

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES OF THE DIGITAL BRIDGE ACADEMY: FINDINGS FROM A MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS

Davis Jenkins, Columbia University, Community College Research Center
Craig Hayward, Cabrillo College

Cabrillo College
Watsonville Center
February 1, 2010

Outcomes Studied

- ▣ One-Semester Persistence
- ▣ Two-Semester Persistence
- ▣ Full-Time Next Semester
- ▣ College Credits Earned
- ▣ Transfer Credits Earned
- ▣ Passed Transfer-Level English
- ▣ Passed Associate-Level English

Comparison Groups: Demographics

	Assessment Cohort	Basic Skills	DBA	Accelerated DBA
N	11578	7336	208	66
Low Income Zip	27%	36%	87%	85%
Latino	32%	44%	83%	83%
Female	50%	49%	49%	53%
ESL Student	4%	6%	7%	8%
Prior College Credits	18	16	6	11
Mean Age	21	21	23	23
No HS Diploma	12%	13%	21%	15%

Comparison Groups: Demographics

	Assessment Cohort	Basic Skills	DBA	Accelerated DBA
N	11578	7336	208	66
Low Income Zip	27%	36%	87%	85%
Latino	32%	44%	83%	83%
Female	50%	49%	49%	53%
ESL Student	4%	6%	7%	8%
Prior College Credits	18	16	6	11
Mean Age	21	21	23	23
No HS Diploma	12%	13%	21%	15%

Digital Bridge Academy Student Outcomes Analysis

	Cabrillo College Comparison Group	Accelerated DBA Cohorts	Non- Accelerated DBA Cohorts
College Credits Earned	28	49	37
Transfer Credits Earned	21	25	23
Chance of Persisting 1 Semester	80%	95%	88%
Chance of Persisting 2 Semesters	63%	82%	74%
Chance of Enrolling Full-Time in Second Semester	33%	65%	59%
Chance of Passing 1 Level Below Transfer English	29%	71%	26%
Passing Transfer-Level English	37%	68%	31%

Digital Bridge Academy Student Outcomes Analysis

	Cabrillo College Comparison Group	Accelerated DBA Cohorts	Non- Accelerated DBA Cohorts
College Credits Earned	28	49	37
Transfer Credits Earned	21	25	23
Chance of Persisting 1 Semester	80%	95%	88%
Chance of Persisting 2 Semesters	63%	82%	74%
Chance of Enrolling Full-Time in Second Semester	33%	65%	59%
Chance of Passing 1 Level Below Transfer English	29%	71%	26%
Passing Transfer-Level English	37%	68%	31%

Digital Bridge Academy Student Outcomes Analysis

	Cabrillo College Comparison Group	Accelerated DBA Cohorts	Non- Accelerated DBA Cohorts
College Credits Earned	28	49	37
Transfer Credits Earned	21	25	23
Chance of Persisting 1 Semester	80%	95%	88%
Chance of Persisting 2 Semesters	63%	82%	74%
Chance of Enrolling Full-Time in Second Semester	33%	65%	59%
Chance of Passing 1 Level Below Transfer English	29%	71%	26%
Passing Transfer-Level English	37%	68%	31%

Digital Bridge Academy Student Outcomes Analysis

	Cabrillo College Comparison Group	Accelerated DBA Cohorts	Non- Accelerated DBA Cohorts
College Credits Earned	28	49	37
Transfer Credits Earned	21	25	23
Chance of Persisting 1 Semester	80%	95%	88%
Chance of Persisting 2 Semesters	63%	82%	74%
Chance of Enrolling Full-Time in Second Semester	33%	65%	59%
Chance of Passing 1 Level Below Transfer English	29%	71%	26%
Passing Transfer-Level English	37%	68%	31%

Columbia University Conclusion

“While participants in the non-accelerated version of the program generally had significantly better outcomes on most measures than did students who did not participate in DBA, the estimated effects for the accelerated version were in most cases higher...

“To the extent that colleges are seeking strategies for increasing the rate at which academically underprepared students complete “gatekeeper” courses such as college-level English and earn college credits, the accelerated version of the DBA program seems to hold particular promise...

“DBA students are very likely to be more at-risk than Cabrillo students with similar levels of academic preparation, although comparable risk statistics are not available for non- participating Cabrillo students. To the extent that the DBA students in the sample were substantially more disadvantaged than other students, ***it may be that the estimates produced through this analysis understate the effect of participating in DBA.***”