

Using EdReady English to accelerate college students' preparation for credit-bearing English courses

Optional Independent Study

At South Plains College in Levelland, Texas, Assistant Professor of English Ashleigh Brewer has been working with a small group of students in an English intervention course called NCBI-0100 (Non-Credit-Based Integrated Reading and Writing). The course uses EdReady, a personalized online learning system, to help the students quickly remediate their English reading, writing, and grammar skills.

While the NCBI course is optional, South Plains ensures that eligible students understand that success in the course translates into a faster path toward their degree and a less expensive option than the full-semester Developmental English course.

Brewer worked with five students who opted in to the NCBI course during the summer semester. The NCBI course is comprised of the first 8 (of 10) units of English instruction available in EdReady, and students worked in EdReady independently at home or in the computer labs at the college.

As the course facilitator, Brewer checked in with students on a weekly basis to answer questions and offer encouragement to complete the units. Students had to master all 8 units (that is, receive an EdReady score of 95 out of 100 in each unit) in order to move on to a credit-bearing course, English 1301.

Outcomes

Four of the five students met the challenge, working between six and 24 days to move through all the course material in their study paths. Those four students started with initial scores in EdReady as low as 37 and as high as 54 (out of a possible 100), so there were significant gains as they moved toward the target score of 95. The average score gain for the four students was 49 points. The fifth student took the initial diagnostic in EdReady, but did not work through his or her study path.

Of the four students who completed the NCBI course, three went on to earn a grade of A or B in the follow-on credit-bearing, college-level English course. The fourth student is currently enrolled in the follow-on English course. ■



DETAILS

WHO WAS SERVED: Texas college students in need of remediation to prepare for college-level, credit-bearing English courses.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 5

IMPLEMENTATION: Independent study with online instructor support

OUTCOME: Three of five students earned either an A or a B in their credit-bearing English class following their use of EdReady English in NCBI

“The students liked Edready because it allowed them to focus only on areas in which they struggled.”

*-- Ashleigh Brewer, Instructor,
South Plains College*

