FLA: To the Classroom and Beyond
Today's Presentation is Brought to You by:
The Freshman Learning Academy Program
Borough of Manhattan Community College (CUNY)

Presenters:

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About the Freshman Learning Academy

History of FLA

Organizational Chart

Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

Dean of Students

FLA Program Supervisor

FLA Office Coordinator

FLA Advisors

FLA Peer Staff

BMCC
Borough of Manhattan Community College
2008

The Odyssey Project - a research study funded by the NY Community Trust (NYCT) fund to study the challenges women of color faced while attending BMCC.

Dr. Precious Sellars-Mulhern
Faculty-Counseling
Department

Dr. Lisa Rose
Faculty - Social Sciences

Dr. Marva Craig
VP Student Affairs

Brian Haller
Director Foundation and Corporate Relations
2009-2010

Findings show that the challenges faced by women are universal to the general population. One challenge is that students do not feel connected to the school or each other.
2010-2011

- Based on the Odyssey Project findings, BMCC Academic and Student Affairs Administrators begin to develop a plan for learning communities at BMCC.
- BMCC submits a grant proposal to the NYCT to partially fund a program that would help retain liberal arts undecided students.
2012

- The FLA Program launched
- FLA Supervisor and advisors were hired
- Incoming Liberal Arts students were admitted into the program
- 250 students were recruited for the Fall 2012 and 230 students for Spring 2013 semesters
2013-2014

• By Spring 2014, over 1100 students went through the FLA program
• 30 + Faculty Members
• 8 Student Aid Assistants
• 6 FLA Advisors

The program is under constant review and will be redesigned to fit the needs of the students.
Program Requirements

- First-Time Freshman
- Liberal Arts Major
- Last Level developmental Reading and/or Writing Placements or Exempt
Maximize Advisor-Student Relationship

- Bridge to Campus Departments
- Recruiter
- FLA Advisors
- Counselor*
- FLA Workshop Instructor
- Student Advocate
- Academic Advisor
FLA Classroom Structure

High Impact Activities

- Writing Extensive
- Service Learning
- Global Studies
- E-Portfolio

FLA WORKSHOP
- Time Management & Study Skills
- Grades & Classroom Expectations
- Student Support Services
- Student Involvement Services
- Academic Advisement
- Career Exploration
RESEARCH

Quasi-experiment
Propensity score matching for the comparison group

Data Collection

• Pre & post: attitude, skills and knowledge surveys for students Grades and pass rates
• Course withdrawal/ retention rates, GPA

Student Learning Outcomes
Expectations were that there would be evidence of:
1) Learning equal or greater to students in equivalent non- FLA courses.
2) Bonding with other students, coordinators and instructors.
3) Class participation higher than in similar, non-FLA courses.
4) The ability to apply appropriate comprehension skills to the reading and materials.
Results

FALL 2012

SPRING 2013

IR: FLA Program Evaluation Reports 2012-2013
Thank you!

Questions?

Work Cited


Liberal Arts Freshman Academies: A Revised Proposal for the New York Community Trust, Borough of Manhattan Community College, July 2011.
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