The Student Success Project

A cohort study that collects data from students’ 1st to last year.
Project Goal

Improve student learning in the general education program
251 first-time, first-year student volunteers

14% of the incoming fall 2010 class
How do students participate?

1. Take 6 online surveys each year

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### 1) Thinking about this semester, how much time do you spend during a typical WEEK doing the following?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Select...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparing for class, doing homework, study groups, tutoring</td>
<td>Select...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talking with teachers outside of class</td>
<td>Select...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating in student clubs/groups</td>
<td>Select...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working at a paid or volunteer job</td>
<td>Select...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commuting</td>
<td>Select...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socializing with friends/family</td>
<td>Select...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating in online social networking (Facebook, MySpace, etc.)</td>
<td>Select...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal telephone calls, texting, e-mail, and mail</td>
<td>Select...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do students participate?

2. Submit assignments & exams from General Education courses

Note: 50% of the cohort’s participants submit coursework and exams
3. Participate in an annual focus group

Note: 50% of the cohort’s participants participate in the focus groups
Primary mode of communication
- Email (name@hawaii.edu & personal email address)
- Facebook Secret Groups

Reminders
- Text message
- Phone call to cell phone

General information available
- Unrestricted website
  (http://manoa.hawaii.edu/assessment/studentsuccess)
Areas Addressed in the Surveys

- What helps and hinders learning
- How much learning occurred in Gen Ed
- Most important things learned in Gen Ed
- Where Gen Ed outcomes were addressed
- Distinctive characteristics of UH Mānoa
- Mānoa as a Hawaiian Place of Learning
- Reasons why students returned/did not return to UH Mānoa
- Time spent (e.g., hours per week studying)
Areas Addressed in Focus Groups

- **Spring 2011**
  - Hands-on learning
  - Study skills needed to succeed
  - Advice for new, incoming freshmen
  - Mānoa as a Hawaiian Place of Learning

- **Spring 2012**
  - Design an effective general education course (written communication, symbolic reasoning, or global & multicultural perspectives)
  - Reasons behind the course design
Submission of Coursework/Exams

Instructions to Students

1. Choose an assignment/exam that demonstrates knowledge or abilities in that general education area(s). Save teacher directions/guidelines

2. Label each item.

3. Submit the assignments/exams and the teacher directions/guidelines (if applicable).
Other Types of Data Collected

- Course grades
- Courses taken
- Demographic
- High school GPA and class ranking
- College entrance exam test scores
- Advanced Placement courses taken
- Advanced Placement exam scores
- Transfer credits
Mahalo! Thank You!

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