

August 24, 2005

Plus Minus Grading Pilot, Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005 Results

Methodology

- See Figure 1 for grading scale and grades included.
- Only graded classes are included (“500” open entry/exit classes are not included).
- For the GPA analysis, only grades of A-F are included. Pass / No-Pass courses are not included. Students with W grades are not included in the analysis.
- A section with at least 1 plus or minus grade is considered a “Plus Minus Section”
- A student enrolled in at least 1 Plus Minus Section is considered a “Plus Minus Student”

Participation Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005 Combined

- At De Anza, 810 sections included at least one plus or minus grade during fall 2004, winter 2005 and spring 2005 – a 13% participation rate, at Foothill the comparable figures were 4,521 total sections, and 759 or 17% participating (Figure 2).
- As noted in Figure 3, nearly one third of students at both campuses had at least one plus or minus section over the period – more than half having only one section (Figure 6).
- There were 339 grades of “C-“ (201 sections) at De Anza and 346 grades (158 sections) at Foothill. There were 769 “A+” grades (259 sections) at De Anza and 611 (199 sections) at Foothill.
 - Note: C- grades are not allowed by California Education Code; if instructors were allowed to give C-’s the number assigned may have approached the number of A+’s.

Results in the Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005 Quarters

- For both campuses the number of sections in the pilot increased after the fall quarter to about 300 sections per quarter.
- More minus grades were given than plus grades (Figures 5 and 6).
- The combined 3 term gpa (for the grades included) showed more students receiving a lower gpa than an increased gpa (Figures 7 and 8). Under the new system about 58% of the students would have seen no change in their gpa over the 3 terms.
- As depicted in Figures 9 and 10, more than 20% of students with a 4.0 “gpa” would receive a lower score under the new system. Figure 9 shows the change if only plus minus sections are included and Figure 10 shows the change if all sections are included in the calculation.

Figure 1

Plus Minus Grade Conversions				
Grade	Old Scale	New Scale	Include In	Success Group
			Calc Indicator	
A+	4	4	Y	Success
A	4	4	Y	Success
A-	4	3.7	Y	Success
B+	3	3.3	Y	Success
B	3	3	Y	Success
B-	3	2.7	Y	Success
C+	2	2.3	Y	Success
C	2	2	Y	Success
C-	2	2	Y	Success
D+	1	1.3	Y	NonSuccess
D	1	1	Y	NonSuccess
D-	0.7	0.7	Y	NonSuccess
F	0	0	Y	NonSuccess
W	0	0	N	Withdrew
P	3	3	N	Success
NP	0	0	N	NonSuccess
E	0	0	N	NonSuccess
I	0	0	N	NonSuccess
IP	0	0	N	NonSuccess
N	0	0	N	NonSuccess
NC	0	0	N	NonSuccess
RD	0	0	N	NonSuccess
WE	0	0	N	Withdrew
X	0	0	N	NonSuccess

Figure 2

Participation in Plus Minus Grading Pilot
Plus Minus Sections and Grades Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005

College / Group	2004F			2005W			2005S			Total		
	Number of Sections	Percent of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Percent of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Percent of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Percent of Sections	Number of Grades
De Anza + -	197	9%	4,896	312	14%	8,674	301	14%	8,345	810	13%	21,915
De Anza NonPilot	1,961	91%	44,046	1,862	86%	45,810	1,843	86%	44,227	5,666	87%	134,083
De Anza Total	2,158	100%	48,942	2,174	100%	54,484	2,144	100%	52,572	6,476	100%	155,998
Foothill + -	212	13%	5,628	272	19%	6,032	275	19%	5,944	759	17%	17,604
Foothill NonPilot	1,444	87%	29,239	1,180	81%	23,850	1,138	81%	23,023	3,762	83%	76,112
Foothill Total	1,656	100%	34,867	1,452	100%	29,882	1,413	100%	28,967	4,521	100%	93,716

Figure 3

Participation in Plus Minus Grading Pilot
Unduplicated HC of Plus Minus Students, Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005

College / Group	2004F		2005W		2005S	
	Number of Students	Percent Students	Number of Students	Percent Students	Number of Students	Percent Students
De Anza + -	4,248	21%	6,920	33%	6,703	32%
De Anza NonPilot	15,760	79%	14,324	67%	14,446	68%
De Anza Total	20,008	100%	21,244	100%	21,149	100%
Foothill + -	4,259	25%	4,457	31%	4,347	30%
Foothill NonPilot	12,903	75%	9,833	69%	9,914	70%
Foothill Total	17,162	100%	14,290	100%	14,261	100%

Note: Figures 4-9 below do not include W, P, NP and other grades listed in Figure 1 where Include In Cal Indicator = N.

Figure 4

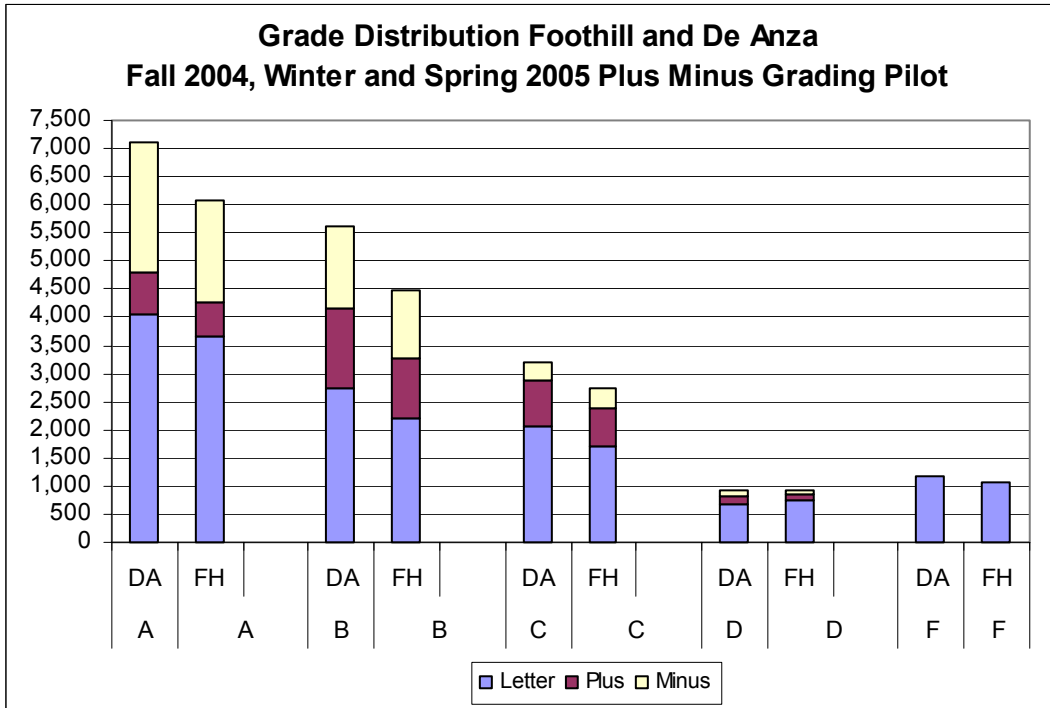


Figure 5

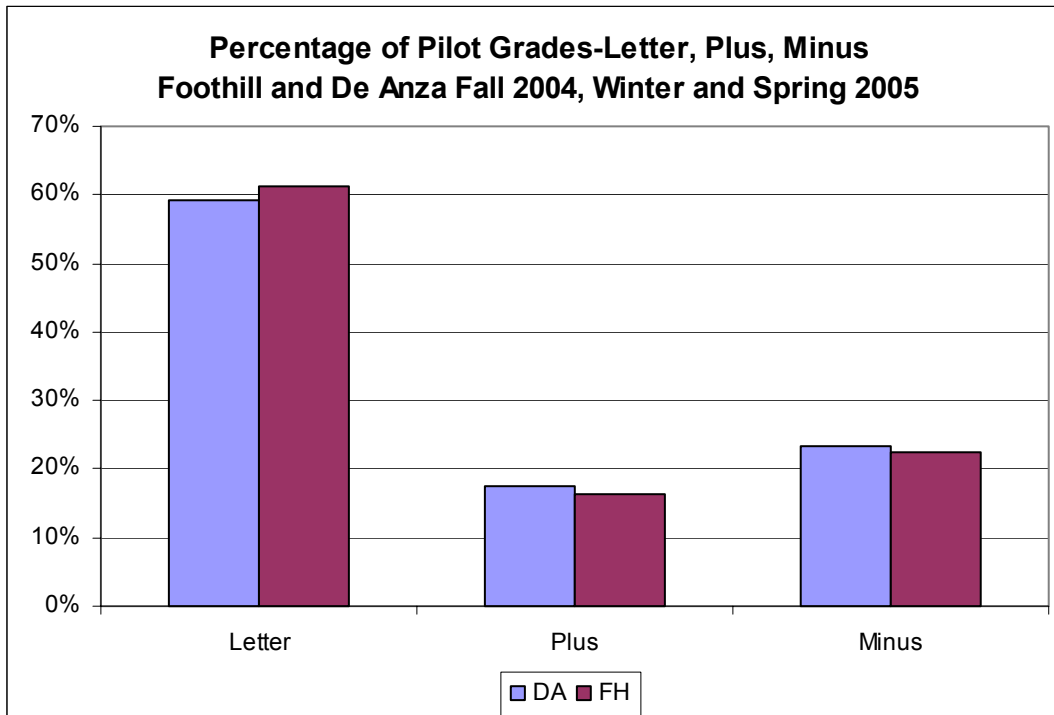


Figure 6

**Grades per Student
Included Plus Minus Pilot
Fall 2004, Winter-Spring 2005**

Number of Grades	De Anza		Foothill	
	Students	Percent	Students	Percent
1	6,547	59%	3,749	50%
2	2,759	25%	1,717	23%
3	1,136	10%	985	13%
4	401	4%	520	7%
5	110	1%	257	3%
6	51	0%	136	2%
7	13	0%	54	1%
8	1	0%	17	0%
9		0%	29	0%
10		0%	19	0%
Total	11,018	100%	7,483	100%

Figure 7

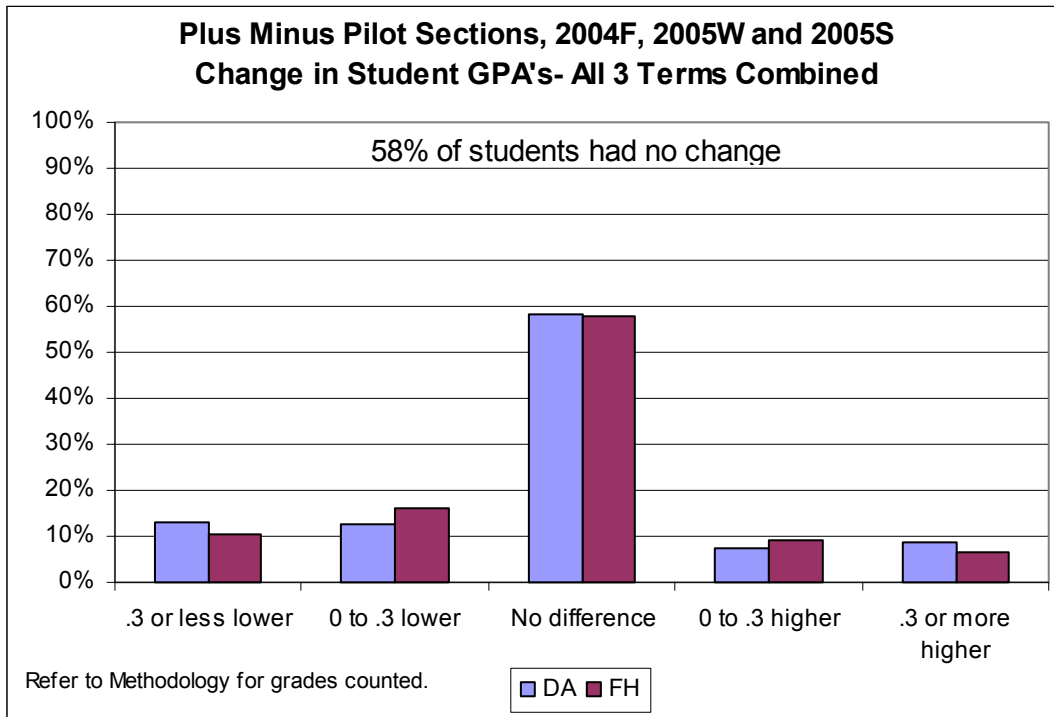


Figure 8

Change in Student Term GPA
Under Plus Minus Grading
Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005 Pilot

Change	De Anza		Foothill	
	Students	Percent	Students	Percent
.3 or less lower	1,426	13%	783	10%
0 to .3 lower	1,411	13%	1,200	16%
No difference	6,424	58%	4,324	58%
0 to .3 higher	821	7%	697	9%
.3 or more higher	936	8%	479	6%
Total Students	11,018	100%	7,483	100%

Figure 9 – Plus Minus Sections / Grades Only

Change in Student Term GPA
Under Plus Minus Grading - Grouped by Old GPA
Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005 Pilot

Group of Old GPA	Change	De Anza		Foothill	
		Students	Percent	Students	Percent
4	-.3 and lower	842	25%	454	21%
4	-.01 to -.29 lower	363	11%	292	13%
4	No Difference	2,139	64%	1,437	66%
4	Total Students	3,344	100%	2,183	100%
3.51 to 3.99	-.3 and lower	6	2%	4	1%
3.51 to 3.99	-.01 to -.29 lower	138	50%	185	59%
3.51 to 3.99	No Difference	90	32%	82	26%
3.51 to 3.99	0.01 to .29 Higher	44	16%	42	13%
3.51 to 3.99	Total Students	278	100%	313	100%
3.0 to 3.5	-.3 and lower	578	16%	325	15%
3.0 to 3.5	-.01 to -.29 lower	584	16%	413	19%
3.0 to 3.5	No Difference	1,590	44%	894	42%
3.0 to 3.5	0.01 to .29 Higher	339	9%	236	11%
3.0 to 3.5	.3 and higher	528	15%	276	13%
3.0 to 3.5	Total Students	3,619	100%	2,144	100%
Less Than 3.0	-.01 to -.29 lower	326	9%	310	11%
Less Than 3.0	No Difference	2,605	69%	1,911	67%
Less Than 3.0	0.01 to .29 Higher	438	12%	419	15%
Less Than 3.0	.3 and higher	408	11%	203	7%
Less Than 3.0	Total Students	3,777	100%	2,843	100%

Figure 10 – All Sections / Grades (for both Old GPA and Change)

Change in Student Term GPA
Under Plus Minus Grading - Grouped by Old GPA
Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005 Pilot

Group of Old GPA	Change	De Anza		Foothill	
		Students	Percent	Students	Percent
4	-.3 and lower	166	11%	168	13%
4	-.01 to -.29 lower	266	18%	198	15%
4	No Difference	1,086	72%	944	72%
4	Total Students	1,518	100%	1,310	100%
3.51 to 3.99	-.01 to -.29 lower	393	36%	342	44%
3.51 to 3.99	No Difference	596	54%	337	43%
3.51 to 3.99	0.01 to .29 Higher	108	10%	97	13%
3.51 to 3.99	Total Students	1,097	100%	776	100%
3.0 to 3.5	-.3 and lower	97	3%	325	15%
3.0 to 3.5	-.01 to -.29 lower	903	28%	413	19%
3.0 to 3.5	No Difference	1,626	50%	894	42%
3.0 to 3.5	0.01 to .29 Higher	520	16%	236	11%
3.0 to 3.5	.3 and higher	116	4%	276	13%
3.0 to 3.5	Total Students	3,262	100%	2,144	100%
Less Than 3.0	-.01 to -.29 lower	1,012	14%	310	11%
Less Than 3.0	No Difference	5,005	71%	1,911	67%
Less Than 3.0	0.01 to .29 Higher	955	14%	419	15%
Less Than 3.0	.3 and higher	58	1%	203	7%
Less Than 3.0	Total Students	7,030	100%	2,843	100%

Figure 11 – Plus Minus Sections / Grades Only

Change in Student Term GPA
Under Plus Minus Grading - Grouped by Old GPA
Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005 Pilot

Group of Old GPA	Number of Grades Counted	Change	De Anza		Foothill	
			Students	Percent	Students	Percent
4	1 Grade	-.3 and lower	751	32%	418	29%
4	1 Grade	No Difference	1,623	68%	1,021	71%
4	1 Grade	Total Students	2,374	100%	1,439	100%
4	2-4 Grades	-.3 and lower	91	10%	36	5%
4	2-4 Grades	-.01 to -.29 lower	342	36%	253	37%
4	2-4 Grades	No Difference	506	54%	392	58%
4	2-4 Grades	Total Students	939	100%	681	100%
4	5 or More Grad	-.01 to -.29 lower	21	68%	39	62%
4	5 or More Grad	No Difference	10	32%	24	38%
4	5 or More Grad	Total Students	31	100%	63	100%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	-.3 and lower	6	2%	4	2%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	-.01 to -.29 lower	116	48%	92	51%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	No Difference	82	34%	58	32%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	0.01 to .29 Higher	40	16%	25	14%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	Total Students	244	100%	179	100%
3.51 to 3.99	5 or More Grad	-.01 to -.29 lower	22	65%	93	69%
3.51 to 3.99	5 or More Grad	No Difference	8	24%	24	18%
3.51 to 3.99	5 or More Grad	0.01 to .29 Higher	4	12%	17	13%
3.51 to 3.99	5 or More Grad	Total Students	34	100%	134	100%
3.0 to 3.5	1 Grade	-.3 and lower	515	26%	257	25%
3.0 to 3.5	1 Grade	No Difference	969	49%	495	49%
3.0 to 3.5	1 Grade	.3 and higher	510	26%	257	25%
3.0 to 3.5	1 Grade	Total Students	1,994	100%	1,009	100%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	-.3 and lower	63	4%	67	7%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	-.01 to -.29 lower	567	36%	344	35%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	No Difference	603	38%	353	36%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	0.01 to .29 Higher	322	20%	204	21%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	.3 and higher	18	1%	19	2%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	Total Students	1,573	100%	987	100%
3.0 to 3.5	5 or More Grad	-.01 to -.29 lower	17	33%	69	47%
3.0 to 3.5	5 or More Grad	No Difference	18	35%	46	31%
3.0 to 3.5	5 or More Grad	0.01 to .29 Higher	17	33%	32	22%
3.0 to 3.5	5 or More Grad	Total Students	52	100%	148	100%
Less Than 3.0	1 Grade	No Difference	1,806	83%	1,112	85%
Less Than 3.0	1 Grade	.3 and higher	373	17%	189	15%
Less Than 3.0	1 Grade	Total Students	2,179	100%	1,301	100%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	-.01 to -.29 lower	309	20%	253	18%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	No Difference	779	51%	737	54%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	0.01 to .29 Higher	417	27%	371	27%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	.3 and higher	35	2%	14	1%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	Total Students	1,540	100%	1,375	100%
Less Than 3.0	5 or More Grad	-.01 to -.29 lower	17	29%	57	34%
Less Than 3.0	5 or More Grad	No Difference	20	34%	62	37%
Less Than 3.0	5 or More Grad	0.01 to .29 Higher	21	36%	48	29%
Less Than 3.0	5 or More Grad	Total Students	58	100%	167	100%

Figure 12 – All Sections / Grades (for both Old GPA and Change)

Change in Student Term GPA
Under Plus Minus Grading - Grouped by Old GPA
Fall 2004, Winter and Spring 2005 Pilot

Group of Old GPA	Number of Grades Counted	Change	De Anza		Foothill	
			Students	Percent	Students	Percent
4	1 Grade	-.3 and lower	156	25%	160	27%
4	1 Grade	No Difference	467	75%	442	73%
4	1 Grade	Total Students	623	100%	602	100%
4	2-4 Grades	-.3 and lower	10	1%	8	1%
4	2-4 Grades	-.01 to -.29 lower	211	30%	153	26%
4	2-4 Grades	No Difference	479	68%	418	72%
4	2-4 Grades	Total Students	700	100%	579	100%
4	5 or More Grad	-.01 to -.29 lower	55	28%	45	35%
4	5 or More Grad	No Difference	140	72%	84	65%
4	5 or More Grad	Total Students	195	100%	129	100%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	-.01 to -.29 lower	130	29%	71	35%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	No Difference	275	61%	104	51%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	0.01 to .29 Higher	45	10%	27	13%
3.51 to 3.99	2-4 Grades	Total Students	450	100%	202	100%
3.51 to 3.99	5 or More Grad	-.01 to -.29 lower	263	41%	271	47%
3.51 to 3.99	5 or More Grad	No Difference	321	50%	233	41%
3.51 to 3.99	5 or More Grad	0.01 to .29 Higher	63	10%	70	12%
3.51 to 3.99	5 or More Grad	Total Students	647	100%	574	100%
3.0 to 3.5	1 Grade	-.3 and lower	92	21%	80	23%
3.0 to 3.5	1 Grade	No Difference	231	53%	187	54%
3.0 to 3.5	1 Grade	.3 and higher	114	26%	82	23%
3.0 to 3.5	1 Grade	Total Students	437	100%	349	100%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	-.3 and lower	5	0%	14	2%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	-.01 to -.29 lower	463	28%	239	28%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	No Difference	870	53%	430	51%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	0.01 to .29 Higher	305	19%	161	19%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	.3 and higher	2	0%	3	0%
3.0 to 3.5	2-4 Grades	Total Students	1,645	100%	847	100%
3.0 to 3.5	5 or More Grad	-.01 to -.29 lower	440	37%	358	43%
3.0 to 3.5	5 or More Grad	No Difference	525	44%	306	37%
3.0 to 3.5	5 or More Grad	0.01 to .29 Higher	215	18%	174	21%
3.0 to 3.5	5 or More Grad	Total Students	1,180	100%	838	100%
Less Than 3.0	1 Grade	No Difference	674	92%	564	90%
Less Than 3.0	1 Grade	.3 and higher	55	8%	63	10%
Less Than 3.0	1 Grade	Total Students	729	100%	627	100%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	-.01 to -.29 lower	381	10%	189	10%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	No Difference	2,884	78%	1,575	80%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	0.01 to .29 Higher	447	12%	213	11%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	.3 and higher	3	0%	2	0%
Less Than 3.0	2-4 Grades	Total Students	3,715	100%	1,979	100%
Less Than 3.0	5 or More Grad	-.01 to -.29 lower	631	24%	395	24%
Less Than 3.0	5 or More Grad	No Difference	1,447	56%	900	54%
Less Than 3.0	5 or More Grad	0.01 to .29 Higher	508	20%	381	23%
Less Than 3.0	5 or More Grad	Total Students	2,586	100%	1,676	100%

De Anza College

		PLUS MINUS SECTION						
		2004F		2005W		2005S		
		Number of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Number of Grades	
DA	De Anza College	ACCT	5	111	10	372	13	478
		ADMJ			1	16		
		ANTH	2	67	9	297	9	290
		APRN	2	18	4	23	6	33
		ARTS	7	116	16	334	14	244
		AUTO	7	129	8	163	8	146
		BIOL	3	62	1	11	3	84
		BUS	14	376	16	518	9	266
		*C D & EDUC	5	112	14	375	12	303
		CHEM	7	129	8	201	8	183
		CIS	4	90	5	126	3	57
		CLP			2	35	2	35
		DANC	1	8			1	12
		E S					2	9
		ECON	2	39	6	238	4	144
		ELIT	2	16	5	85	8	118
		ENGR			3	62		
		ESL	5	50	17	248	16	226
		EWRT	19	375	23	515	27	581
		F/TV	8	125	15	313	11	196
		GEO					1	33
		GERM	1	15	1	18		
		HIST	11	298	8	257	9	269
		HUMI	10	248	10	366	8	307
		ICS	5	104	17	277	6	99
		INTL	4	24	4	64	4	18
		ITAL			1	9		
		JAPN	2	36	1	19	1	15
		JOUR					1	22
		LING					1	28
		MAND	1	9	1	13	4	50
		MATH	24	489	12	334	25	613
		MUSI	11	182	15	244	15	223
		NURS			3	72	5	139
		NUTR			1	33	1	33
		P E	6	84	12	246	8	230
		PARA			3	19	3	57
		PHIL	2	52	4	111		
		PHTG			2	38	1	39
		PHYS	3	45			3	34
		POLI	2	76	2	109	4	131
		PSYC	3	78	10	137	2	10
		SOC	4	119	9	376	9	340
		SPAN	7	98	15	232	15	238
		SPCH	4	98	12	221	17	432
		TECO	1	7				
		THEA			2	24		

		PLUS MINUS SECTION					
		2004F		2005W		2005S	
		Number of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Number of Grades
	URDU			1	20		
	VIET	2	56	2	50	1	40
	WMST	1	36	1	16	1	13
	Campus Total	197	3,977	312	7,237	301	6,818

Foothill College

		PLUS MINUS SECTION						
		2004F		2005W		2005S		
		Number of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Number of Grades	
FH	Foothill College	ACTG	9	215	6	143	5	128
		AHS	2	136	1	65		
		ALCB	2	46			2	63
		ALTW			1	25	2	49
		ANTH	1	31	1	16	1	8
		ART	22	265	39	303	40	312
		ASTR	5	202	6	265	5	222
		BIOL	2	134	7	232	11	409
		BTEC					3	65
		BUSI	3	80	2	43	3	64
		CAST	4	66	7	110	5	87
		CHEM	7	175	9	192	13	240
		CHIN	3	39	1	27	1	16
		CIS	4	52	5	62	5	67
		CNET					2	32
		CNSL	2	27	2	31	2	24
		COIN	3	50	3	31	3	68
		CRLP			1	24		
		CRWR	2	25	2	25	2	21
		D A			3	59	3	62
		D H	3	72	2	40	3	64
		DMS	4	56	6	84		
		DRAM	8	132	6	107	11	135
		ECON	5	177	4	171	6	169
		ENGL	28	586	43	785	36	604
		ENGR			1	28		
		ESL	10	199	19	311	9	135
		F A	1	4	2	12	3	28
		F TV	1	14	3	45	5	38
		FREN	1	22	3	41	1	8
		GEOG	5	141	3	118	7	220
		GERM	1	18	1	18	1	13
		GRDS	1	8			2	13
		H P	1	25			5	77
		HIST	14	505	12	391	12	364
		HLTH	1	98				
		JAPN			1	21	5	42
		LIBR			4	46	4	42
		LINC			3	25		
		MATH	18	395	20	449	17	372
MUS	3	26	1	25	1	14		
MUSP			1	17				
PHIL	3	95	3	84	1	20		
PHOT	1	1						
PHYS	7	139	9	181	8	214		
POLI	4	118	1	46	2	62		
PSE	1	35	1	29				

PLUS MINUS SECTION						
2004F		2005W		2005S		
	Number of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Number of Grades	Number of Sections	Number of Grades
PSYC	2	64	2	68	4	122
R E			3	145	1	45
RSPT	3	83			2	48
SOC	3	88	3	90	3	62
SPAN	5	53	6	60	7	60
SPCH	2	41	7	86	5	123
SPED			2	23		
T C	4	82	3	77	4	68
WMN	1	29	1	18	2	42
Campus Total	212	4,849	272	5,294	275	5,141