

Preliminary Matriculation Report

Cut-Score Update for English 015, 101

September, 2011

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the ongoing evaluation of Accuplacer test cut-scores for SBVC English courses. Accuplacer was employed as the exclusive test for placing SBVC students during the 2009-10 academic year. The initial cut-scores were adopted from Crafton Hills College (CHC). These cut-scores were used for student placement during the trial period and in the first stage of use. English cut-scores were revised in May of 2010. SBVC no longer uses the same cut scores as CHC. Although, SBVC continues to accept all CHC placement recommendations, some of them fall below our revised cut-scores. This report focuses on the effectiveness of the cut-scores that were revised in May, 2010.

Because three semesters of survey data are required to validate the cut-scores, and only one semester of surveys have been conducted with the current cut-scores, this report has no recommendations. The percentage of students who are in the sections recommended by the placement tests—using the current cut-scores—has increased every semester following the revisions. The next wave of survey respondents should have a much larger percentage than the previous administration.

Methodology:

Placement and prerequisite surveys were administered to nearly all sections of English during the fall 2011 term. The courses included in this report are: English 015, and English 101. Only a small percentage of students in courses for fall 2010 and spring 2011 were placed directly from the Accuplacer test. Most students were in the courses as a result of previous tests, previous Accuplacer cut scores, or after taking the prerequisites.

Grades and Accuplacer scores were downloaded from the Datatel warehouse for all students who enrolled in English courses between fall 2010 and spring 2011. Assessment test scores were grouped into categories that included the current cut scores as one of the interval end-points. The categories that contain endpoints are underlined and contain bold type in the tables below.

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Table 1. English 015 (GSP=60%)			Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
40 to 60	Valid	A	5	4.9	4.9
		B	5	4.9	9.8
		C	11	10.8	20.6
		D	30	29.4	50.0
		F	18	17.6	67.6
		W	33	32.4	100.0
		Total	102	100.0	
61 to 78	Valid	1	19	4.8	4.8
		2	47	11.8	16.6
		3	90	22.6	39.2
		4	89	22.4	61.6
		5	48	12.1	73.6
		6	105	26.4	100.0
		Total	398	100.0	
79 to 85	Valid	1	17	5.6	5.6
		2	56	18.6	24.3
		3	74	24.6	48.8
		4	52	17.3	66.1
		5	39	13.0	79.1
		6	62	20.6	99.7
		9	1	.3	100.0
		Total	301	100.0	
86 to 96	Valid	1	30	11.0	11.0
		2	68	25.0	36.0
		3	61	22.4	58.5
		4	34	12.5	71.0
		5	35	12.9	83.8
		6	44	16.2	100.0
		Total	272	100.0	
97 to 130	Valid	1	2	12.5	12.5
		2	2	12.5	25.0
		3	4	25.0	50.0
		4	2	12.5	62.5
		5	2	12.5	75.0
		6	4	25.0	100.0

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		6	4	25.0	100.0
		Total	16	100.0	

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Example cases for students who scored below minimum score of 79 and were able to enroll in ENGL 015.

	class	term	Grade	test	Test date	placement	score
0510897	ENGL-015	2011SP	A	VACCUSENT	05/27/10	ENGL-015	49
0914638	ENGL-015	2011SP	W	VACCUSENT	06/01/10	ENGL-015	49
0947309	ENGL-015	2010FA	D	VACCUSENT	08/09/10	ENGL-015	49
0958227	ENGL-015	2011SP	D	VACCUSENT	09/20/10	ENGL-015	49
0910196	ENGL-015	2011SP	D	VACCUSENT	11/22/10	ENGL-015	49
0938473	ENGL-015	2010FA	D	VACCUSENT	06/29/10	ENGL-015	50
0639423	ENGL-015	2010FA	B	VACCUSENT	05/10/10	ENGL-015	51
0901284	ENGL-015	2011SP	W	VACCUSENT	06/15/10	ENGL-015	51
0920327	ENGL-015	2011SP	D	VACCUSENT	07/07/10	ENGL-015	51
0684255	ENGL-015	2011SP	W	VACCUSENT	07/13/10	ENGL-015	51
0653870	ENGL-015	2010SP	B	VACCUSENT	12/22/09	ENGL-015	52

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Table 2. English 101 (Pass rate for all student =51%)

English 101	Grades	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
91 or less	A	9	19.1	19.1	19.1
	B	8	17.0	17.0	36.2
	C	6	12.8	12.8	48.9
	D	3	6.4	6.4	55.3
	F	7	14.9	14.9	70.2
	W	14	29.8	29.8	100.0
	Total		47	100.0	100.0
92 to 98	A	12	10.4	10.4	10.4
	B	28	24.3	24.3	34.8
	C	23	20.0	20.0	54.8

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		D	12	10.4	10.4	65.2
		F	14	12.2	12.2	77.4
		W	26	22.6	22.6	100.0
		Total	115	100.0	100.0	
99 to 105	Valid	A	22	16.8	16.8	16.8
		B	17	13.0	13.0	29.8
		C	27	20.6	20.6	50.4
		D	10	7.6	7.6	58.0
		F	16	12.2	12.2	70.2
		W	39	29.8	29.8	100.0
		Total	131	100.0	100.0	
	106 or higher	Valid	A	38	18.8	18.8
		B	38	18.8	18.8	37.6
		C	19	9.4	9.4	47.0
		D	24	11.9	11.9	58.9
		F	27	13.4	13.4	72.3
		W	56	27.7	27.7	100.0
		Total	202	100.0	100.0	

Example cases for students who scored below minimum score of 99.

0830167 ENGL-101	2010FA D	0830167 VACCUSENT	20	01/05/10 ENGL-101	76
0845701 ENGL-101	2010FA B	0845701 VACCUSENT	20	01/05/10 ENGL-101	82
0701960 ENGL-101	2010SP D	0701960 VACCUSENT	20	01/06/10 ENGL-101	90
0600954 ENGL-101	2010SP W	0600954 VACCUSENT	20	01/07/10 ENGL-101	81
0226928 ENGL-101	2011SP B	0226928 VACCUSENT	20	01/07/10 ENGL-101	93
0680282 ENGL-101	2010SP W	0680282 VACCUSENT	20	01/07/10 ENGL-101	92
0880947 ENGL-101	2010SP B	0880947 VACCUSENT	20	01/14/10 ENGL-101	90
0881653 ENGL-101	2011SP B	0881653 VACCUSENT	20	01/21/10 ENGL-101	91
0800469 ENGL-101	2010FA C	0800469 VACCUSENT	20	01/22/10 ENGL-101	93
0750895 ENGL-101	2010FA W	0750895 VACCUSENT	20	01/27/10 ENGL-101	87
0632418 ENGL-101	2010FA A	0632418 VACCUSENT	20	01/28/10 ENGL-101	87

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Placement and Prerequisite Survey Responses

Accuplacer Placements Fall 2010					
Student's assessment Knowledge	Count	%	Instructor's assessment of Knowledge	cnt	%
Yes, overqualified.....	12	2%	Yes, overqualified.....	1	.4%
Yes, very much so.....	137	56%	Yes, very much so.....	71	29%
Yes, but not completely	82	33%	Yes, but not completely	84	34%
Yes, but barely.....	10	4%	Yes, but barely.....	49	20%
No, not at all.....	1	.4%	No, not at all.....	18	7%
			(blank)	23	9%
Grand Total	246		Grand Total	246	

Non-Accuplacer Placements Fall 2010					
Student's assessment Knowledge	count	%	Instructor's assessment of Knowledge	count	%
Yes, overqualified.....1	26	5%	Yes, overqualified.....1	1	
Yes, very much so.....2	272	54%	Yes, very much so.....2	108	21%
Yes, but not completely3	172	34%	Yes, but not completely3	205	41%
Yes, but barely.....4	22	4%	Yes, but barely.....4	110	22%
		2%	No, not at all.....5	43	8%
(blank)	12		(blank)	37	7%
Grand Total	504		Grand Total	504	

Non- Accuplacer		Accuplacer	
Grade	Total	Grade	Total
A.....9.72%	49	A.....10.57%	26
B.....19.05%	96	B.....22.76%	56
C.....26.59% (55.36%)	134	C.....23.17% (57.5%)	57
D.....14.09%	71	D.....19.23%	49
F.....7.54%	38	F.....9.35%	23
W.....22.82%	115	W.....14.23%	35
(blank)			
Grand Total	504	Grand Total	246

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Students with Accuplacer placements had a slightly higher pass rate than students who were in the class as the result of previous tests, prerequisites, tests for other schools, etc. A pattern that continues to emerge from the data is that students who enroll in courses within a semester or two of taking the assessment test tend to do better than those who delay taking the course. This may be an example of that effect.