

Pikes Peak State College Lumina/REACH Round II Project

In Spring 2024, PPSC ran six sections of accelerated, hybrid, gen ed classes in ENG, COM, and PSY. Rather than lasting the full semester, these classes took place during a 7-week bimester, meeting one day a week in person with the remaining coursework happening online. The students were supported by two peer mentors who were available, virtually or in person, to help students with various tasks like connecting with college services, making study plans, and other challenges. We ran two classes in the first bimester and four in the second. The average enrollment was 11 students.

Outreach

Though we decided not to limit enrollment in these classes to students 25+ years of age, we did try to deliberately target adult learners. We communicated via text with a list of students 25 or older who had stopped out, or not been enrolled at PPSC in one or more semesters; we scheduled the classes at days/times we believed to be conducive to adult students' schedules; we provided a list of the classes to our advisors. Of the 66 students who enrolled in these six classes, 20% were 25 or older, and 69% were age 20 or older.

Preliminary Numbers

- 61% identify as students of color
- 68% of all students passed their class
- 65% of students of color passed their class
- 29% of all students failed their class
- 35% of students of color failed their class
- 3% dropped their class
- 41% enrolled in at least one class in a subsequent semester (summer or fall 2024)
- 59% have not yet enrolled in at least one class in a subsequent semester (summer or fall 2024)

Spring Data We Hope to Analyze

- Pre and post surveys administered to students
- Interviews completed with peer mentors
- Student course evaluations
- Disaggregated pass/fail rates in accelerated classes
- Pass/fail rates in similar classes across the college (we understand the small sample size will make it difficult to draw meaningful conclusions from this data)

Going Forward with the Pilot

We plan to offer the same ENG and COM classes in the fall in the same accelerated, hybrid format. However, based on more recent stopped-out student data, analyzed Spring 2024 data, and lessons learned from the spring, we will be able to better promote the classes to adult learners of color. We will also conduct a professional development event in the fall for faculty interested in teaching in this format. We hope to generate enough interest that we can eventually offer entire programs of study in this accelerated format. In particular, we want to expand this modality to our Career and Technical Education programs.