

COLL-145 Effectiveness

Does taking COLL-145 improve the GPA of academically dismissed students? All FL2010 students with a dismissed status were queried ($N = 98$); some had a dismissed status prior to FL2010. Their FL2010 and next semester (WI2011, $N = 45$) cumulative term GPAs were obtained. Similarly, academically dismissed students who took COLL-145 were queried from FL2012 to present ($N = 45$). Their cumulative term GPA the semester prior to taking COLL-145 was recorded, as was their cumulative term GPA the semester after enrollment in COLL-145 ($N = 16$). The “pre” average cumulative term GPA of the “control” ($M = 1.27$, $SD = .39$) and “intervention” (COLL-145) groups ($M = 1.20$, $SD = .46$) were similar.

An independent samples t test was conducted to determine whether the cumulative term GPA of academically dismissed students improved the semester after taking COLL-145. The statistically significant results confirmed the hypothesis, $t(59) = -2.68$, $p = .01$. **Students ($N = 45$) who did not take COLL-145 had an average cumulative term GPA increase of .14 ($SD = .21$) whereas those ($N = 16$) who took COLL-145 had an average increase of .32 ($SD = .30$). Eleven percent of the variance in GPA change of academically dismissed students can be attributed to whether one took COLL-145.**

Regarding performance in COLL-145, the outcome of all 45 students is as follows: 4.4% = A, 15.6% = B, 35.6% = C, 8.9% = D, 33.3% = F, and 2.2% = W, indicating a sizable degree of unsuccess in study skills course mastery. Upon specifically examining the performance of the 16 students included in the t -test above, 75% earned an A, B, or C in COLL-145. Note that since academically dismissed students who took COLL-145 were queried from FL2012 to present, they may have just recently taken COLL-145 and thus literally not had time to complete a semester post-COLL-145. In other words, it would be grossly inaccurate to state that only 35.6% (16/45) of students returned after completing a semester of COLL-145. Regarding the control group, 54% percent (53/98) of students with a dismissed status in FL2010 did not return in WI2011, but may have returned at another point in time.