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LEARNING LOG
College Prep Seond Chance Academy

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## **DETAILS**

MAKING IT WORK, UNDERSTANDING WHAT WORKS, AND SHARING WHAT WORKS

TITLE

College Prep Seond Chance Academy

SOLUTION

Developmental Education Reform and Supports for Learning

**CAPACITIES** 

Leadership & Culture

Owner

Stefanie Waschull (/education/s/profile/0053600000472ADAAY)

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Record Type

Monthly-Current 2017

£5

INSTITUTION

Santa Fe College

REFLECTION

## SITE INITIATIVE

Second Chance academy is an initiative to provide students who failed their college prep course but who had good attendance, work ethic, and demonstrated an ability-to-benefit a chance to remediate and make another attempt at the end of course exam. The initiative started in math and has spread to reading and writing.

College prep math faculty experimented with several models but generally at the end of the course targeted students were offered the option of taking an "I" rather than an "F" and completing remediation with their faculty member over the next several weeks. In different iterations, the length of remediation as well as the matriculation strategy was varied but results indicated that the initiative was most successful when students did not have to matriculate for a course but could complete targeted (as opposed to comprehensive) remediation directly with their professor for the resolution of an "I" in the previous course.

Reading and writing adopted SCA in fall of 2016 using a somewhat different model. In those courses, students were given an "F" in the previous course and required to enroll in a 1 credit remedial course taught by a faculty member in the department.

# PROGRESS TOWARD STUDENT SUCCESS®

SCA started as a college prep math initiative and is now offered for math, reading and writing. The data for math is the most robust. Since fall 2014, about 100 students who failed college prep math participated in SCA. Approximately 70% of participants offered this opportunity accepted and approximately 70% of participants passed the end-of-course exam after SCA. Furthermore, the majority of those students were still enrolled in spring 2017.

Data clearly indicated that this strategy enhances success and retention for college prep math students.

SCA was adopted for reading and writing in fall 2016. As described above, the model was different for these courses. Reading and writing faculty developed their version of SCA at their discretion as experimented with different matriculation and instructional strategies. In these courses students received an "F" rather than an "I" and they were required to enroll in a 1 credit course taught by a departmental faculty member. This strategy was less successful. Although data is very preliminary, only about 1/3 of students accepted the offer and only about 50% of those who complete SCA in reading and writing passed the end of course exam.

SCA has the potential to significantly increase the number and percentage of students who pass their remedial course and remain enrolled if the program is specifically tailored to help address the roadblocks students face after failing a class.

When students are given an "I" and the opportunity to complete targeted remediation instructed by their own professor and without matriculating for a course, they are likely to accept the offer and be

When students receive an "F", when they must enroll to complete remediation, and when the remediation is taught by unknown faculty, students are less likely to accept the offer and to succeed.

Several factors appear to be responsible for this. First, when students receive an "F", they may lose financial aid. If so, they may not have the funds to enroll in even a one credit course the next term. Also, in order to have financial aid reinstated, students must receive "grade forgiveness" where they take THE SAME class again and the new grade replaces the previous in their GPA. When students find themselves in this predicament, the SCA class has little appeal. Also, students are eager to make progress toward their goals and when they are provided comprehensive remediation (even if it is only 1 credit hour of instruction) we believe they are more likely to lose interest. Finally, we believe our students were more likely to accept the offer to remediate with faculty they knew and trusted.

#### INTERNAL/EXTERNAL RESOURCES®

When offered as targeted non-credit remediation taught by the professor, faculty members must be willing to committ to the time and effort customized remediation requires. The institution must find ways to support this initaive by recognizing it (somehow) within faculty load.

## **NEXT CRITICAL STEPS**

SF must develop strategies to recognize math faculty effort within a non-credit model of remediation.

Reading and writing faculty must continue to experiment with second chance academy in order to enhance sucess. To do this, they will need to address some of their fundamental assumptions such as the belief that students should not recive "I"s when they earned "F"s and their adherance to a credit/load model of instruction.

OPPORTUNITIES/CHALLENGES®

See above.

# QUESTIONS/REQUESTS

Many thanks to SF Collge Academic Foundations faculty members for their effort developing and implementing this program. Particular thanks to Mark Dicks, Maria Reinhardt, Brigitte Middelton, Dawn Graziani, Ann Wiegl, Patty Kunkel, Lauren Woolsey, and Alexis Dirienzo.

**STATUS** 

Final

Completion Date

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5/24/2017

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