

Assessment of Non-Academic Outcomes (Fall 2003 and Spring 2004)

Department: The Learning Center

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I. Mission: The purpose of The Learning Center is to provide programs that enhance learning and facilitate academic excellence for all UNT students. This directly relates to the university's mission to strengthen support for high quality teaching and learning and support activities that increase retention and graduation rates.

II. Previous Evaluations of the Unit: Each program of The Learning Center has been evaluated in ways appropriate to its function. Outreach Programs, the Volunteer Tutor Program and the Reading and Study Skills Program are evaluated by attendance and student ratings on a Likert scale. In addition, the Reading and Study Skills Program utilizes the Learning and Study Strategies Inventory (LASSI) as a pre/post test evaluation. The Speed Reading Program is partially computerized and has a built-in record of student progress. Other programs, particularly Supplemental Instruction and Supplemental Tutoring, are highly amenable to statistical analysis of variables such as retention rates, grade point averages, rates of students passing the THEA test and student satisfaction. The Test Preparation Program and the Academic Support Library are assessed by the amount of student usage. The effectiveness of Connecting for Success is measured by the retention rate of the participating students. In the spring of 2000, students in the MKTG 3710 Marketing Research class conducted a survey for The Learning Center to determine awareness of, usage of, and satisfaction with programs offered at the center.

These evaluations have helped to determine the class placement of Supplemental Tutors and Supplemental Instructors, times for Reading and Study Skills and Speed Reading classes, which groups of students are not aware of the center's programs and therefore need special attention, what material needs to be added to current programs, and what additional programs would be helpful.

III. Statement of Expected Outcomes: See Assessment Report Matrix

IV. Measuring Expected Outcomes: See Assessment Report Matrix

V. Use of Assessment Results: See Assessment Report Matrix

VI. Changes Made Based of Assessment Results: See Assessment Report Matrix

Assessment Report Matrix

III. Expected Outcomes	IV. Assessment Tools	V. Assessment Results	VI. Changes based on Results Taken	How do changes help UNT meet its Vision and support student learning?
<p>1. The average student rating of The Learning Center programs will be at least 4.0 on a 5-point scale.</p> <p>2. Students utilizing the Reading and Study Skills (RASSL) Program will increase their overall skills by 20%.</p> <p>3. Students utilizing the Speed Reading Program will increase their average reading speed by 90 words per minute.</p>	<p>Paper and pencil evaluation based on a 5-point Likert scale that evaluates the components of the programs and the instructors. This is given at the end of each program.</p> <p>Learning and Study Skills Inventory (H&H Publishing Co, Inc.) used as a pre/post test. This is given at the beginning and end of each RASSL course.</p> <p>Ultimate Speed Reader (Davidson & Associates, Inc.). This program tracks the progress of the students and prepares a report for each student. This is given continuously throughout the five-week course.</p>	<p>Speed Reading classes received an average rating of 4.44. Reading and Study Skills classes received an average rating of 4.63.</p> <p>Average improvement in all areas was 24%.</p> <p>Students increased their average reading speed by 96 words per minute.</p>	<p>Assessment results showed that the programs more than met intended levels of performance; no changes needed at this time. However, the delivery of the program is constantly evolving based on the comments of students.</p> <p>Assessment results showed that students more than met intended levels of performance; no changes needed at this time.</p> <p>Assessment results showed that students more than met intended levels of performance; no changes needed at this time.</p>	<p>These programs help strengthen support for high quality teaching and learning and support activities that increase retention and graduation rates.</p> <p>This program helps strengthen support for high quality teaching and learning and supports activities that increase retention and graduation rates.</p> <p>This program helps strengthen support for high quality teaching and learning and supports activities that increase retention and graduation rates.</p>

<p>4. Increase the number of courses that offer Supplemental Instruction from 11 to 15.</p>	<p>Document Review – Document the number of courses that offer SI for 2002-2003 that did not offer SI in 2001-2002. This is reviewed at the end of each semester.</p>	<p>SI was expanded to include 6 new courses to bring the total to 17.</p>	<p>Assessment results showed that the program more than met intended levels of performance; no changes needed at this time. However, The Learning Center will continue to seek out new courses.</p>	
<p>5. Have a 40% participation rate of students utilizing Supplemental Instruction.</p>	<p>Document Review – End of year report with final sign-in sheet count. This is reviewed at the end of each semester.</p>	<p>38.63% of students in courses that offered SI participated in the SI Program.</p>	<p>Training for Supplemental Instructors will highlight the importance of publicizing their sessions. Techniques will be shared during training to encourage more interaction with students.</p>	<p>Supplemental Instruction (SI) and Supplemental Tutoring (ST) target traditionally difficult classes suffering from a large percentage (33% or more) of students who drop, withdraw or fail. SI and ST assist students in developing critical thinking and effective study skills. These programs help strengthen support for high quality teaching and learning and support activities that increase retention and graduation rates.</p>
<p>6. Have a 40% participation rate of students utilizing Supplemental Tutoring.</p>	<p>Document Review – End of year report with final sign-in sheet count. This is reviewed at the end of each semester.</p>	<p>43.86% of students in courses that offered ST participated in the ST Program.</p>	<p>Assessment results showed that the program more than met intended levels of performance; no changes needed at this time. However, training is the same for the Supplemental Instructors.</p>	

Signature of Person Completing the Form: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Department Head after Reviewing the Form: _____

Date: _____