extended to the weekends or later in the afternoon. It is not fair that the ones who work full time, to pay for their education, are not given the same opportunity. This stands for english as well as Biology classes.

get better teachers. AuYoung is the worst teacher i have had in my entire life.

provide professors who can explain the material at the level for a student who does not understand due to an accent or even the way the material is not being explained correctly.

go over problem from homework in class and also go over the lesson before hand

They could advertise more about enable math and other programs. It seems as if ignorance is the reason why more students do not enroll.

Have professors proficient in English as it is hard enough understanding pre-algebra concepts. The professor's lack of intermediate English comprehension, speaking and writing is an additional barrier a student must try to overcome. Even more challenging, is the case when the student is an ESL student who is not of the same native country as the professor.



De Anza College Mathematics Programs Survey

You have been sent this survey because our records indicate that you were recently enrolled in a Math course at De Anza College. The Math Department is interested in your input so that it can improve its services.

This survey will be used for research purposes only. All information will be held confidential. You may choose not to answer any of the questions.

Thank you for participating.
De Anza College Research

Yes No

1. I have heard about the EnableMath program.

2. I know that EnableMath involves doing Math work on the computer.

3. I have heard about the Math Performance Success (MPS) program.

4. I know that the MPS program requires 10 hours per week in class.

5. I know that over 90% of students in MPS pass their course.

6. What is the primary reason you have not participated in the EnableMath program? (select one)

Did not know about it

Classes were full

Classes were not offered at the times I needed

I am uncomfortable working on a computer

Had not thought about it

7. What is the primary reason you have not participated in the MPS program? (select one)

Did not know about it

Classes were full

Classes were not offered at the times I needed

I am not able to commit to 10 hours per week in class

Had not thought about it

8. The MPS program has a tutor and a counselor assigned to it. It stresses teamwork. How comfortable do you feel working in teams?

Very comfortable

Somewhat comfortable

Somewhat uncomfortable

Not comfortable

Not sure

9. Have you attended COUN100 (Orientation) at De Anza College?

Yes

No

10. What was the first Math class you took at De Anza College?

11. What is your goal in attending classes at De Anza College? (select one)

To transfer to a 4 year school (with or without an Associate Degree)

Obtain an Associate Degree (and not transfer)

Obtain a Certificate

Obtain job skills by taking a few classes

To take a few classes to learn about college

12. How many hours on average do you currently work each week?

0

1-10

11-20

21-30

31 or more

13. Please tell us your gender.

Male

Female

14. Please tell us how you describe your race or ethnicity.

- African Ancestry
 - Asian Indian
 - Chinese
 - European (White)
 - Filipino
 - Hispanic/Latino/Latina
 - Middle Eastern
 - Vietnamese
 - Multi Ethnic
 - Not listed above
- If not listed above please enter here:

15. What could De Anza do to help you succeed in your mathematics courses?

16. Thank you for completing the survey. If you would like to enter into a drawing for a free gift card (we are giving away 20, \$10 cards) please enter your name, email and telephone number here:

Name (Last, First):

Email:

Telephone (XXX-XXX-XXXX):

Address:

Street

City

Zip Code



Dear Andrew Lamanque,

You have been sent this survey because our records indicate that you were recently enrolled in a Math course at De Anza College. The Math Department is interested in your input so that it can improve its services.

The purpose of this survey is to collect information about students' knowledge of math programs aimed at helping students succeed.

This survey will be used for research purposes only. All information will be held confidential. You may choose not to answer any of the questions. The online survey should only take a few minutes to complete.

Access the survey at:

www.research.fhda.edu/cgi-bin/rws3.pl?FORM=mpssurvey

Thank you for your participation.

Questions about this survey can be addressed to:

Andrew LaManque, Ph.D.

De Anza Research

lamanqueandrew@fhda.edu