

An Analysis of the HCC Writing Center

Spring 2016 Semester

Professor Karyn Smith, Coordinator of Writing Center

What is Happening in the Writing Center?

Spring 2016

The Writing Center took 661 appointments with over **295** different students.

Method

- Data was collected in the spring 2016 semester on students who used the Writing Center. The researcher chose to determine if the Writing Center made a difference in their academic performance and retention. Data was also used for continuous improvement of the Writing Center Coordinator, Professor Karyn Smith.
- Most of the data collected was qualitative.
- Data was examined for demographics and for return and pass rates the following semester.
- Some recoding was used and SPSS was utilized for data frequencies and merging data to determine return rates of students.

Reasons for Student Visits in Addition to Help with Courses

In addition to coming to the Writing Center for help with writing course work, students also come to the Writing Center for assistance with:

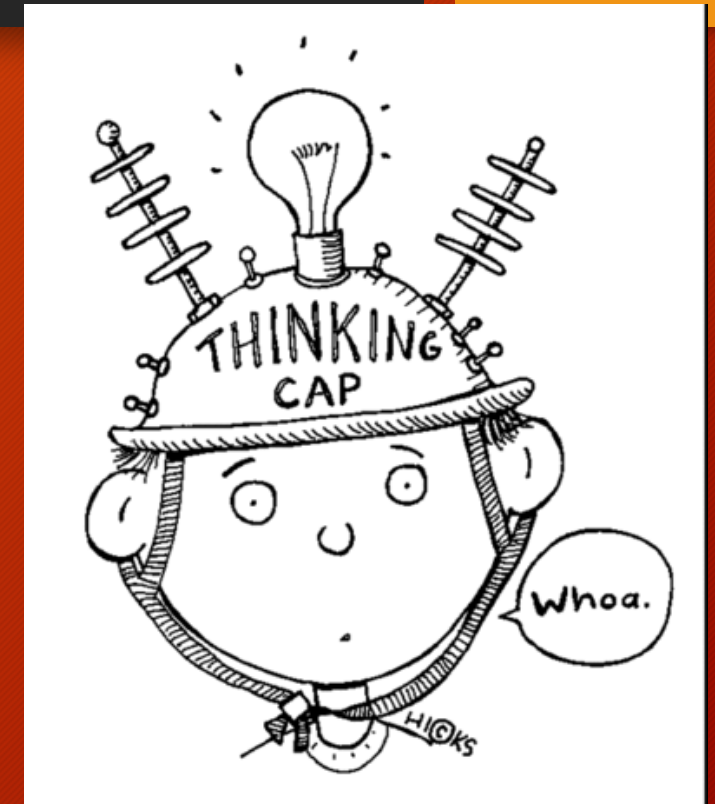
- Internship essays
- Transfer essays
- Cover letters
- APA style guidance
- Scholarship essays
- Nursing school essays

Findings are Significant for ENG 094 and ENG 101

HCC students who did not use the Writing Center the pass rate for ENG094 & (i) was 43.3%, but for students who used the Writing Center it was 70.4 %

HCC students who did not use the Writing Center the pass rate for for ENG 101 was 50.5%, but for students who used the Writing Center it was 75.8%

HCC students who did not use the Writing Center the pass rate for ENG 102 was 60.0%, and for students who used the Writing Center it was 60%



Findings

The retention rate was calculated by the number of students who were enrolled in spring 2016, did not graduate, and returned to the college in the spring semester.

- *The spring to fall retention rate for the overall students was xx%. (determined in fall '16)*
- *XXX(XX%) (determined in fall '16) of the students who used the Writing Center in the spring were retained in the fall 2016 semester.*

How Effective is the Writing Center?

ENG 094 - Introduction to College Writing

Students Did Not Use the Writing Center

n = 185

Mean final grade = 1.5

Standard deviation = 1.55077

Students Used the Writing Center

n = 27

Mean final grade = 2.3889

Standard deviation = 1.24872

T-test for two samples revealed a p-value = .0049

How Effective is the Writing Center?

ENG 101 - Composition

Students Did Not Use the Writing Center

N = 558

Mean final grade = 2.0116

Standard deviation = 1.50115

Students Used the Writing Center

n = 47

Mean final grade = 2.549

Standard deviation = 1.12366

T-test for two samples revealed a p-value= .017

How Effective is the Writing Center?

ENG 102 - Literature & Composition

Students Did Not Use the Writing Center

n = 524

Mean final grade = 2.1808

Standard deviation = 1.44485

Students Used the Writing Center

n = 33

Mean final grade = 2.5530

Standard deviation = 1.41526

T-test for two samples revealed a p-value= .15 (no significant difference)