Assessing Student Performance in Developmental Education Courses

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Developmental Education

What is it?
What is its purpose?
How is it perceived?
Who are the students?
Why are they in developmental courses?
“Definitions belong to the definers not the defined.”

Toni Morrison
Fall FTIC Degree-Seekers Prep completion in 2 years

- 1-prep
- 2-prep
- 3-prep
- All-prep

% of Starting Cohort

- Fall02-Su04: 39.7%
- Fall03-Su05: 41.7%
- Fall04-Su06: 39.3%
- Fall05-Su07: 41.8%
- Fall06-Su08: 43.4%
- Fall07-su09: 43.4%
- Fall08-Su10: 45.1%

Fall Cohort
Why?
What is the What?
How many students passed, withdrew and failed is not the right question?
• What am I trying to understand?

• How am I going understand this?

• What am I going to do with what I understand?
• Appropriate Methods
• Planned method for collecting data
• Plan of Analysis
Effective Assessment

• can be generalized
• begins with a question, hypothesis, or an interest
• leads to action
• is a lever for change
Classroom

• Is the assessment clearly tied to the objectives of the assignment?
• Is the language used in the assessment for the professor or the student?
• Is the design and application of assessments consistent?
Purpose

• To give a grade
• To indicate growth
• To recommend where to improve
• To develop critical thinking skills
• To develop an understanding of process
• To motivate
• To change mindsets