



Berkeley City College
2050 Center St., Berkeley, CA 94704 (510) 981-2800
www.berkeleycitycollege.edu

PERSIST/PERSIST TO COLLEGE OVERVIEW

The PERSIST cohort model serves students at basic skills level who come from socio-economic disadvantage or disability, and as such provides intentional educational access and success for populations underrepresented at Berkeley City College. Our model was conceived as a bridge semester with a Social Justice imperative.

PERSIST (Personal Initiative and Social Transformation) is a one semester bridge program that acts as a gateway toward success in college, for students who wish to transfer or achieve workforce preparedness. Students in PERSIST develop tools in communication and leadership while acquiring math, writing and critical thinking skills crucial to a certificate program or degree. This model semester instills better study habits, accelerates learning, and helps students balance personal responsibilities. PERSIST has been serving BCC students since Spring 2009.

The mission of PERSIST is to ensure that educationally disadvantaged students are prepared to succeed in college and the workplace. This program advances student access, success and equity, and addresses BCC core values of communication, computational skills, critical thinking, self-awareness, interpersonal skills, and information competency. To this end, PERSIST uses an immersion model put forth by the Academy for College Excellence (ACE), with two founding faculty as ACE Master Mentors nationwide. PERSIST continues to develop this model to best serve BCC's student population.

Major Themes of PERSIST/ACE Foundational Curriculum

- Community Building/Bonding
- Identification of Working Styles
- Deindustrialization of Education
- Naming Needs and Emotion
- Authentic Communication
- Bringing What You Learn Out into the World

The PERSIST program is a college preparedness as well as worker preparedness learning model. In addition to transfer pathways, CTE pathways available to BCC PERSIST students include the following:

Public and Human Services
Biotechnology
Small Business/Entrepreneurship
Social Services Paraprofessional
Multimedia Arts
Computer Information Systems



The Peralta Colleges: Berkeley City College, College of Alameda, Laney College and Merritt College



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**BCC Longitudinal Study of 99 Students
 Demographics**

**ACE students from BCC College,
 Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2011**

N	122*	
African American	56.1%	60
Latino	28.6%	30
Males	47.5	58
1 level below college-level in English	0.0%	0
2 or more below college-level in English	91.7%	66
Mean Age	23.8	
Completed GED	7.0 %	8
No HS Diploma	10.5%	12
* students with completed data included in compared analysis:	99	



Evaluation of the Academy for College Excellence: Report on Implementation and Student Outcomes
 MPR Associates
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**BCC Longitudinal Study of 99 Students
 Risk Level**

**ACE students from BCC College,
 Fall 2010-SP12; n=43**

First Generation College	72%
Difficulty Learning	28%
Receives Government Benefits	42%
Unstable home	53%
Has been arrested	33%
Parent in Agriculture	9%
Has been on Probation	16%
Is a Parent with Dependent Children	35%
Working while in School	26%
Homeless	33%
Domestic Violence	26%
Gang Association	16%
Medical Condition	21%
Risk Level	
High Risk:	81%
At Risk	19%



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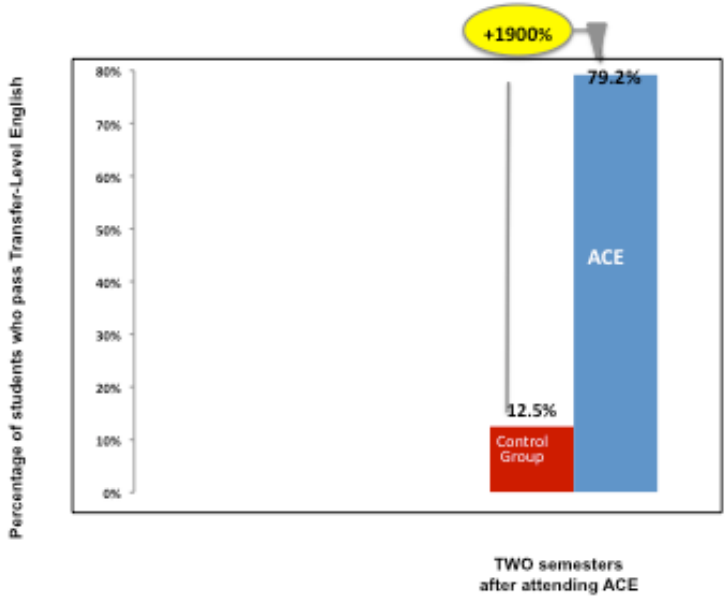


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Academy for College Excellence
**Longitudinal Study of 99 Students
 BCC Transfer-Level English Completion**

ACE students are more likely to pass Transfer-Level ENGLISH by:



Source: MPR Associates
 December 2012

**KEY
 TO SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES**

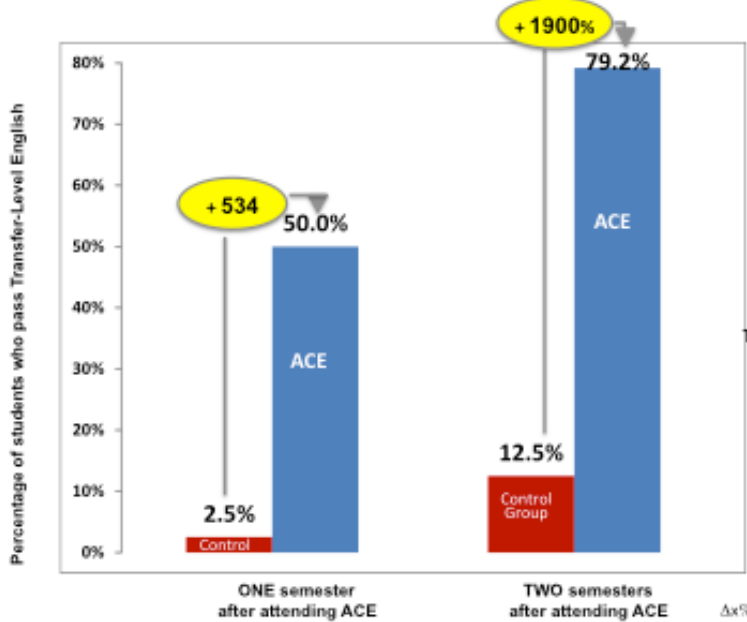
- Comparison Group
 1:1 propensity score matching from 20,466 non-participants
- Students in ACE BCC Non-CTE
 n=99

statistical significance
 <.01 two-tailed test

$\Delta x\% = [(ACE-Control) \times 100] / Control$

Academy for College Excellence
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