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EVALUATION OF DUAL CREDIT INSTRUCTION

Do students who take a course as a dual credit high school student do as well in their coursework after college enrollment? The grades students earned in the dual credit course MAC 1104 during the 1989-90 academic year were compared to grades earned in other mathematics courses following high school graduation and enrollment at St. Petersburg Junior College. This course and year were selected because of the large number of students who take MAC 1104 as dual credit and to provide sufficient time for the students to graduate high school and complete additional mathematics courses on the college campus.

The table below shows the grade distribution of dual credit students enrolled in MAC 1104, the number of dual credit MAC 1104 students who enrolled at St. Petersburg Junior college, the number who enrolled in a second mathematics course along with a comparison of the grade earned in the second mathematics course, and the average GPA of the college enrollees.

TABLE
GRADE DISTRIBUTION FOR DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS IN MAC 1104

| | A | B | C | D | F | W | X | Total |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Grade Distribution in MAC 1104 | 51 | 57 | 48 | 23 | 4 | 14 | 6 | 203 |
| MAC1104 students enrolled after H.S. | 17 | 27 | 18 | 13 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 86 |
| Enrolled second math as SPJC student | 13 | 17 | 13 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 58 |
| Same grade in second as in MAC 1104 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1* | 18 |
| Higher grade in second than MAC 1104 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 21 |
| Lower grade in second than MAC 1104 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| Average GPA of SPJC enrollees | 3.34 | 2.92 | 2.29 | 2.51 | 3.34 | 2.85 | 2.85 | 2.81 |

*Student audit grade = C

Eighty-six (86) of the 203 students (42%) who enrolled in MAC 1104 as dual credit students enrolled in the college. Based on the passing grades earned in MAC 1104, 17 (33%) of those students earning A, 27 (47%) of those students earning B, 18 (38%) of those earning C, and 13 (57%) of those earning D enrolled after high school graduation.

Fifty-eight (67%) of the enrollees completed a second mathematics course. Thirty-nine (67%) earned the same grade or a higher grade in the second mathematics course. About one-half (19) of the students enrolled in MAC 2233 - Applied Calculus I. The next most frequently enrolled class was MAC 1114 - Trigonometry (12). The average GPA for the students, based on all courses taken at the college, ranged between 2.51 and 3.34.

Although the sample was too small to apply statistical tests, dual credit students appeared to do as well in their coursework after college enrollment as they did as dual credit students. A follow-up study should be conducted of students enrolled in other dual credit courses to verify that these findings were not unique to dual credit students who enroll in mathematics courses.